

The Board of Supervisors held an executive session on August 14th from 5:50 p.m. – 5:59 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

A regular meeting of the Somerset Township Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at the Township Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Present: Joseph Cole & Mark Lohr Absent: James Bockstoce

RECESS REGULAR MEETING

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Consider Adoption of Resolution 6 of 2024 Providing for Additions, Modifications, And Removals to The Seven Year Review of The Agricultural Security Area of Somerset Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania.

PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT

Cole gave a brief description on past and current Agricultural Security Area (ASA) Reviews. He also thanked Lindsey Strack, as well as the members of the ASA Committee for putting a considerable amount of time into the Township’s Seven Year Review.

Eric Stackowicz inquired what AG Security was.

Cole stated landowners who enrolled into the ASA had certain protections from complaints of noise and/or smell.

Paul Myers explained normal farming practices are allowed, and no complaints can be filed. He stated the Board cannot put regulations to stop you from doing those normal farming practices.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

OPEN REGULAR MEETING

MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. William Pollock expressed concerns about the transfer of Act 13 Impact Fee Funds, agenda preparation, and emails to the Board regarding water and sewage discussions. Lohr addressed the concerns on the Authorization Transfer of Act 13 funds. Pollock requested to obtain all details in writing. Lohr advised of funding for future projects.

R6-2024 AGRICULTURAL SECURITY AREA SEVEN-YEAR REVIEW

Motion: Cole, 2nd: Lohr, to adopt Resolution 6 of 2024 providing for additions, modifications, and removals to the Seven Year Review of the Agricultural Security Area of Somerset Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Lohr, 2nd: Cole, to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2024, Meeting. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF CHECKS, WARRANTS & TRANSFERS

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

CFS General Fund # 2485-2510

SHA Fund # 1861-1866

Procurement Card 8-10-24 and any other necessary transfers. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

AUTHORIZE TRANSFER OF ACT 13 IMPACT FEE FUNDS

Motion: Cole, 2nd: Lohr to authorize transfer of Act 13 Impact Fee Funds from current certificate of deposit to Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust with the condition that investment of Township funds shall follow the Pennsylvania Class Township Code 53 P.S. section 68204 Investment of Township Funds. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

R7-2024 EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN

Motion: Cole, 2nd: Lohr to adopt Resolution 7 of 2024 Emergency Operation Plan that outlines emergency response procedure of Somerset Township Officials. Motion passed.

PSAT'S REGIONAL FORUM

Motion: Cole, 2nd: Lohr, to approve Secretary and Planning & Zoning Coordinator to attend PSAT's Regional Forum on October 2, 2024. Motion passed.

2024-2025 PROPERTY AND LIABILITY POLICIES - \$19,110.00

Motion: Cole, 2nd: Lohr, to approve 2024-2025 Property and Liability Policies - \$19,110.00. Motion passed.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Motion: Cole, 2nd: Lohr, to approve Trunk or Treat for October 26, 2024, from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. Motion passed.

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Motion: Cole, 2nd: Lohr, to approve Country Christmas for December 7, 2024, from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. Motion passed.

REPORTS

Supervisors: Lohr stated that the Board has been working with the five (5) Fire Departments on developing Home Bases to eliminate every department responding to minor incident calls, making the service more efficient.

Secretary: Cole read the Treasurer's Report.

Road Department: Lohr advised crew is prepping roads for road projects.

MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT - NON-AGENDA ITEM

Pollock suggested adding items to the Treasurers Report and stated laws of the Sunshine Act that must be included on the agendas.

Kathy Kennedy had concerns of the Food Bank continuing at the Township and addressed rumors regarding the Food Bank closing. She also denied having any affiliation with the Transparency Group and passing around petitions.

Cole stated, if I am here, the Food Bank will always be here.

Lohr is in favor of the Food Bank staying.

Greg Spridik advised the Board that he can tell who is here to enrich themselves, family, and friends. He stated the present administration pursued legal action with previous administration, and now more political opponents are being persecuted that signed the petition to add two (2) more Supervisors.

Cole stated that he has no problem with the petition and mentioned the added parties should be working Supervisors.

MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT - NON-AGENDA ITEM (CONTINUED)

Mr. Dave Wiltrout questioned if the Township was paying for James Bockstoce's insurance.

Mr. Myers stated that the Township could be, if Bockstoce so desired.

Cole and Lohr stated Bockstoce is not receiving Township insurance.

Mr. Wiltrout advised the purpose of adding the other two (2) Supervisors and stated the Township works for the residents. He was also concerned with the treatment of Kathy Kennedy.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Lohr, 2nd: Cole, to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m. On a voice vote, the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lindsey Strack
Recording Secretary