

The meeting of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:01 P.M. Attending were Chairman Joshua Stouch, Vice Chairman Tom Wynne, Supervisor Alan Keiser, Solicitor Blake Dunbar, Pete Hiryak, Andrew Duncan, Mike Heydt, Chief Templin, and approximately 3 residents.

Mr. Stouch led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A reporter was present at this evenings meeting. Mr. Stouch announced that an Executive Session was held tonight prior to the meeting from approximately 6:00pm to 6:50pm involving personnel matters. No decisions or votes were taken.

Mr. Stouch asked if there were any additions, corrections, or comments to the minutes of March 2nd, 2020 Board of Supervisors Meeting, none were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Wynne to approve the minutes of the March 2nd, 2020 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Stouch asked if there were any questions, comments, or corrections to the March 16th, 2020 Board of Supervisors Agenda, none were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Stouch to approve the March 16th, 2020 Board of Supervisors Agenda as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

EOC Update – Andrew Duncan

Mr. Duncan stated that the Boyertown Area School District as well as all other school districts in Montgomery County as well as the State of PA have closed for the next two weeks. Under the public health code, all mass gatherings of any size that are outside or in temporary structures have been prohibited. Governor Tom Wolf announced the closure of community centers, gyms, and entertainment venues including sporting events, concerts, and non-essential retail facilities are to be closed. Supermarkets, pharmacies, and gas stations will remain open. Montgomery County is currently establishing a closed POD for contact tracing, screening, and testing as needed. Douglass Township Emergency Declaration has been signed and submitted to Montgomery County Department of Public Safety. Montgomery County is staffing a public Inquiry Line to field calls from the public concerning COVID19. The public inquiry line is (610) 631-3000 and is staffed from 7am to 8pm daily. First responders from all Emergency Services in Douglass Township were briefed on the current status of COVID19 at Station 67 on 3/12/2020, Fire, Police, and EMS have established response protocols for medical and COVID19 responses. The use of PPE and encouraging non-essential responders to maintain a minimum of 6 feet of distance from the patient. The Douglass Township Administration Building and Police Department are closed to public access, staffing still will report to work at the time all business will be conducted by phone or email or by appointment only. All non-essential meetings, public meetings, public gatherings, or inspections should be suspended at this time. The public works facility is closed to public access, staffing will still report to work at this time. Gilbertsville Fire and Rescue Company and Gilbertsville Ambulance are closed to public access, personnel and essential operational staff access only at this time. The Douglass Township Recycling Center will be closed for two weeks reopening on March 28th. Trash service will remain on normal schedule for curbside collection however bulk waste sticker sales will be suspended for two weeks. All Douglass Township Parks and Open Space Areas remain open. Public events and large gatherings prohibited at this time. Mr. Duncan stated that he will give updates as he receives them.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Wynne to accept the Emergency Management Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report (Authorization to pay the bills)

Mr. Stouch stated that the bills to be paid for February 2020 totals \$194,222.86. No questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Wynne for authorization to pay the February 2020 Unpaid Bills in the amount of \$194,222.86. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Manager's Report - Pete Hiryak

1. The Manager reviewed the upcoming meetings as follows: Monday, April 20th, 2020 BOS Agenda Meeting @ 6:30pm, BOS Meeting @ 7pm. Thursday April 9th, 2020 P/A Meeting @ 7pm, Workshop Act 209 Public Hearing @ 6:00pm (Tentative TBD)
2. Non-essential meeting/events canceled, temporary restricted lobby access to public in effect. Manager Hiryak stated that the Township lobby is closed to the public and all business will be conducted by phone or email, any forms or supplies needed will be left at the outside entrance of the office and all payments made by check. The Easter Egg Hunt, Trout Rodeo, and staff meetings have been canceled.
3. 2020 Census Response Letters – Manager Hiryak stated that the public should prepare to respond to the census notices soon to be sent.
4. PHWF – Grant Awarded (BOS Chairman signature for Douglass Park \$14,000) – Manager Hiryak stated that we received a \$14,000 grant from Pottstown Health & Wellness for upgrades to Douglass Park. No question were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Wynne to accept the Manager's Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Old Business/New Business

Police Department – Qualified Administrative Police Secretary Position. Chief Templin stated that with retirements down the road he recommends this position be filled and has interviewed someone for the position who is highly qualified, experienced, and has a Criminal Justice Degree. He recommends Ashley Talarico be hired as a part time worker at \$20 per hour to begin on March 17th, 2020 and going full time on April 6th, 2020. No questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynne, seconded by Mr. Keiser to hire, based on Chief Templin's recommendation, Ashley Talarico as part time Administrative Police Secretary, starting on March 17th, 2020 at \$20 per hour and continuing to full time status on April 6th, 2020. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Abstain, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Heydt stated that the Township recently sold a paver box and a bucket truck on Municibid for \$4800 and he asked for authorization to purchase a lift to be used by the highway department with the money from that sale not to exceed \$5000.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Stouch to authorization the purchase of a lift with the money received from the sale of the paver box and bucket truck, cost not to exceed \$5000.00. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynne, seconded by Mr. Stouch to adjourn the meeting at 7:18pm. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

The next Board of Supervisor's Meeting will be held on Monday, April 20th, 2020 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Marcy Meitzler