

A regular meeting of the Somerset Township Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at the Township Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Supervisors James Bockstoce Joseph Cole Mark Lohr

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tom Kalchthaler suggested the supervisors are not concerned for their jobs or not being re-elected with the ordinance changes they are voting on tonight and asked that they reconsider.

Bill Pollock advised that the Township is not required to update ordinances and that he is only objecting to allowing business in agriculture zoning district as 80% of the Township is agriculture. Mr. Pollock also stated he was given minimal time as Planning Commission Chairman to review the proposed revisions and that the proposed changes were done in private. He is also concerned with traffic and tax increases and is petitioning for a supervisor board increase from three to five members.

Mike Lehotsky is not in support of proposed changes. He stated the board should listen to residents rather than take advice from a consulting group and solicitor. He also recommends board members abstain from voting to avoid conflict of interest concerns.

Mike Ornot asked if financial item on agenda were advertised and stated that residents can pay for waterline.

Billy DeBlasio asked for supervisors separate opinions on the proposed ordinance changes.

Dan Smith asked why employees are allowed overtime. Cole advised it is for road issues after hours.

Greg Spridik stated that there is a difference at the Township in the last five years. He advised the supervisors are elected to represent the residents and to assist them and that is no longer the case. He stated the current ordinance updates process was hidden and should have followed the way of the Bayer property update.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion: Lohr, 2nd: Bockstoce, to approve minutes of the June 12, 2024 Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF CHECKS, WARRANTS & TRANSFERS**

Motion: Bockstoce, 2nd: Lohr, to approve the payment of the following checks:

CFS General Fund# 2465-2484 SHA Fund# 1853-1860

Procurement Card 6-10-24 and any other necessary transfers. Motion passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 2024, THE NEW ZONING ORDINANCE WHICH AMENDS AND REPLACES THE CURRENT ZONING ORDINANCE**

Motion: Bockstoce, 2nd: Cole, to adopt ordinance 1 of 2024, the new zoning ordinance which amends and replaces the current zoning ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2 OF 2024, THE NEW SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE WHICH AMENDS AND REPLACES THE CURRENT SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE**

Motion: Bockstoce, 2nd: Cole, to adopt ordinance 2 of 2024, the new subdivision and land development ordinance which amends and replaces the current subdivision and land development ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **ROLLING GREEN SUBDIVISION PLAN NO. 2**

Motion: Lohr, 2nd: Bockstoce, to approve Rolling Green Subdivision Plan No. 2. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **MOTION TO AUTHORIZE TRANSFER OF ACT 13 IMPACT FEE FUNDS FROM CURRENT CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT TO VIGILANT WEALTH PARTNERS, LLC, WITH THE CONDITION THAT INVESTMENT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS SHALL BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA CLASS TOWNSHIP CODE 53 P.S. SECTION 68204 INVESTMENT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS**

Motion: Bockstoce, 2nd: Cole, to table item. Motion passed unanimously.

## **REPORTS**

Supervisors Bockstoe advised Fallowfield Fire Co. hired fulltime firefighter, providing more coverage and allowing all five (5) fire companies to respond during emergencies. He also stated PennWest is using ground penetrating equipment to perform research on Lutheran Cemetery to determine location of our soldiers.

Secretary The Secretary read the report.

Road Department Cole advised crew is prepping roads for paving.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Cole, 2nd: Lohr, to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Ann Dotson  
Secretary