



## **HATFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 27, 2023**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Tom Zipfel called the December 27, 2023 Special 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 Christen Pionzio, Assistant Township Manager Scott Hutt and Chief of Police William Tierney.

### **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief of Police, William Tierney.

A moment of silence was held in memory of resident Marilyn Forst who served as a crossing guard in the Township for 35 years.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

### **V. CITIZENS' COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

There were no citizens comments.

### **VI. ACTION ITEMS**

*\*All of the following items are associated with the construction of a new police station complex*

President Zipfel said the maximum amount of money that we would borrow for the new police station project is \$21M. He said the following questions have been asked from residents;

Q: Why do we need a new police station?

A: The current police station was built in the 1970's and does not address the current needs of the department which has tripled in size and the community which has more than doubled in size. The new station will be built with future needs in mind, enhanced security and a central location.

Q: Why is the new station so expensive, couldn't you have cut some costs?

A: We saved over \$150,000 by using a template of a neighboring municipality's police station. With costs increasing, we felt the timing was right to avoid further cost escalations. President Zipfel added that we are currently pursuing \$10M in grant funding. We have received a \$265,000 grant for the upgraded traffic signal at the entrance to the new station. He went on to say that we can back the loan without a tax increase in the next 3-5 years even if we get none of the grants we are seeking. Should we get most of the grant funding, there should be no tax increases associated with this construction project.

Q: How are the officers going to get around the traffic on Cowpath Road during rush hour?

A: The design of the new station includes a police only driveway to access Orvilla Road and help them get to Route 309 faster.

Q: Is the project going to ruin the nature area and open space?

A: This project will not impede the Township's nature area and it will remain preserved in perpetuity.

**A. General Construction Contract**

*Motion to award the bid to Gordon H. Bayer, Inc. in the amount of \$8,624,340 as recommended by the Construction Manager, Boyle Construction, Inc.*

Commissioner Andris motioned to award the General Construction Contract to Gordon H. Bayer, Inc., seconded by Commissioner Lees. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**B. Mechanical Construction Contract**

*Motion to award the bid to Guy M. Cooper in the amount of \$816,000 as recommended by the Construction Manager, Boyle Construction, Inc.*

Vice President Rodgers motioned to award the Mechanical Construction Contract to Guy M. Cooper, Inc., seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**C. Plumbing Construction Contract**

*Motion to award the bid to AKC Mechanical, LLC in the amount of \$601,000 as recommended by the Construction Manager, Boyle Construction, Inc.*

Commissioner Lees motioned to award the Plumbing Construction Contract to AKC Mechanical, LLC, seconded by Commissioner Andris. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**D. Fire Protection Construction Contract**

*Motion to award the bid to Accelerated Fire Protection, Inc. in the amount of \$196, 712 as recommended by the Construction Manager, Boyle Construction, Inc.*

Commissioner Zimmerman motioned to award the Fire Protection Construction Contract to Accelerated Fire Protection, Inc., seconded by Vice President Rodgers. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**E. Sitework Construction Contract**

*Motion to award the bid to Bencardino Excavating in the amount of \$5,817,614 as recommended by the Construction Manager, Boyle Construction, Inc.*

Vice President Rodgers motioned to award the Sitework Construction Contract to Bencardino Excavating, seconded by Commissioner Andris. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**F. Electric Construction Contract**

*Motion to reject all three bids as recommended by Construction Manager, Boyle Construction, Inc. and rebid*

President Zipfel said clarifications need to be done in the bid documents so it can be rebid in February.

Commissioner Lees motioned to reject all three Electrical Construction Bids and rebid the project, seconded by Vice President Rodgers. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**G. Supply Generator**

*Motion to approve the purchase for \$190,000 from AJM Electric through costars as recommended by Construction Manager, Boyle Construction, Inc.*

Commissioner Andris motioned to approve the purchase of a Supply Generator from AJM Electric, seconded by Vice President Rodgers. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**H. Security Camera System**

*Motion to approve the purchase for \$219,223 from Integrated Security Systems as recommended by Hatfield Township's Information Technology Director*

Commissioner Zimmerman motioned to approve the purchase of a Security Camera System from Integrated Security Systems, seconded by Commissioner Lees. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

**I. Authorization to Incur Nonelectoral Debt  
Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority  
Ordinance #705**

*Motion to approve ordinance*

Commissioner Andris motioned to approve Ordinance #705, seconded by Vice President Rodgers. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote

Chief Tierney said this is monumental for the Township and the Police Department and thanked the Commissioners for moving this project forward.

**VII. TOWNSHIP STAFF REPORTS**

There was no report.

**VIII. CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Tina Sowicz of Claremont Drive thanked Chief Tierney for the Neighborhood Watch sweatshirts. She invited residents to join the Neighborhood Watch meetings.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Lees motioned for adjournment, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman. The motion carried 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm