

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Independence Township was held on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at the Independence Township Community Center social hall. The meeting was called to order at 4:02 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, and Wayne Potts; Solicitor J. Julius Bollock; Police Lieutenant John Villa in place of absent Chief, Lance Malobabich and Secretary Debra Shaffer.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment on Agenda items.

MINUTES

The Minutes of January 6, 2020 Reorganization Meeting were approved with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by W. Potts. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**ORDINANCE #1 OF 2020 - PMRS**

D. McLaughlin made a motion to adopt Ordinance #1 of 2020 which updates the PMRS Pension Plan for the Police Department. W. Potts second the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS**RESOLUTION #3 OF 2020 – DISPOSITION OF RECORDS**

J. Fratangeli made a motion to adopt Resolution #3 of 2020 – Disposition of Records. The Township shreds documents yearly in accordance with the schedules and procedures of disposition of records set forth in the Municipal Records Manual. W. Potts second the motion. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT OF ROAD MATERIAL BIDS

W. Potts made the motion to authorize advertisement for road material bids, to be opened at the next monthly meeting; J. Fratangeli seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SPRING NEWSLETTER MAILING

J. Fratangeli made the motion to authorize mailing the Spring newsletter; W. Potts made the second. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following public announcements were made:

- Chili Cook-off! Sat., February 29, 6-9 pm
- Recycle March 6 & 7
- Next Regular Supervisors Meeting – March 11, 4 pm at Community Center

- Wednesday Morning Coffee – Feb. 19, 8-10 am

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Resident Dave McCowin who lives on School Road spoke. He is the head of the Board for the Hopewell Girls Softball Club. He wanted to see if the Board would consider the potential use of township lands (park) for launching a building and softball fields for recreational use. Supervisor Potts said that this subject comes up every several years from Hopewell Basement and there were always issues. Supervisor McLaughlin spoke and told Dave McCowin that the issues are that Hopewell Basement wanted anything that they constructed in the Independence Township Park to be exclusively used by Hopewell Baseball and our residents would not be allowed access to it even when Hopewell Basement was not using it. He stated that the Park is for our residents and they would not consider any improvements that would not benefit all Independence Township Residents. Dave McCowin stated that they are a private group not associated with Hopewell Area School District and he was not looking for exclusive use and his club is growing and there are drainage issues at the current fields they use at the Independence Township Elementary School and they would like to have lights, summer tournaments, etc. Supervisor Potts asked him how much land development in the park he thought this would entail and Dave said he estimated a few acres at most. Supervisor Potts told him the same drainage issues at the school are at the park as it is the same lay of the land and any fields would have to be raised. Resident Joe Dydek of Swiontek Road spoke and mentioned that the Township Road Department helped to build the current fields at Independence Elementary. The Board told Dave McCowin that they would be willing to consider any proposal that he wanted to present more formally. The Township Engineer, James Durkin, spoke and told Dave McCowin that they just recently completed a proposal and the specifications, designs and guidelines are burdensome but that it could be done. Dave McCowin stated that he would take the information back to his Board and he would get back to us.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by W. Potts.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. Shaffer, Secretary/Treasurer