



**HATFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
April 12, 2023
7:30 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Tom Zipfel called the April 12, 2023 Workshop Meeting of the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:30 pm.

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. In addition to Township Manager Aaron Bibro, also in attendance were Solicitor John Iannozzi, Assistant Township Manager Scott Hutt, Township Engineer Bryan McAdam and Chief of Police William Tierney.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Zimmerman motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Lees. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

V. CITIZENS' COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no citizen's comments.

VI. CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to Enter Items A-E into the Record

- A. Police Report – *March*
- B. Hatfield and Colmar Monthly Fire Reports – *1st Quarter and March*
- C. HTMA Monthly Minutes – *February 14 and March 1*
- D. NPWA Meeting Minutes – *February 28, 2023*
- E. VMSC Monthly Report – *March*

Commissioner Andris motioned to move the consent items into record, seconded by Vice President Rodgers. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning and Zoning Committee – Vice President Rodgers

There was no report.

B. Public Works Committee – Commissioner Lees

There was no report.

C. Parks and Recreation Committee – Commissioner Zimmerman

Commissioner Zimmerman reported on upcoming Township events and activities. She mentioned a Save the Date event at School Road Park on Friday, May 12th in coordination with Mother's Day.

D. Public Safety Committee –President Zipfel

There was no report.

E. Finance Committee – Commissioner Andris

Commissioner Andris reported over 800 people have purchased season passes to the Aquatic Center for a total of \$100,00 and we are ahead of last year by over 20%. Discounts were not available this year due to rising costs of supplies, but he was pleased that it has not slowed down registration.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Bid Award – Bishop Baseball Field, School Road Park Renovation
Motion to Award bid to Clarke's Landscaping for \$50,878

Mr. Bibro noted the work will be done to the field in the back of School Road Park. It has had issues through the years with drainage and overgrowth, making it unplayable. We are sharing the cost of the renovation with the Little League organization who maintains the fields throughout the year.

Vice President Rodgers motioned to award the bid to Clarke's Landscaping, seconded by Commissioner Lees. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

2. Motion to provide a conditional offer of employment to Michael Callas as a patrolman based on the eligibility list certified by the Hatfield Township Civil Service Commission, conditioned upon successful completion of a psychological and physical exam.

Chief Tierney said the process to hire new officers began several months ago with testing of candidates with written and physical agility tests. Through further vetting by the Civil Service Commission, the four candidates are presented tonight.

Commissioner Lees motioned to provide a conditional offer of employment to Michael Callas, seconded by Commissioner Andris. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

3. Motion to provide a conditional offer of employment to Matthew Barnett as a patrolman based on the eligibility list certified by the Hatfield Township Civil Service Commission, conditioned upon successful completion of a psychological and physical exam.

Vice President Rodgers motioned to provide a conditional offer of employment to Matthew Barnett, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

4. Motion to provide a conditional offer of employment to Matthew DeLaurentis as a patrolman based on the eligibility list certified by the Hatfield Township Civil Service Commission, conditioned upon successful completion of a psychological and physical exam.

Commissioner Lees motioned to provide a conditional offer of employment to Matthew DeLaurentis, seconded by Commissioner Andris. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

5. Motion to provide a conditional offer of employment to Nicholas Wallen as a patrolman based on the eligibility list certified by the Hatfield Township Civil Service Commission, conditioned upon successful completion of a psychological and physical exam.

Vice President Rodgers motioned to provide a conditional offer of employment to Nicholas Wallen, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

6. Geotechnical Investigation and SWM Area Evaluation (Police Station Project)
Motion to approve Whitestone Proposal for \$14,875

Mr. Bibro said this is to test the soil on the site of the new proposed Police Station to proceed with site design.

Commissioner Andris motioned to approve the Whitestone Proposal, seconded by Vice President Rodgers. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

7. Vacating Old Orvilla Road Right of Way
Motion for Approval

Mr. Bibro said this is the last part of the realignment of Orvilla Road to make it safer. Parts of Old Orvilla Road were vacated and given to the adjacent property owners.

Commissioner Lees motioned to approve vacating Old Orvilla Road Right of Way, seconded by Vice President Rodgers. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

President Zipfel announced the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss matters of litigation.

IX. TOWNSHIP STAFF REPORTS

A. Township Manager's Report

1. Liberty Bell Trail Update

Mr. Bibro reported we received a grant with four other neighboring municipalities to create a feasibility plan. The Township received additional funding of \$900,000 from the federal government for the construction of a portion of the Liberty Bell Trail. Construction should begin in 2024 on the 1500 feet portion behind the Giant shopping center along the rail lines that lead to Hatfield Borough making that connection. Other portions of the trail will be coming in the future.

2. Grant Announcements

Mr. Bibro said the Township, in partner with Hatfield Borough, received \$200,000 from DCED for a Stormwater Study. Another grant received from DCED was for \$150,000 for the Police Station design. We also received \$100,000 to plan the next phase of the Liberty Bell Trail that connects to Lansdale. He thanked Senator Maria Collett for supporting all three of the grant applications.

3. Newsletter Overview

Mr. Bibro mentioned the latest newsletter was sent out a few weeks ago with significant improvements to content and communication and has links that will bring forth videos and additional information.

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Iannozzi asked for a motion to participate in the opioid settlement lawsuits. This is a time sensitive item that was not included on the agenda.

Commissioner Lees motioned to approve participation in the opioid settlement lawsuits, seconded by Commissioner Andris. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

XI. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

There were no citizen's comments.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Lees motioned for adjournment, seconded by Commissioner Andris. The motion carried 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.