

Foster Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
Minutes
July 24, 2017
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Call To Order The Regular Monthly Meeting, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag and a Moment of Silence.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Eckrote-Jones	☒ Present	☐ Absent
Mr. Uricheck	☒ Present	☐ Absent
Mr. Brogan	☒ Present	☐ Absent

READING OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

- ☒ Motion to *dispense* with Reading of Minutes due to availability to public.
- ☐ Motion to *read* Minutes.

Motion By:	☒ Ms. Eckrote-Jones	Second By:	☐ Ms. Eckrote-Jones
	☐ Mr. Uricheck		☒ Mr. Uricheck
	☐ Mr. Brogan		☐ Mr. Brogan

Roll Call:	Ms. Eckrote-Jones	Mr. Uricheck	Mr. Brogan
	☒ Yes	☒ Yes	☒ Yes
	☐ No	☐ No	☐ No
	☐ Abstain	☐ Abstain	☐ Abstain

READING OF TREASURER'S REPORT

- ☒ Motion to *dispense* with the Treasurers Report due to availability to public
- ☐ Motion to *read* the Treasurers Report.

Motion By:	☒ Ms. Eckrote-Jones	Second By:	☐ Ms. Eckrote-Jones
	☐ Mr. Uricheck		☒ Mr. Uricheck
	☐ Mr. Brogan		☐ Mr. Brogan

Roll Call:	Ms. Eckrote-Jones	Mr. Uricheck	Mr. Brogan
	☒ Yes	☒ Yes	☒ Yes
	☐ No	☐ No	☐ No
	☐ Abstain	☐ Abstain	☐ Abstain

READING OF LIST OF BILLS

- ☒ Motion to *dispense* with Reading of List of Bills due to availability to public.
- ☐ Motion to *read* List of Bills.

Motion By:	☒ Ms. Eckrote-Jones	Second By:	☐ Ms. Eckrote-Jones
	☐ Mr. Uricheck		☒ Mr. Uricheck
	☐ Mr. Brogan		☐ Mr. Brogan

Roll Call:	Ms. Eckrote-Jones	Mr. Uricheck	Mr. Brogan
	☒ Yes	☒ Yes	☒ Yes
	☐ No	☐ No	☐ No
	☐ Abstain	☐ Abstain	☐ Abstain

APPROVE FOR PAYMENT

- ☒ Motion to *Approve* Bills for Payment.
- ☐ Motion to *Disapprove* Bills for Payment.

Motion By:	☒ Ms. Eckrote-Jones	Second By:	☐ Ms. Eckrote-Jones
	☐ Mr. Uricheck		☒ Mr. Uricheck
	☐ Mr. Brogan		☐ Mr. Brogan

Roll Call:	Ms. Eckrote-Jones	Mr. Uricheck	Mr. Brogan
	☒ Yes	☒ Yes	☒ Yes
	☐ No	☐ No	☐ No
	☐ Abstain	☐ Abstain	☐ Abstain

