**REGULAR MEETING**

**May 15, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Reading Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Building and called to order at 6:02 pm by Chairman Kevin Holtzinger. Vice Chairman Wes Thomason and Jason Phillips were also present with Chairman Holtzinger presiding over the meeting.

Others in attendance included Susan Smith, Solicitor, Law Offices of Susan J. Smith; Bryon Trout, of the office of Township Engineer Gordon L. Brown; Bill Ceravola, Officer in Charge; Jason Grim, Public Works.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Board met with United Hook and Ladder on May 9, 2023.

**MINUTES**

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the April 17, 2023 as presented, second by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jeff Megonnell inquired about alternative speeding control measures, including speed bumps; complained of vehicle exhaust system noise incidents; and inquired about restrictions on trucks using j-brakes.

Robin Heyser, EBACC, provided updates on events, capital campaign feasibility study and Project 22 building campaign.

Erik Newcomer raised concerns regarding zoning regulation/enforcement of signs, pick up window and picnic table area at his restaurant, and distributed photos of the property. The Solicitor noted that the MPC mandates that a zoning officer has exclusive authority to administer and enforce the Zoning Ordinance as written and that the Board has no role in that process, but does have legislative power to amend the Zoning Ordinance. The Solicitor advised Mr. Newcomer of the time limitation for filing an appeal from an enforcement notice to the Zoning Hearing Board. The Board determined to discuss this matter with the Township Zoning Officer and obtain background information and, subsequently, to meet with Mr. Newcomer.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT AND PLANS**

No Engineer’s Report

**CHR Final Land Development Plan (Rutters Expansion)**

Applicant representatives presented the Plan and reviewed the Township Engineer, Zoning Officer and County review comments.

The Board received the applicant’s written requests for waiver/modification from SALDO requirements. The Solicitor reviewed the justifications offered for the requests. Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve a (1) waiver of SALDO Section 22-303 preliminary plan requirement and (2) modification of the SALDO Section 504.3 sidewalk requirement with condition for applicant to install the sidewalk six months after notice from Township for its installation, second by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the Preliminary/Final Plan with the conditions that the Nos. 1 - 4 of the Township Engineer’s May 11, 2023 review comments be satisfied and with revision to the Plan to include waiver/modification notes subject to review of the language by the Solicitor, second by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**Ivan F. & Rebecca F. Stolzfus Preliminary/Final Subdivision Plan – Waiver**

The Board received the applicant’s written request for waiver from the SALDO requirement. The Solicitor reviewed the justifications offered for the waiver.

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve waiver from SALDO Section 22-407.1 (lot width to depth ratio, second by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**Thomas & Marcia /Jeffrey Ebersole Final Subdivision Plan – Extension letter**

The Board reviewed the applicant’s letter requesting an extension of the time for Board action on the Plan for 90 days, expiring September 21, 2023.

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the extension, second by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**BUSINESS MATTERS**

**Apple Valley 5K**

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to (1) approve the use of Township roads for the event; (2) entry into the Road Use Agreement; and (3) authorization of the Chairman to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Township, second by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**Proposed Utility Scale Solar Ordinance Amendments to Zoning Ordinance**

The Solicitor noted that the County had not yet provided requested constrained lands maps. The Solicitor reviewed the pending ordinance doctrine.

Chairman Holtzinger made a motion to table consideration of the proposed amendments, second by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

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

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

**SOLICITOR REPORT**

Attorney Smith reported on the recently enacted County’s Improvements Certificate Ordinance. She counseled that the Township refer all inquiries regarding the need to apply for and obtain a certificate to the County.

Attorney Smith reviewed a recent decision of the Commonwealth Court on the Ethics Law conflict of interest provision and the Second-Class Township provision allowing a conflicted supervisor to vote in a matter to obtain the required quorum for action and provision allowing a conflicted supervisor on a 3-member board to vote to break a tie.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No additional public comment.

**adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Mr. Phillips, second by Mr. Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Beard

Secretary/Treasurer