

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Independence Township was held on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at the Independence Township Community Center social hall. The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by Chairman Daniel McLaughlin and the assembly stood for the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag.

ROLL CALL

Present were Supervisors Daniel McLaughlin, John Fratangeli, Solicitor J. Julius Bollock; Police Lieutenant John Villa and Secretary Debra Shaffer. Supervisor Wayne Potts was excused and Chief Lance Malobabich was on vacation.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment on Agenda items.

MINUTES

The Minutes of November 13, 2019 Board of Supervisor Monthly Meeting were approved with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report, including payment of bills and payroll, was approved with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Police, Fire and Road Department monthly reports were accepted with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Bids were opened for the Backhoe. There was only one bid submitted by CAT with a bid of \$53,000 for a used 2014 Caterpillar 420F IT Backhoe. They bid on the trade and offered \$23,000 for our 2002 Caterpillar 420D hoe which brings the bid total for the 2014 420F IT hoe to \$30,000.00. J. Fratangeli made the motion to accept the bid. D. McLaughlin second the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS**RESOLUTION #19 OF 2019 – 2020 BUDGET**

J. Fratangeli made the motion to adopt the 2020 Budget, D. McLaughlin second the motion. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #20 OF 2019 – TAX LEVY

J. Fratangeli made the motion to adopt Resolution #20-2019, the Tax Levy for 2020, which holds the millage at 12.5; D. McLaughlin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #21 OF 2019 – WAIVE 2020 PD PENSION CONTRIBUTION

J. Fratangeli made the motion to adopt Resolution #21-2019, wherein the pension contribution requirement for Lt. Villa is waived for the calendar year of 2020, D. McLaughlin second the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following public announcements were made:

Office Closed December 25 Christmas & January 1 New Years

Recycling Weekend – Fri., Jan. 3rd Sat., Jan. 4th

Next Supervisors Meeting – Monday, January 6th at 4 pm – Reorganization Meeting

Auditors' Reorganization Meeting – Tuesday, January 7th at 3:30 pm

Wednesday Morning Coffee – Wed. January 15th 8-10 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Following are the people who spoke and the subject of their comments:

Resident Joe Dydek of 291 Swointek Road spoke. He wanted to again file a complaint with respect to tractor pulls that are being conducted across the street from his house. He wanted to know what the BOS was going to do about them. These pulls are done for the year; therefore, it is not causing him a nuisance at this point in time. Chairman, Dan McLaughlin, let him know that we were considering appointing a new engineering firm at our reorganization meeting on January 7th. This new firm has people that enforce township ordinances so his complaint would be assigned to them to investigate. James Durkin from HRG Engineering was in attendance and spoke about the services that they could offer the Township. The Chairman advised that a decision would be made at the reorganization meeting in January.

Josh Henderson of Service Creek Road spoke. He wanted to know what recourse the residents had with respect to animal control. He has a feline issue and called the Beaver County Humane Society and they told him that since we were not under contract with them, they could not do anything. He said that he tried to call the state dog warden and can't get a hold of him. Supervisor Fratangeli told him that the Lieutenant Villa would look into it and see what can be done. He thought there was a regional warden from the state that would handle all of that since we don't have that many issues and a contract with the BCHS would not be cost effective. Chairman McLaughlin told him that we would also look into the prices for that contract again. The issue with the BCHS is that they will automatically patrol and do what they wanted with the animals they wanted to and the township would have no control over that.

Resident Barb Hughes of Backbone Road spoke and said that she still had a dog issue with the neighbors Rottweiler. Supervisor Fratangeli told her that Lt. Villa would look into her dog complaint also.

Resident Ashley Caul of East Hookstown Grade just wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. Shaffer, Secretary/Treasurer