

**COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 07, 2020**

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 07, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., at the Covington Township Municipal Building, Moffat Estate, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township, PA. Public participation was through the Zoom online meeting platform.

There were present: Thomas M. Yerke, Chairman; John Brostoski, Vice Chairman; Joseph Setta, Supervisor; Melissa Kearney, Supervisor; Kate Tierney, Secretary / Treasurer; Douglas A Hein, Secretary/Asst. Treasurer and Joel M. Wolff, Esquire. Also present was Charles Raziano, EMA coordinator. William Fells, Supervisor was not present.

The meeting was opened with a Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Yerke.

Chairman Yerke read announcements on the Eagle Lake Community and decorum for the public to follow in the Zoom meeting.

AGENDA: ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Brostoski), and carried to approve the agenda as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Chairman Yerke announced that Executive Sessions were held on May 7, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss potential litigation and at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman Yerke announced this public comment period will be limited to agenda items only due to anticipated discussion on Eagle Lake. Mr. Amos Vered asked where the Eagle Lake discussion was on the agenda. Mr. Yerke said it will be in the second public comment section.

MINUTES: ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Brostoski), and carried to accept the minutes of the April 7, 2020 Regular meeting, the April 22, 2020 Emergency meeting and the April 30, 2020 Emergency meeting.

BILLS: Supervisor Brostoski asked if a final price was given for the new Durango being purchased; Chairman Yerke said \$33,000 plus licenses and fees. ON MOTION duly made (Brostoski), seconded (Kearney), and carried to pay the bills.

TREASURER'S REPORT: ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Setta), and carried to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted.

PLANNING COMMISSION: None. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Kearney), and carried to accept no report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Chairman Yerke stated there were no permits issued and noted the Floodplain Ordinance must be adopted by August 2020.

ZONING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: Chairman Yerke read the April 2020 report. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Brostoski), and carried to accept the Zoning Code Enforcement Officer's report.

ENGINEER: No report.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS: No report.

POLICE DEPT: Chairman Yerke read the April 2020 report and a letter of thanks to the Board from Chief Klocko. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Brostoski), and carried to accept the April 2020 Police report.

RECREATION COMMITTEE: No meeting was held.

SEO REPORT: Chairman Yerke read the March 2020 SEO report. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Kearney), and carried to accept the March 2020 SEO report.

SOLICITOR: Attorney Wolff explained the following:

- RGM Hardwoods, Inc refund for property taxes 2017-2020 overpayment in the amount of \$3,375.12. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Kearney), and carried to pay RGM Hardwoods property tax refund in the amount of \$3,375.12.
- Kellogg Lien-revive and continue lien for five years.
- Porter lien was paid in August 2015; receipt was verified by Secretary/Treasurer Kate Tierney.

ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Brostoski), and carried to accept the Solicitor's report as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

- Ratification of the extension of Emergency Disaster Declaration to June 3, 2020: ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Kearney), and carried to ratify the extension of Emergency Disaster Declaration to June 3, 2020.
- FR E3 Property Holdings LP Refund for property taxes 2017-2019 overpayment in the amount of \$4,336.83. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Brostoski), and carried to pay FR E3 Property Holdings LP property tax refund in the amount of \$4,336.83.

- *SEO Fee Schedule by Resolution 2020-04: Secretary/Treasurer Tierney stated this was read into the record at the April 7, 2020 meeting but was not passed by resolution. Chairman Yerke read the fee schedule. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Brostoski), and carried to adopt the SEO fee schedule.*
- *Rent payments and utility billings for Dance Studio and Wonderful: discussion was had to forgo the rent and utility payments from the Dance Studio and Wonderful at the Township buildings from March 2020 until such time as they are able to reopen for business. It was stipulated that if they were to receive reimbursement from the Federal or State government that they would reimburse the Township. ON MOTION duly made (Brostoski), seconded (Setta), and carried to forgive rent and utility payments.*
- *Non-Uniform Personnel Policy amendments: Chairman Yerke read the proposed amendments. ON MOTION duly made (Brostoski), seconded (Kearney), and carried to amend the Non-Uniform Personnel Manual as presented.*
- *Audit proposal due to Secretary/Treasurer retirement: A proposal was received from George M. Marcinek, CPA to audit procedures and accounts beginning January 1, 2020 through May 31, 2020 due to Kate Tierney's retirement; cost is \$1,000 plus out of pocket expenses. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Kearney), and carried to accept the audit proposal.*

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion was had on how to prepare the Township office for re-opening and what safety measures/guidelines would be implemented. Chairman Yerke asked the other Board members and staff to come up with ideas to be discussed at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- *Insurance letter regarding damaged roof leak in mansion and senior center. It is not covered and will not be paid for. It was discussed to take the adjuster's report/findings and hire a contractor immediately to fix the problem.*
- *WC Insurance Audit requesting the Township to establish a Safety Committee – Tabled*
- *Pavilion window repair quote from Mesko Glass: ON MOTION duly made (Brostoski), seconded (Setta), and carried to accept repair quote from Mesko Glass in the amount of \$965.81.*

CORRESPONDENCE: None

SUPERVISORS COMMENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comment was opened to the public participating through the Zoom online meeting app. Approximately 100 people participated. Comments were heard from Dee Rizzo, Amos Vered, an unidentified woman, Denise Militano, James Loggi, Tony Vince and Joann Damico, all owners of property in the Eagle Lake community. Issues raised concerned the closing, tax refunds for non-access to properties, social distancing, guidelines rejected by Eagle Lake management presented from Covington Township and the wearing of masks while shopping. John Lacomis, a Township resident commented about the danger to Covington Township residents and when grocery shopping. Chairman Yerke asked if anyone was opposed to temperature checks and no one participating by Zoom objected.

ADJOURNMENT: ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Brostoski), and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas A. Hein, Secretary

APPROVED: