

MINUTES
February 16, 2021
Zoom Meeting of the Board of Supervisors
7:00 p.m.

A scheduled reorganization meeting of Milford Township Supervisors was called to order at 7 P.M. by Penney Luhrs through a Zoom call, the meeting ID for which had been advertised in advance in the Pike County Dispatch. Also present were Vice-Chair Rachel Hendricks, Supervisor Gary M. Williams, Solicitor Anthony Magnotta, and Secretary/Treasurer Shahana Shamim.

Penney Luhrs made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Shahana reported that since the last meeting she had received \$6,774.25 from real estate Transfer Taxes. She also reported the financial institution account balances as \$58,395.09, \$19,314.93, \$34,414.09, \$7,834.85 and \$90,229.95 in Wayne Bank (Investment), Wayne Bank (Payroll), NBT Bank, PLGIT (General), and PLGIT (Liquid Fuels) accounts.

Roadmaster:

Mr. Gary M. Williams reported that there had been a series of two-day long snow storms every other day, and all road crews had been putting in a lot of hours with excellent performance. He added that there was a lot of expenditure for repairs, but all equipment was up and running. He further added that he had ordered three more loads of salt and anti-skid materials, which would be delivered soon.

Public Participation #1:

None

Correspondence:

Shahana presented correspondences including HRG, CivicPulse, Rachel Hendricks, Pike County COG, Road Task Force, Pike County Area Agency on Aging, Delaware Water Gap NRA, Pike County Tax Administration, Pike County Commissioners Office, Pike County Conservation District, Emil Moglia, and PSATS

Old Business:

- a. **Transfer of the Restaurant Liquor License – Milford Farmhouse Liquor LLC:** Ms. Hendricks made a motion to open this public hearing, Ms. Luhrs seconded, and it passed unanimously. The Solicitor explained that this hearing was about transferring the liquor license from one location to another within the County. The Section 461-b (3) of Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board requires one public hearing to be held by the receiving municipality to listen to the applicant's intent. This Township is the receiving municipality, Milford Farmhouse, LLC is the applicant, and the Restaurant Liquor License for this case is 16922. He added that the transfer has to be approved through a resolution.

Mr. Rosado, the sole proprietor of Milford Farmhouse, and Mr. James Murray, the consultant, were present. Mr. Murray said that he had retired in 2004 after serving 25 years in the Pennsylvania Police Department, and since then he had been working as the Liquor License Investigator. He continued that he had filed a request to the Township office for this transfer (license # R-16922 and LID# 45357) from 231 Route 590, Greeley, PA 18425-9711 to Milford Farmhouse, LLC's address, which is located at 550 Rt. 6 & 209, Milford, PA 18337. This transfer would not interfere with the wellbeing and peace of the residents, and subsection 461-b (3) requires the receiving municipality to issue a resolution for approving this intermunicipal transfer. Mr. Rosado explained that he intended to reestablish the restaurant, which remained closed for many years, in that location, and activate the liquor license at the same time. Ms. Luhrs inquired if anybody had any questions or objections about this license transfer. She herself commented that Mr. Rosado was doing very well with his other businesses in the area, and she would be happy to see that restaurant come back. She made a motion to adopt the resolution #2162021 for the restaurant liquor license for Milford Farmhouse, LLC, Ms. Hendricks seconded, and it passed unanimously. Ms. Hendricks made a motion to close the hearing, Ms. Luhrs seconded, and it passed unanimously.

- b. **Act 537 Plan Draft:** Ms. Luhrs said that Milford Township would just be a transmission line, and it won't cost taxpayers any money. She continued that businesses that want to connect to this transmission line would have to do their own planning modules. Ms. Hendricks had suggested some additional changes to the responses to the Planning Commission's comments and questions that were reviewed during the workshop. She noted that there were more changes to the Plan per the feedback given to HRG and that the portions of Chapter 7 that had indicated "more information was needed" have now been completed and that language removed. Mr. Spatz from HRG said that he had sent an advertisement, which would need to be published in the newspaper, to the Township office. He continued that the dates would have to be filled out, and the ad would have to be published 30 days before the end of the public comment period. The Public meeting, if it is the Supervisors' desire to hold one, could also be added into the advertisement. Mrs. Hendricks commented that the Supervisors previously made a commitment to hold a public hearing before voting on the Plan. Mr. Spatz continued that written responses to public comments would have to be drafted, and HRG would draft answers to those comments for the Board of Supervisors. This Plan can then be adopted by a resolution after the 30-day public comment period.

