

Argentine Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2020

Call to Order @ 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Graves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: D Lattie, T. Hallman, B. Saad, D. Graves, N. Schmidt and S. Conner. Absent: None.

Seymour Rd. Drain Hearing:

Moved by Saad, seconded by Graves to open the Drain Hearing. Motion passed 5-0. Letters were received from Dave Alger and Timothy Cekander opposing the project.

Saad discussed the project.

Public comment:

David Alger- Spoke against.

Kevin O'Reilly- Spoke in favor.

Scott & Rachael McKenzie- Spoke in favor.

Patrick Crunk- Spoke against.

Wayne Green- In favor.

Mark Sprague-Via Zoom chat that he wants his name removed from petition. Not in favor.

(A website inquiry from Kristine Wingblad was received in which she said she was not in favor).

Using the list of property owners a list of those for and against were tallied.

Saad moved to close the public hearing. Hallman seconded the motion. Roll Call: Conner, yes, Graves yes, Hallman, yes, Schmidt, yes, Saad, yes. Motion passed 5-0. Hearing closed @ 7:40 p.m.

Motion Saad, seconded by Hallman to return to Regular Board Meeting. Motion passed.

Resolution 2020-4: A determination to make public improvements: approval of plans and estimate of cost, final determination of the Seymour Rd. Drain Special Assessment District. Roll Motion by Saad, seconded by Hallman to adopt Resolution 2020-4. Roll Call: Graves, yes, Saad, yes, Schmidt, yes, Conner, yes and Hallman, yes. Motion passed.

Motion, Saad, second, Hallman to set the date for the Assessment Hearing on August 27, 2020 @ 5 p.m. Motion passed.

Motion, Hallman, second, Saad to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes correction of June 29, 2020 with a name correction. Saad, yes, Hallman, yes, Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes and Conner, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Correspondence is available to view.

Budget Amendments: None.

Presentation of Bills: Motion, Saad, seconded by Graves to approve payment of expenditures as presented in the board package with addition of \$1,485. to the Stain Shop. Motion passed.

Public Comment: Shaun Miller, 9192 Pine Walk Pass, spoke about placing trash receptacles along the new path being built.

Roger Kelley- 16299 Whitehead Dr. - spoke about the road project on Whitehead Dr. and said the Township should have a forensic audit done on the project.

Jim Wells, 16244 Bird Rd. Due to the sound not working, the Board could not hear him on Zoom.

Reports:

Chief Allen requested to give his report first.

Police Department- A written report was submitted.

Chief Allen is requesting hazard pay for all officers who worked during the pandemic. The “First Responder Hazard Pay Premium Program” would provide a 100% reimbursement up to \$1,000. Per officer to municipalities who paid their officers hazard pay. The application period runs from July 7- September 30, 2020. There are 5 full -time and 8 part-time eligible.

Moved by Saad, seconded by Graves to approve payment of \$1,000. for full time officers and \$500. For part-time officers who worked during the Covid-19 pandemic. Motion passed. Roll call: Saad, yes, Graves, yes, Hallman, yes, Schmidt, yes, Conner, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Chief Allen is requesting the board to approve the purchase of the 2020 Ford Explorer for the bid price of \$33,764. The vehicle can also be purchased through the Municipal Lease Program at Option (1) for 2 annual payments of \$17,666.25 or option (2) of 3 annual payments of \$12,125.28. There is also the need of equipping the vehicle from ProComm at a cost of \$10,000.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Graves- to authorize the purchase of the 2020 Ford Explorer at a cost of \$33,764. Roll Call: Saad, yes. Graves, yes, Hallman, yes, Schmidt, yes and Conner, yes. Motion passed.

Motion, Schmidt, second, Graves to spend \$10,000. And have Pro Comm equip the police vehicle. Roll Cal: Saad, yes, Graves, yes, Hallman, yes, Schmidt, yes and Conner, yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Hallman moved to enter Closed Session. Saad seconded the motion. The Board entered closed session @ 8:25 p.m..

Motion, Hallman, second, Saad to return to Regular Board open meeting @ 8:40 p.m. Motion passed.

No decisions were reached or any motions made while in closed session.

Personnel Discussion:

Board members discussed incident with a firefighter John Cross that took place on July 4th and July 9th. The employee has been placed on an administrative suspension of his employment. This employee has declined to participate, so the Board must proceed in an open session.