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Motion to Adopt Resolution #4 of 2017** – This resolution is for professional services for the pension fund. Jerry made the motion. Ryan seconds the motion. Roll Call was Yes by all.
2. **Wheel Loader Bids** – Bids were received for the following manufacturers: Case, CAT, John Deere, JCB, And Volvo. Bids are on file at the twp building. Jerry made the motion to table all bids for review. Ryan seconds the motion. Roll Call was Yes by all.
3. **Foreman Position** – Jerry explained that two current employees submitted resumes for the position, and he would like to make a motion to appoint Chris Spock as road foreman. Georgiann seconds the motion. Roll Call was Yes by all. Georgiann also made a motion to give Chris the differential in pay since he stepped up to be the “acting” foreman (5/11/17-7/24/17). Jerry seconds the motion. Roll call was Yes by all.
4. **Hire Equipment Operator** – **Prior to this agenda item being discussed Georgiann asked to make a statement: “Before we move on to hiring an equipment operator, I have a few things I’d like to say. As resumes have come into the office I’ve had friends and relatives of applicants calling me as references. A few have said, “I understand a supervisor applied for this position – is this on the up and up, is this a done deal, is the cut and dry, does my family member/friend have a chance.” Let me tell all of you, 13 years ago when I first ran for supervisor I told family & friends of mine, if you are going to expect favors from me, don’t vote for me. I was elected to make the best possible decisions for all residents of Foster Twp and I will be casting my vote for the most experienced, most qualified applicant for the position.” At this time Georgiann explained that she had a condensed version of everyone’s resumes with all personal info and dates redacted if anyone would like a copy.*
Jerry made the motion to hire two equipment operators.
**At this time Ryan, interrupted Jerry and asked to make a statement: “Pursuant to Section 1103(j) of the Public Officials and Employee Ethics Act (“Ethics Act”), 65 Pa.C.S. ss 1130(j), this written memorandum will serve to disclose that I, Ryan Uricheck, in my capacity as a Supervisor of Foster Township, am abstaining from agenda item number four (4) for the regular meeting of July 24, 2017, pertaining to the hiring of equipment operator, due to a conflict of interest under the Ethics Act. The nature of my interest is as follows: “I was one of the six applicants for the job of Equipment Operator” (memorandum is on file with these two minutes)*
Jerry made the motion to hire two equipment operators. Ryan seconds. This motion was not carried for roll call.
Jerry made a motion to hire Scott Troell. Georgiann seconds the motion. Roll Call was Yes by all.
Jerry made a motion to hire Ryan Uricheck, he explained that if he does win the position then it will be up to him if he will be a working supervisor or if he wants to resign he can be an employee. Ryan seconds the motion. Roll Call was Yes by Jerry. No by Georgiann. Ryan voted Yes.
5. **Discussion on Land Use Appeal** – Attny Karpowich explained that he received a notice of intervention from Mr. Wilfings’ counsel. Attny Karpowich is confident that we will win on appeal. Court will render a decision after the ZHB certifies the record. At this time Attny Karpowich discussed timelines for each aspect of the appeal.
6. **Proposed Amendment to Tenant Registration Ordinance** – Attny Karpowich suggested that the ordinance be amended because of the applicability section. It states that the landlord is only required to register if they live more than 20 miles away from the twp limits. He is suggesting that it includes every rental property. Mike Spock agrees that the homes need to be inspected for safety reasons. Attny Karpowich explained that some places have 3rd party inspectors but then the inspector would regulate the fees not the township. Mr. Wilfing said that the quality of life ordinance is a full-time job alone and its not being enforced. Attny Karpowich explained that the international property maintenance code is being enforced instead because unlike the quality of life ordinance, it has stood the test of time. Mr. Wilfing said nothing is getting enforced. Ryan is concerned about how much work that will create. Multiple discussions started in regards to quality of life, property maintenance code, inspectors, too many ordinances that are not being enforced, businesses in residential areas. Keith needs to be asked if he needs help to enforce. Jerry made the motion to amend the ordinance. Georgiann seconds the motion. Roll Call was Yes by all.
7. **Engineering Report** – Tim Holden presented the board with the paperwork that needs to be signed to be reimbursed for the Act 537 amendments. Jerry made the motion to approve. Georgiann seconds. Roll Call was Yes by all. He also had a letter that needs to be considered by the board to send to DEP in regards getting the remaining monies from PennVest. It has been 8 years since the system was made operational, and the twp has yet to receive the final inspection from DEP to have the funds released. Jerry made the motion. Ryan seconds the motion. Roll Call was Yes by all.

8. **Zoning Report** – Report given by Georgiann. There were 6 zoning permits issued and 1 building permit. Several violation notices were sent out as well.

CORRESPONDENCES:

