

**LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Minutes of the meeting held on September 1, 2020

A meeting of the Lower Paxton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Henry on the above date at the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Supervisors present in addition to Mr. Henry were Robin Lindsey (via teleconference), Chris Judd, and Norman Zoumas. Also in attendance were Bradley Gotshall, Township Manager, and Steve Stine, Township Solicitor.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Zoumas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Zoumas made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on July 7, 2020. Mr. Judd seconded the motion. Mr. Henry called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote followed.

Public Comment

Mike Decampecante, 2024 Market Street, Camp Hill, PA, Owns the Climbnasium, an indoor rock-climbing facility. Mr. Decampecante commented on the Friendship Center closure.

Mr. Henry reviewed the expenditures of the Friendship Center. First, he commended Mr. Gotshall and the staff for their efforts in evaluating the financial records for the last twenty years. Since 1999, taxpayers have expended \$800,000.00 a year on the Friendship Community Center over the past twenty years, and those costs have escalated substantially in recent years. This information can be found on the Township's website.

Mr. Henry indicated that the Friendship Center is closed because the state ordered it and the facility will remain closed for the foreseeable future; it is an unsustainable course given taxpayers' cost. He noted that there had been significant progress made on the lease agreement, and the Board will introduce the lease agreement to the public at the Workshop meeting in October and potentially adopt the agreement at the second business meeting in October. The goal is to reopen the facility sooner than later. If the agreement is approved, the Friendship YMCA could open in early December.

Mr. Judd added that Moody's Investors Service listed increased taxpayer support for the center as a factor that could lead to a downgrade of the Township's bond rating, which would increase borrowing costs leading to property tax hikes.

Sandra Prah, 1001 Homestead Avenue, commented on the figures publicized by the Township. She mentioned that the contributions from fundraising and contributions had not been included in the figures. She inquired about the YMCA using the Friendship Center to help children with online learning. Mr. Henry explained that the YMCA representatives approached the Township and Central Dauphin School District to open nine centers in the school district to provide daycare. In contrast, the school district has a hybrid arrangement in place for schools. There was an urgent community need, and the YMCA stepped up to fulfill this need. However, the YMCA is not open to the public.

Joe Murphy, Historical Commission, announced that the Historical Commission would host the next meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Township's Municipal Center, Multi-purpose room A & B.

Ashley Pollart, 4925 Colorado Avenue, asked the Supervisors to consider revising the Township's Codified Ordinances; Districts, Article 3, 403.D2 and 403.D12, relating to beekeeping and backyard hens. Mr. Henry explained that the Supervisors would soon perform a comprehensive review of the Township's Zoning Map early next year.

Chairman and Board Members' Comments

Robing Lindsey (Via telephone) announced that she and her husband were exposed to the Corona Virus and must quarantine until Thursday.

Mr. Henry asked Mr. Stine if it is appropriate to have Ms. Lindsey participate by telephone. Mr. Stine indicated that it is suitable for Ms. Lindsey to join in the board meeting by telephone.

Manager's Report

Mr. Gotshall reported on the Township's self-response rate for the U.S. Census. As of Thursday, August 27, 2020, the Township's residents' response rate is at 76.5%, which moves the Township up to the 9th highest response rate in Dauphin County. The Township's response rate in 2010 was 77.3 %. Dauphin County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have generally maintained strong response rates. The deadline to respond is September 30, 2020; he encouraged residents to respond to the Census. Mr. Henry added that a large percentage of the Township's grant funding depends on the Census numbers; he urged residents to respond to the Census.

Old Business

There was none.

Action to appoint a member to the vacancy on the Board of Supervisors
created by the resignation of Gary A. Crissman

Chairman Henry noted that the Supervisors received five applications from interested parties, and he was impressed by all the applicants interested in serving the Township. He opened the nominations for the vacancy on the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Judd made a motion to appoint Paul W. Navarro to the Board of Supervisors to fill the vacancy left by Gary A. Crissman. Mr. Zoumas seconded the motion. Mr. Henry called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote followed.

Mr. Judd announced that Mr. Navarro comes from the Healthcare Profession, and he is a business owner, husband, and father. He also volunteered as a firefighter for Paxtonia Fire Company and was an EMT with South Central Emergency Services. Mr. Navarro comes from a well-respected family and is very knowledgeable about the Township's operations and land use.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Zoumas Aye, Mr. Judd Aye, Mrs. Lindsey Aye (Via telephone), and Mr. Henry Aye. The vote was unanimous in appointing Paul W. Navarro to the Board of Supervisors.

Paul W. Navarro thanked the Supervisors for the opportunity to serve the Township. As a lifetime member of the Township, he understands the importance of the position and looks forward to working with the Supervisors and staff.

Mr. Henry announced that Paul W. Navarro would take the Oath of Office on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. He congratulated Mr. Navarro and welcomed him to the Board of Supervisors.

Action on a Subsidy Agreement between Lower Paxton Township Authority and Lower Paxton Township with respect to the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2020

Mr. Henry presented the Subsidy Agreement between Lower Paxton Township Authority and the Township for the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2020. This agreement is a refinancing; the Township is not borrowing new money; by refinancing, the Township and Sewer Authority will save \$279,000.00 through 2046 and \$290,000.00 from the General Fund. These savings are in addition to the \$290,000.00 saved by the initial Bond issuance.

Mr. Zoumas motioned to approve the Subsidy Agreement between Lower Paxton Township Authority and the Township for the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2020. Mr. Judd seconded the motion. Mr. Henry called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote followed.

Action on Resolution 20-25; amending and restating Resolution 18-25,
The Right to Know Policy for Municipal Public Records

Mr. Gotshall presented Resolution 20-25, amending and restating Resolution 18-25, The Right to Know Policy for Municipal Public Records. This Resolution will add Captain Mark Zerbe as the Township's Open Records Officer for the Police Department. Currently, the Township Manager acts as Open Records Officer, with Leigh Ann Urban acting as Assistant Open Records Officer.

Mr. Judd motioned to approve Resolution 20-25, amending and restating Resolution 18-25, The Right to Know Policy for Municipal Public Records. Mr. Zoumas seconded the motion. Mr. Henry called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote followed.

Subdivision and Land Development

Improvement Guarantees

Mr. Zoumas made a motion to approve the Improvement Guarantees for 5993 Camden Drive SWMP #19-029, 100 Tech Drive, and Chelsey Falls Phase I.

Mr. Judd seconded the motion. Mr. Henry called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

Payment of Bills – Lower Paxton Township & Lower Paxton Township Authority

Mr. Zoumas made a motion to pay the bills for Lower Paxton Township and the Lower Paxton Township Authority. Mr. Judd seconded the motion. Mr. Henry called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

Announcements

Mr. Henry announced that the next Board (Workshop) meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2020, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center.


Adjournment

Mr. Zoumas motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Judd seconded the motion. Mr. Henry called for a voice vote, and a unanimous vote of approval followed, and the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Shellie Smith
Recording Secretary

Approved by,


Chris Judd
Secretary