Mr. Spatz continued that the transmission line will be owned by the Municipal Authority, and it would go through this Township. Anybody who wants to connect in the Township, would have to submit a planning module, which would be signed off if there are capacity and conveyance available in the plant, by the Board of Supervisors. HRG does not necessarily design the conveyance line, and anybody who would design this conveyance line would have to consider the Act 537 Plan. Supervisors may want to be included on the intermunicipal agreement, or they might opt out, as this township would just carry the transmission line with no mandatory connections. The Solicitor recommended having this hearing on a separate day than the regular meeting, as the Borough had received a lot of public comments at both of their hearings, which had lasted about an hour and 45 minutes.

Mr. Stroyan inquired why the draft would be adopted via a resolution instead of an ordinance. Mr. Spatz replied that adopting this draft via a resolution or an ordinance would not make a difference, as a requirement of adopting this plan is to advertise the public comment period, which is still required for any hearing as well and which can be followed by adoption via ordinance or resolution. The Solicitor added that Milford Borough and Matamoras Borough had conducted a couple of Zoom meetings before adopting the draft by a resolution. He continued that these municipalities also had provided 30-day comment periods before these Zoom public hearings. The comments of the public hearing would have to be transcribed and included into the Act 537 Plan. Rachel added that a court reporter would be needed for transcribing the comments of the hearing. Mr. Spatz added that a hearing is not a requirement for adopting this draft, and the advertisement and written comments from the public are the most important requirements for adopting this draft. He continued that comments and questions about outside the jurisdiction should not be asked in these hearings. "What the public sewer would look like" should not be asked, as there won't be any public sewer in this Township, whereas Planning module process and the on-lot system could be discussed at this hearing. He asked Supervisors to let him know if they wanted him to attend this public hearing, which he would be happy to attend. The Solicitor inquired about the implementation schedule of the OLDS ordinance, as the draft was presented in the year 2020, and the year 2021 had started already. Mr. Spatz replied that this phase, which would span five years, would be revised to start in the year 2022. He added that he would not expect tons of questions that pertain to the Borough. Penney added that Mr. Spatz had already answered questions that pertain to the Borough at the Borough's public hearing.

Mr. Stroyan commented that the fact that the public sewer would be available should be clarified. Penney replied that it would just be a transmission line, and if businesses want it, then it would be available only through a separate planning module. Rachel added that the availability of this public sewer would depend on the appropriate Authority's and the Supervisors' approval of the planning module and the availability of any capacity within the system. She added that the Plan itself indicates the feasibility of funding the project depends on development agreements and new development would be more likely to take place in the Township which has more undeveloped land along this route, and that the same would likely be welcomed accordingly, so long as capacity remained available. Mr. Spatz indicated he would review the information in the Plan regarding the same and that he did not believe it was dependent on developer agreements. Mr. Spatz added that Supervisors won't approve the Planning module if it does not align with the sewer plan. Mr. Stroyan said that Supervisors had clarified that they won't stand in the way if businesses want to hook up. The Solicitor clarified that the Township had adopted the 'No Action Alternative', which implies that the Board of Supervisors won't submit a plan to DEP saying that anyone has to connect to the transmission line, and hence applicants would deal with their own connections. The connection would still depend on someone else's discretion even if Supervisors approve the applicant's planning module.

Penney indicated that Mr. Spatz's participation for the public hearing would be welcomed and made a motion to advertise by following HRG's advice for adopting the draft of Act 537 Plan public comment period and to have a public hearing for March 29, 2021 at 7:00 P.M., Gary M. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously. Rachel made

a motion to adopt the revised response (upon the Solicitor's review) that she had circulated that afternoon, to the comments of the Planning Commission, Mr. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Spatz asked that a final copy be forwarded to him for inclusion in the Plan.

New Business:

None

Public Participation:

Rachel Hendricks said that she had taken concerns over the electric rate hike to the input hearing, at which Pike County Commissioners, businesses, residents of this Township and neighboring townships had testified. Recommendations would be available by May, and an action would be taken by July 14. She thanked Mrs. Shamim for registering her for the hearing.

There was no other business or executive session needed. Penney Luhrs made a motion to pay the bills and adjourn, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously. Adjournment was at 7:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shahana Shamim

Secretary/Treasurer

