

BUFFALO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS – REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING – JANUARY 4, 2021

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors was held Monday, January 4, 2021, via video conference and convened at 7:30 p.m. The Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Ron Zampogna III. This Meeting is being recorded, if anyone is taping this Meeting, please state your name and address.

ROLL CALL

Ron Zampogna III	Present
Matthew J. Sweeny	Present
Albert T. Roenigk	Present
Gary L. Risch Sr.	Present
Michael Oehling	Present

A majority of the Board of Supervisors being present, the Chairman declared the Meeting open for the transaction of business.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS; PERSONNEL; AND/OR INFO-GATHERING MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

- a) The Board of Supervisors met for an Executive Session regarding personnel matters a couple weeks ago.
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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the December 9, 2020, Regular Monthly Meeting of the Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors, as recorded, was on motion of Matt Sweeny, seconded by Gary Risch. Motion Carried. Un. Approval.

MONTHLY BILLS

After reviewing invoices and bills presented for payment, it was on motion of Michael Oehling, seconded by Matt Sweeny, to pay the monthly bills. Motion Carried. Un. Approval.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENT: IRS DECREASED MILEAGE RATE FROM .57.5¢ IN 2020 TO .56¢ PER MILE IN 2021

MOTION TO SEND DELEGATE/DELEGATES TO STATE CONVENTION IN HERSHEY APRIL 18-21, 2021

On a motion of Albert Roenigk, seconded by Matt Sweeny to send Gary Risch and Michael Oehling to the state convention in Hershey April 18-21, 2021. Motion Carried. Un. Approval.

BUFFALO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS – REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING – JANUARY 4, 2021

DISCUSSION/MOTION TO AMEND USE OF FORCE POLICY – APPROVED

Atty. Brian Farrington stated that the current Trump Administration came up with some new rules that they have effectively pushed out to state governments who then passed down to local municipalities as to what types of tactics they are telling officers they can and cannot use in circumstances outside of life-threatening circumstances. So, this is just updating Buffalo Townships policy requiring Police Departments to make changes to their rules/procedures regarding the “Use of Force Policy” so they are looking into updating Buffalo Township’s Police Policy to prohibit the use of chokeholds. Chief Derringer stated that this change had to be implemented in the policy in order to continue receiving funding from the Department of Justice.

On a motion of Michael Oehling, seconded by Albert Roenigk to approve amending the “Use of Force Policy”. Motion Carried. Un. Approval.

APPROVAL TO SET DATE AND ADVERTISE PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE #135 – APPROVED

Atty. Brian Farrington stated that there are two Public Hearings for Amendments to Zoning Ordinance #135. One is for Snug & Monk Properties located along Parker Road which will be going from Residential to Agricultural and the other property located at 808 South Pike Road which will be going from Residential to Business but the Township is still awaiting receipt of the application before moving forward. We could have the Public Hearings in February which would give us the 30 days necessary. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10th, 2021. We could have one at 7:00 pm and the other at 7:15 pm prior to our Regular Monthly Meeting.

On a motion of Michael Oehling, seconded by Albert Roenigk to set the date/advertise the public hearings for Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 at 7:00 pm and 7:15 pm. Motion Carried. Un. Approval.

DONATIONS TO FIREHALLS – APPROVED

Ron Zampogna stated that the Board has been discussing with all that has been going on with the state of the country and the municipality. For the township’s, specifically Buffalo and Sarver fund raising is down. So, we want to try and help out as much as we can so what we decided is that we would like to donate to Buffalo Township VFC and Sarver VFC an additional \$2,000.00. We would also like to donate to Freeport VFC and EMS \$1,000.00 and to Saxonburg VFC and EMS \$1,000.00.

BUFFALO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS – REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING – JANUARY 4, 2021

On a motion of Matt Sweeny, seconded by Gary Risch to approve donating to Buffalo Township VFC & Sarver VFC to \$2,000 each and donating Freeport VFC & EMS and Saxonburg VFC & EMC \$1,000.00 each. Motion Carried. Un. Approval.

LAND DEVELOPMENT

There were no land development items to be discussed.

Chris Zeigler, President of the Trail Council was in attendance and shared updates regarding happenings with the Butler-Freeport Community Trail. There was a “Last Day Hike” with about 25 people and walked about 4 - 4 1/2-mile round trip. The weather was better than last year. This was the 4th year that we have had this and it continues to grow. We had hot chocolate and s’mores afterward. We will most likely make this a tradition. We held a December Challenge. One of our volunteers offered \$5,000.00 to be matched with any other donations we got in for the caboose. In addition to his \$5,000.00 we raised \$9,505.00. So, that paid for the caboose, paid to move the caboose and paid to fix up the caboose. Armstrong County received a grant for a feasibility study to make Freeport a Trail Town so we will be on that steering committee and hopefully resolve some of the parking issues in Laneville. That will be my main issue. Trail usage is high. Still cutting trees down but no washouts this year.

Bob Fletcher, Acting Road Master was in attendance and gave an update regarding what work the Road Department has been doing around the township. We got through the last 2 storms and everything is up and running. One truck is at Hunters but other than that everything is good.

REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR:

Martin Klabnik, 107 Edgewood Drive regarding drain in the Edgewood Plan. Ken Howard spoke regarding this issue. Ken stated that we have taken a look at installing a storm sewer from Edgewood Drive into the stream which would help that flow and drain much better. We are waiting to hear from the property owner regarding permission to get an easement on his property to do this and have not heard from him yet. We have delivered documents to him but have not received the signed documents as of yet. If we get that easement we will hopefully get that installed early this year. Martin Klabnik stated that he gave Mr. Quigley Mr. Howard’s number.

Ken Howard stated that we have received notice from DCNR that they are going to give the Township funding for the Trail paving project. There was a check deposited into your account around Christmas time but they have not yet made the announcement. It should be upcoming in the next month or two. It is for paving the trail from Marwood to Winfield. Ron asked the amount of the check? Ken replied, the check was in the amount of \$80,000.00 and when we contacted the folks in Harrisburg they said that they were planning on giving you around \$200,000.00 which was to pave 2 parking lots and the section of the trail from Marwood Road to Winfield Road and to make it fully handicap

BUFFALO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS – REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING – JANUARY 4, 2021

accessible and paved so that people from the nursing home could come down and use the trail. We haven't seen the announcement yet but they are indicating that they are going to give you close to \$200,000.00. Janice stated that there is a match. Chris Zeigler stated that is strange that they haven't even announced it and have deposited some of the money into your account.

ADJOURNMENT was on motion of Gary Risch, seconded by Albert Roenigk, at 7:55 p.m. Motion Carried.
Un. Approval.

APPROVED:

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY/TREASURER