

HALFMOON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES

MAY 9, 2024
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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair David Piper called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. (present at Community Center). Other Supervisors present were Chuck Beck (present at Community Center); Ron Servello (present at Community Center); Tammy Perkins (present at Community Center) and Patti Hartle (present at the Community Center). Staff present were Amy Smith, Township Secretary (present at Community Center) and Chuck Beck, Township Roadmaster (present at Community Center).

Residents & others in attendance (In-person): Eric Norenberg, Centre Region COG Executive Director; Dan & Donna Hughes; Rose Ann Hoover; Becky Brooks; Gail Jones; Lisa Collens, Schlow Library, Director.

Residents & others in attendance (Zoom): Bruce Helms.

2. **OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

More information is available on the website: www.halfmoontwp.us.

- This evening's meeting is being LIVE recorded on C-NET's YouTube channel.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **MOTION: Mr. Servello moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 11, 2024; Ms. Perkins seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.**

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

a. *The following items listed on the Consent Agenda portion of the agenda may be approved with a single motion by a member or if a member of the public requests that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for a question or further discussion.*

- Ratification of the Bills List for the period of 04/06/2024 to 04/23/2024 from the following funds:
 - General Fund in the amount of \$24,152.06
 - Open Space Preservation Fund in the amount of \$874.00
 - Park & Recreation Fund in the amount of \$7,142.50
- Ratification of the Bills List for the period of 04/24/2024 to 05/03/2024 from the following funds:
 - General Fund in the amount of \$28,685.50
- Open Space Annual Lease CPI Adjustment of 2.80% equivalent to \$41.88/Acre
- Recognize May 19th through May 25th as National EMS Week 2024
- Permission to transfer \$130,000.00 from General Fund to Capital Reserve Fund
- Permission to transfer \$20,000.00 from General Fund to Park & Recreation Fund
- Acknowledge resignation of Rick Bates, Planning Commission effective April 30, 2024
- Appointment of Joe Tylka, Planning Commission, effective May 9, 2024

- **MOTION: Mr. Servello moved to approve the consent agenda; Ms. Hartle seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.**

6. **CENTRE REGION COG CIP MUNICIPAL REVIEW**

Mr. Norenberg provided a presentation to the board outlining actual and projected expenses between 2021 and 2025. Mr. Norenberg stated that the decrease in municipal shares was due to the fact the township was no longer in the Schlow Library agreement. Mr. Norenberg added he was in attendance in case the board had any questions or a consensus of comments for the CIP.

The board had no questions or comments.

7. **PORT MATILDA FIRE COMPANY ORDINANCE REQUEST DISCUSSION**

Ms. Smith stated that this agenda item was in front of the board to obtain comments from the board regarding a new ordinance per the Port Matilda Fire Company's request of the previous meeting.

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Ms. Hartle stated that she felt the board was on the same page in regard of wanting an ordinance where an insurance company can be billed for services rendered.

Mr. Servello stated he did not agree, and stated the third-party billing company was the one requesting the ordinance and he had questions regarding the effectiveness as well as its enforcement potential.

Ms. Hartle stated the ordinance does not have to include enforcement.

Mr. Servello stated the original ordinance sample did include enforcement. Mr. Servello continued he would like to see staff contact the PA Insurance Commission and PSATS for guidance prior to spending money on solicitor fees for drafting an ordinance.

Ms. Perkins stated she felt the ordinance would be beneficial as it was proven to be from discussions at the previous meeting.

Mr. Servello stated he wasn't against the premise of the idea but wanted to ensure things were done correctly the first time.

Mr. Piper stated he had no issues passing an ordinance if the solicitor said it was legal. Mr. Piper added that it appeared the municipality set the fee schedule so that would need discussed as well.

Ms. Smith stated the third-party billing agency had a fee schedule that all the fire companies use in Pennsylvania.

Supervisor Beck stated he felt it was a good idea, especially if it could hold someone responsible for hazmat spills.

Mr. Servello stated that hazmat spills may encompass more than this ordinance since Emergency Management gets involved, and the local fire companies may not get involved in hazmat situations.

Mr. Piper stated unless there was an objection he'd like to have the solicitor draft an ordinance for the next meeting.

Mr. Servello stated he was fine with it, but it needed to only refer to auto accidents.

Ms. Hartle stated she was fine with having the Solicitor draft an Ordinance and stated the type of incident wasn't the issue as much as it needed to only apply to insurance companies and not individual residents.

The board directed staff to have the solicitor draft an ordinance limiting auto incidents where the insurance companies are billed, not the individual resident.

8. MUNICIPAL LANE PICKLE BALL NETS & BATTING CAGE BUDGET REQUEST

Roadmaster Beck stated that due to weather conditions, the pickleball nets and batting cage net were in need of replacement but were not specifically included in the 2024 budget, so he was seeking board approval prior to purchasing.

Mr. Servello questioned if this could include the recent citizen request for a tennis court net replacement.

Ms. Smith stated that because the tennis court was not advertised on the current agenda, it could not be acted upon, it would need to be brought back to a future meeting.

- **MOTION: Ms. Perkins moved to approve the purchase of two pickleball nets and one batting cage net for a total purchase price not to exceed \$2,150.00 from the Park & Recreation Capital Fund and directed the Roadmaster to research pricing for a new tennis court net for discussion at the next meeting.; Mr. Servello seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.**

9. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION TO RELOCATE MUNICIPAL LANE RECYCLING BINS

Supervisor Beck stated he recently assisted the Public Works Department with work on Municipal Lane and he witnessed a higher volume of traffic due to the recycling bins being located at Municipal Park. Mr. Beck

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commented that Municipal Lane is narrow with areas that are difficult to pass and has safety concerns with vehicles entering and exiting at the intersection of S.R. 550 and Municipal Lane. Supervisor Beck added that due to what he observed he is requesting the bins should be moved back to their original location on Ira Lane with a few modifications to the current Ira Lane pad. Supervisor Beck stated that there would need to be a pipe installed and additional blacktop added to the current pad to extend the pad for the ideal amount of space for swapping bins. Supervisor Beck commented that once the pad was extended a privacy fence could be installed as well as a security camera.

Ms. Perkins questioned what caused the bins to be relocated in the first place.

Roadmaster Beck stated the bins were an issue at Ira Lane due to the lack of a consistent pick-up schedule but a change in management has led to a better practice of bin replacement.

Ms. Hartle questioned if the move would increase the size of the parking lot.

Roadmaster Beck stated it is part of a plan to regain the top portion of the current parking lot.

- **MOTION: Mr. Servello moved to relocate the recycling bins to their original location of Ira Lane as well as complete any necessary work to complete the project; Ms. Perkins seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.**

10. TOWNSHIP REPORTS

Staff reports were provided and there were no additional comments.

11. AUTHORITY, BOARD, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Hartle stated the Land Use and Community Infrastructure Committee is currently working on the 2024-2025 Comprehensive Plan and was seeking community input through surveys being held throughout the year.


Mr. Servello stated he attended the Upper Bald Eagle-Halfmoon COG meeting on Tuesday evening, where general business was held and a discussion regarding the Treasurer's position was conducted. Mr. Servello stated that at the end of March there were 979 memberships with a 20.5% return. Mr. Servello stated that 80% of those returns were from Halfmoon Township residents. Mr. Servello stated that the new ambulance is in service, the diesel ambulance is down for repairs and the gas ambulance is currently in service so there are two ambulances in service.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

- **MOTION: Mr. Servello moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.; Mr. Beck seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Amy M. Smith,
Township Secretary



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