

HATFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2022
7:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Tom Zipfel called the September 14, 2022 Workshop Meeting of the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Aaron Bibro, Township Manager. Present at the meeting were President, Tom Zipfel, Vice President Bob Rodgers, Commissioner Jerry Andris, Commissioner Greg Lees and Commissioner Deborah Zimmerman. Also in attendance were Township Manager Aaron Bibro, Solicitor John Iannozzi, Assistant Township Manager, Scott Hutt, Township Planner Ken Amey, Township Engineer Bryan McAdam, and Chief of Police William Tierney.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Scott Hutt, Assistant Township Manager.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Lees motioned to approve the agenda and Vice President Bob Rodgers seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote

V. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

There were no citizens' comments. Two citizens from the audience were recognized by the Board.

VI. CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Andris motioned to approve the Consent Items listed below and Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

A. Police Report – *August*

B. VMSC Ambulance Report – *August*

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning and Zoning Committee – Vice President Rodgers

There was no report.

B. Public Works Committee – Commissioner Lees

Commissioner Lees updated the Board on recent projects and noted the ADA ramps have been completed and road paving is tentatively scheduled for the beginning of October. Hazardous trees on Township property are still being removed and inlet and road repairs are in progress. The hiring process of a new Public Works employee is also in progress.

C. Parks and Recreation Committee – Commissioner Zimmerman

Commissioner Zimmerman reviewed the upcoming parks and recreation events that will be held in the Township such as Trail Clean up on September 21, Rocktoberfest and Fall Fest 5K on October 1 and many fitness programs.

D. Public Safety Committee –President Zipfel

President Zipfel reminded everyone of the upcoming Junior Police Academy on October 8, 2022 with spots available for children 9 – 15 years. The initial testing phase for entry level police officers was completed with interviews to follow. Two new officers will be hired to fill the vacancies. Stepping Stones will resume in person. Officers recently attended the Black Business Association Caribbean Night and enjoyed interacting with attendees of the Back-to-School event.

1. Resolution for Grant Application

Mr. Bibro said this is an annual grant request to help offset some police costs. This will be an action item at the regular meeting.

E. Finance Committee – Commissioner Andris

1. 2023 Pension Obligations

Commission Andris said each September municipalities are required to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the following year's pension contributions. It is based on actuarial findings for the years 2019 and 2020. Because of the strong performance of the stock market in those years, the Township's obligation for 2023 was decreased.

VIII. TOWNSHIP STAFF REPORTS

A. Township Manager's Report

1. Introduction of Assistant Township Manager, Scott Hutt

Mr. Bibro welcomed Scott Hutt to the Township and added he brings with him an extensive amount of experience and education.

2. Stewart Basin Renovation – Approve Bid Package at Regular Meeting

Mr. Bibro stated that this basin was naturalized in 2014 but a renovation of the basin is needed to improve stormwater drainage. Once approved, this project will be 100% funded by ARPA and is set to begin Winter/Spring 2023.

Commissioners Andris asked is there was an access for future dredging of the bottom of the basins. Vice President Rodgers responded that the bottom is currently clay that will be filled with rock and shale which will allow for better infiltration but will need periodic cleaning. Mr. Bibro added that it is a four-bay system that will collect much of the debris and that will require most of the maintenance of the basin. Commissioner Andris also asked if we've taken into consideration the downstream effect of installing a larger pipe. Mr. Bibro replied there will be a new outfall structure to manage the increased release of flow.

President Zipfel made a motion to begin the process moving towards advertisement of the bid package. It was seconded by Vice President Rodgers and approved with a 5-0 vote.

3. Budget Workshop – October 19th, 6 pm

Mr. Bibro announced the Budget Workshop for 2023 on October 19 which is open to the public. Meetings with department heads are ongoing for the budgeting process.

IX. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no report.

X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Dean Mininger, President of the Hatfield Volunteer Fire Company said we signed with Pierce Manufacturing for an additional rescue unit to be delivered in 2025 to avoid the upcoming price increases. He added, the containers at the sub-station will be painted the week of September 26th.

Mr. Bibro announced a ribbon cutting for the new flashers that were installed at the fire house for safety reasons. These were installed with grant funding and a split cost between the Township and Hatfield Borough. There is also an event at VMSC to honor Dr. Frank Boston who founded the VMSC and Lansdale Hospital.

XI. ADJOURN

Commissioner Lees motioned for adjournment and Commissioner Andris seconded the motion. The motioned carried 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.