**REGULAR MEETING**

**January 15, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Reading Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Building and called to order at 5:58 pm by Chairman Wes Thomason. Vice Chairman Jason Phillips and Mike Weigand were also present with Chairman Thomason presiding over the meeting.

Others in attendance included Susan Smith, Solicitor, Law Offices of Susan Smith.

Trey Elrod, Gordon Brown, and Associates; Bill Ceravola, Officer in Charge; Jerry Shank, Planning Commission; Jason Grim, Public Works; Jeff and Luanne Megonnell, Kim Weigand, Rodney Hollabaugh, Gary Bullock, Vernon Grier, Andrew Herold, Kevin Holtzinger, Kris Rauhenstine, Keith Bortner, George Myers, and Mike Starner.

Pledge of Allegiance

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Thomason welcomed Mr. Weigand to the Board.

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the December 18th, Board of Supervisors Meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Phillips, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

Minutes from the January 2nd, organization meeting were approved with corrections, on a motion by Mr. Phillips, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Hollabaugh was happy to see the appointment for Solicitor was on the agenda. He hopes the Board reviews this and thinks about it.

Mr. Holtzinger stated after working with Solicitor Smith for the past four years he recommends they retain her. She has done a wonderful job for the township and is very cost-effective as well.

Mr. Megonnell questioned the Board as to why the appointment was on the agenda.

Chairman Thomason stated there were times the township could have spent a lot of money on employee contracts and with her council saved money. He also said as far as the comments that she charges too much, she also serves on the Planning Commission Board.

Mr. Phillips stated what brought the topic up was at the Organization meeting the Solicitor was tabled, all the other positions were approved. Mr. Phillips made a motion to appoint Susan Smith as the Township Solicitor, second by Chairman Thomason; motion carried. Mr. Weigand voted no.

Mr. Weigand stated what he has learned through PSATS training, it is not uncommon for Municipalities every three years to do a review of the Solicitor and see what other options are out there. Mr. Weigand thinks this should be explored. Attorney Smith can also re-submit.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT AND PLANS**

**Evelyn Mark**

**Final Subdivision Plan**

**SALD #2023-05**

**Plan-Consideration and action**

Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve the Evelyn Mark Plan with the conditions mentioned in the Engineer’s letter dated January 2nd, 2024, being met, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**Starner & Starner Properties**

**Preliminary/Final Subdivision Plan**

**SALD #2023-07**

**Consideration and action on a 90-day time extension**

Mr. Elrod stated the plan is not up for review. They have decided to apply for a variance because of the size of the lots. Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve the 90-day time extension, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

The following waivers and modification are requested.

* §22-303 Waiver of a Preliminary Plan. Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve waiver §22-303, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.
* §22-407.1.C Lot Depth. Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve waiver §22-407.1.C, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.
* §22-306.A(30) Requirement of Wetlands Study. Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve waiver §22-306.A(30), second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.
* §22-306 modification, Required 1” =50’ drawing scale. Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve modification §22-306 pending legibility improvements requested by the Engineer, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**Kevin & Benay Holtzinger**

**Final Subdivision Plan**

**SALD #2023-08**

**Consideration of waiver §22-505 B (1)**

Where a water main supply is within 1,000 ft. of or where plans approved by the Township provide for the installation of such public water facilities, the developer shall provide the development with a complete water main supply system in accordance with the Township or applicable municipal authority requirements.

Mr. Elrod read a paragraph from the SALDO §22-505B which states “This paragraph shall not apply when the water main supply or public water facilities is that particular water supply system installed in the Township pursuant to an agreement styled “Water Service Agreement” between the York Water Company, Reading Township and the Reading Township Municipal Authority, dated March 19, 2007. [Ord. 2007-4].” Mr. Elrod found the agreement in the file. After reading the agreement, the paragraph does not apply to Mr. Holtzinger’s plan, so the waiver is not needed. The capped sewage system is not affected by this agreement. It also does not affect the water resource study. Solicitor Smith agreed with Mr. Elrod. The Water Study will be discussed at the Planning Commission meeting in February.

**BUSINESS MATTERS**

**Acknowledge 2023 Right to Know Request Report**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Right to Know 2023 Report.

**Wendell Herr, Heidlersburg Fire Department-Box card for review and Board signature**

The Board reviewed and signed the box card with a correction.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RTMA terms of office-consideration and action**

Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-05 to appointment of Ron Beck to the Reading Township Municipal Authority Board, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer’s Report for the month of December were approved pending audit on a motion by Mr. Phillips, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

The Board acknowledged receiving reports from the Police, Public Works, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector, Emergency Management and Northeast Adams Fire & EMS, United Hook and Ladder and Heidlersburg Fire Company.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to accept the Administrative Reports as presented, second by Mr. Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**SOLICITOR REPORT**

Attorney Smith stated there has been little activity on Legislation. Herself, the Engineer and staff are making changes to SALDO. The Construction manual is out of date and that will be addressed as well. The Board will need to address the Solar Ordinance as well as the Comprehensive Plan.

Attorney Smith thanked the Board for her re-appointment as the Township Solicitor. She stated she has not raised her rates and in fact she was giving cheaper rates than some Municipalities. She has taught numerous classes for PSATS. She hopes everyone see’s the value in her service and is glad to be serving the Township.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Shank stated there are counter strips at the Cross Keys Intersection.

Mr. Megonnell questioned the Board if the Union Contracts were signed and sealed. Solicitor Smith stated the contracts were approved but she is waiting to hear back from the Union Solicitor after their review of the highlighted corrections in the contract.

Mr. Holtzinger thinks it is appalling that the contracts are not signed yet. He believes Officer Morehead and Office Ceravola were playing games waiting on the change of office up front.

**adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned into executive session at 7:27 pm on a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Beard

Secretary/Treasurer