Georgiann announced that she received notification that the twp was approved for a block grant that she applied for last year for \$100K for the Woodside and AgMar playgrounds.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Mike Spock said that the fire company has been getting multiple alarms from Citterios. He said it is because of the way they are cleaning at night. He would like to know if Attny Karpowich could send them a letter. Citterios did say they are working on the problem.
- Donna Fairchild would like to set the record straight and explain that AgMar was supposed to be a private community and 30 years ago there were letters given from Fred Sheaman and everything is grandfathered in. Further discussion between residents occurred.
- Pat King presented a letter from the Postmaster in regards to the mailboxes in AgMar. The shoulders may damage their vehicles. They have not disapproved it, but they are investigating. Jerry explained that he will have to speak with the engineer.
- Residents spoke about the AgMar roads. They said the dirt roads came out good, but the other roads should have been fixed before they worked on them. There are bumps, dips and potholes everywhere. Drainage at Lakeview and Lakeside has not been repaired, that they asked about 3 meetings ago, it needs to be cleaned out by the stop sign. Coming up the hill when turning onto 940 EB, the trees need to be trimmed because you cannot see oncoming traffic. Jerry said that the road crew can come out and cut it. They also stated that stop signs and speed limit signs are needed. Stop signs are needed on: North Sheaman EB, Sunrise & Valley, Lakeside by Playground, Valley & Lakeside, Lakeside by 940, and Valley & Sandy Valley. Jerry made the motion to amend the ordinance. Georgiann seconds. Roll Call was Yes by all.
- Valarie Capozzelli would like to let everyone know that Freya Land was denied for their application to make their temporary tower permanent. She would like to know how we will know if they stopped using it, and what the timeframe is on it. Attny Karpowich explained that the zoning officer can force them to take it down, and that it can be as soon as the appeal period is over.
- A resident that owns a home on Fern St complained about a dilapidated house next door and he has made complaints in 2008, 2011, 2013 and 2015; to date there has been nothing done. He wants to know why the house hasn't been condemned. The board said that Keith sent new notices to the property owner, and they will follow up with him.
- Donna Fairchild showed the board pictures of the renters that removed the twp barriers. She also spoke about drug use within the area.
- Mr. Wilfing would like to know when he will receive his variance. Attny Karpowich explained that he needs to see the ZHB for that, the supervisors are not allowed to issue those. Mr. Wilfing said that the court ordered the township to give it to him. Attny Karpowich said that Attny Hludzik would be the one to contact on that matter.
- John Petrick would like to know why the township hired someone with the least amount of experience, verses people with 30-27-4 years' experience. Jerry explained that it's about the person not just what is on paper. Mr. Petrick would like to know how Ryan can vote for the position if he didn't interview the applicants. Ryan said he voted for himself. Mr. Petrick asked why, Ryan said because he can, and Jerry explained that he voted because he can. Mr. Petrick would like to know where it says that he can vote for himself, and if he didn't interview the other applicants, how can he vote? Jerry said because he can. Mr. Petrick doesn't understand how he can make a decision if he didn't know about anyone else. Ryan explained that he himself had an interview. Mr. Petrick wants to know how he can vote against the other applicant if he doesn't know anything about them. Ryan said he didn't vote against the other applicants. Ryan disagrees, he said he did not vote against them. Mr. Petrick reiterated the fact that he voted for himself. Mr. Petrick would like to know if he can be a supervisor and be part of the union? Ryan stated that he cannot. Mr. Petrick would like to know his intentions. Ryan stated that he intends to be a committed road worker for the township and get stuff done. Jerry explained that Mr. Petrick wants to know if Ryan is going to stay supervisor. Jerry said he hasn't made that decision yet. Mr. Petrick said that how can he be appointed to a union position that he voted himself into if the union will not allow him to be in it, without joining the union. Few audience members stated "wrong". Jerry explained that he will be a working supervisor. Mr. Petrick would like to know if the Local 401 allows supervisors to be members of the union. Ryan stated no, he will be a working supervisor alongside union employees. Attny Karpowich stated that personnel matters should not be discussed in public. Mr. Petrick stated that he is ashamed to be a tax payer to a township that takes someone with only 9 mos experience over everyone else that applied. Ryan and Jerry would like to know how he knows that. Georgiann stated that she said she wouldn't vote for the least qualified. Mr. Petrick read aloud an article from the Morning Call. Jerry said thank you, and that he feels he recommended the two people that he feels are the best fit for the jobs and for this twp.
- Ed Rossi would like to know how it will work with Chris being his bosses boss? The chain of command doesn't make sense. Jerry said that he is the roadmaster, and Ryan will be working as a laborer. Ed stated that he doesn't see how Chris

will give orders to one of his three bosses. Jerry said that he hopes it all works out, and he is pretty confident that it will. Ed stated that maybe Ryan should be the foreman. Jerry said that he thinks he is right where he should be.

- Mr. Petrusky would like an update on the reverse subdivision? Keith emailed everyone but Atty Karpowich didn't understand it so he emailed him back but he hasn't heard back from him. Attny Karpowich stated that since things have changed, he only needs to submit a legal description. He said that if he can get it before the next meeting he can right the wrong for him.

ADJOURNMENT

☒ Motion to Adjourn

☐ Motion to Continue

Motion By: ☒ Ms. Eckrote-Jones

☐ Mr. Uricheck

☐ Mr. Brogan

Roll Call: Ms. Eckrote-Jones

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Abstain

Second By: ☐ Ms. Eckrote-Jones

☒ Mr. Uricheck

☐ Mr. Brogan

Mr. Uricheck Mr. Brogan

☒ Yes

☐ No

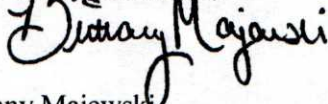
☐ Abstain

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Abstain

Respectfully Submitted,



Brittany Majewski
Municipal Secretary