Moved by Saad, seconded by Hallman to terminate the employment of John Cross from the Argentine Fire & Rescue effective this date. Roll Call: Saad, yes, Hallman, yes, Conner, yes, Schmidt, yes, and Graves yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Matt Lafferty submitted his resignation in May. The board has not yet accepted his resignation.

Motion by Saad, seconded by Hallman to accept the resignation of Matt Lafferty as Chief of the Argentine Fire & Rescue Department and relieve him of his duties effective this date with his current pay to be paid through December 31, 2020. Roll Call: Graves, yes, Saad, yes, Hallman, yes, and Schmidt, yes. Motion passed.

Saad said we need to have someone in charge of day to day operations.

Moved by Saad, seconded by Hallman to appoint Jeremy Kurtz as Interim Chief of the Argentine Fire & Rescue Department a monthly salary of \$1,000., effective this date. Roll Call: Schmidt, yes, Graves, yes, Saad, yes, Hallman, yes and Conner, yes. Motion passed.

Fire Department:- A written report was received.

Building Department: It was reported we had 12 building permits were issued in the amount of \$6,258.20.

Planning Commission- No report. There was not a meeting since last month.

Attorney Report: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Building Inspector Steve Sturgis:

Saad said it was intended to have a pay increase of \$3,000 for the building Inspector position this fiscal year. The money is in the line item of the budget.

Motion, Saad, seconded by Hallman to approve the retroactive pay increase of \$3,000 annually to our Building Inspector Steve Sturgis. Roll Call: Graves, yes, Schmidt, yes, Conner, yes, Hallman, yes and Saad, yes. Motion passed.

50/50 Monies: Supervisor Saad said Flushing Township asked to use the share of the 50-50 money that we could not use. Saad said we may need to think about what we can give to them to use. Mr. Thornsby will ask his Board Members if he can use less. We can bank this share of the funds and possibly use to ward matching funding for the Dam.

Public Comment: Roger Kelley- Would using this void the agreement that the GCRC would maintain the Dam forever? Should we consult with Mr. Bloom if this would set a precedent if we spend township money? The original agreement was that they would maintain the dam forever. The county is responsible for replacement.

Business from Board Members:

Hallman: Fleis & Vandebriuk is about 2 weeks ahead of schedule with the pathway. On August 3rd they will be paving the path. They will be working on the north side of Silver Lake Rd. heading east.

We need to have some tree limbs cut back over the deck.

Conner: Leslie and I have cameras to test for broadcasting our meetings. We are taking care of the reverb issue. This is a good time to replace our security cameras. T. Daniel will need to install Cat-5 cable. This will help with the weak Wi-Fi. Moved by Conner, seconded by Hallman to have the upgrade work done by T. Daniel at a cost of \$750. Motion passed.

Schmidt: Spoke about issues with Whitehead Dr. paving. We could be on the hook for \$7,000. To \$12,000. For some curb work. The driveway issue is fixed. It cost \$1,800. instead of \$6,800.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Graves to accept the quote of \$1,485 from The Stain Shop for work on the deck at Fire Hall. Motion passed.

Graves: There has been significant planning into how to run the election with covid-19 safety protocols in place. To have voters enter and exit the precincts safely, and ensuring the safety of the workers as best as we can, it has been challenging. The cement is a hazard and it could cause a voter to trip and fall. We have a quote from John Shaefer in the amount of \$2,500 to repair the cement pad in front of the bays and \$1,000 to make repairs on the sidewalk at the office. I move that we accept this quote and have the repairs done by Election Day. Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Saad: Spoke to the Board about Damion Ketchmark and his achievement of Eagle Scout at age 13 ½. Saad said this is outstanding stellar achievement. I would like for us to adopt Resolution 2020-5 recognizing this achievement.

Moved by Saad, seconded by Hallman to adopt Resolution 2020-5. Motion passed.

Schmidt added that we have a letter from Micah Stanley regarding a question about our bridge ordinance. Should we have Mr. Brooks or David Lattie answer this question? Attorney Lattie said he would answer this.

Matt Lafferty said he reviewed the Fireworks permit and it is all set for approval.

There being no other business before the Board the Treasurer adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment at 9:17p.m.

Denise Graves, Clerk

Brian Saad, Supervisor

Thomas Brooks, Secretary
