**PIATT TOWNSHIP**

**GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**February 6, 2024**

Supervisor Dean Edwards called to order the General Business Meeting of the Piatt Township Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, in the township municipal building, 9687 North Rt. 220 Highway, Jersey Shore, PA. He led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

**Present:** Dean Edwards, T. Scott Moore, Dennis Rager, Shelly Davis

**Visitors:**  Officer Fioretti, Zachary DuGan, Ashley Miller, Dennis Buttorff and Steve Helm

**GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**Citizens Comments –** Steve Helm read Section 423 “Commercial Timber Harvesting Operations” in Piatt Township Zoning Book and questioned if a permit had been issued to Shade Mountain Forest Products. A permit based on the Zoning Regulations has not been issued but an Excess Maintenance Agreement with Permit through Municipal Solution has been issued and a Road Bond has been secured.Steve would also like the Supervisors to consider amending the Ordinance to include a reasonable start time, especially when harvesting is occurring in a residential area.

**Minutes –** Dean moved to approve the January 2nd Reorganizational and General Business Meeting minutes, Dennis seconded, motion carried.

**Tiadaghton Valley Regional Police Department –** Officer Fioretti presented the January 2024 Piatt Township Police Activity Report. There were 24 calls for service (incidents),1 arrest, 12 speeding citations and 18 other violations.

**Act 537** – Nothing new to report.

**Planning Commission** – Nothing new to report.

**Roadmaster**

* Spoke to Tom Lyons with Municipal Solution regarding Shade Mountain Forest Products.
* Spoke to Tom Lyons with Municipal Solution regarding the gas company staging area in Woodward Township that is using Youngs Road. Tom is concerned and suggested we post a sign that states they are not allowed to travel on that road. Tom is speaking with Woodward to see if they agree.
* The Township needs to purchase quite a few road signs.
* Either GOH or PennDOT used a wooden post for a sign that we are required to maintain along Route 220. The Township is concerned because it is not typical, usually a steel post is used. Dean called Greg Dibble, Greg is checking into it.
* Dean described two issues he encountered with Max Liddic this month

**Tax Collection –** Shelly presented, from Kayla, the 2023 delinquent real estate, fire and per capita parcels/residents.

**Solicitor –** Nothing new to report.

**SEO & PUCC –** Scott moved to appointTerry Meyers as the Township’s primary Sewage Enforcement Officer & Jeff Kreiger as the alternate Enforcement Officer, Dean seconded, motion carried.

**Zoning & Building Permits –** Nothing new to report.

**EMC & Fire** – Dennis gave the Supervisors an update on the hazard & vulnerability assessment tools and distributed a West Branch Emergency Management Association dispatch report. Dennis also received signatures on a “Disaster Declaration.” A Disaster Declaration is a formal statement by a jurisdiction that a disaster or emergency exceeds the response and/or recovery capabilities. Signing ahead of time ensures actions can be completed in a timely and safe manner. Dennis will call all three Supervisors prior to enacting the declaration.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Stormwater Management Ordinance** – Nothing new to report, still working on it.

**Conference Room Entrance Door –** Several options were discussed to either replace or repair the conference room entrance door. Something needs done before the Primary Election Day, April 23.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Ordinance #2024-01 “Amending the Piatt Township Zoning Ordinance of 2021 to Designate Those Uses Not Provided for in the Piatt Township Zoning Ordinance as Conditional Uses” –** The enactment of the Ordinance is necessary to handle a use which is neither specifically permitted or denied in any District in the Township. Currently Section 401 of our Zoning Ordinance provide that if a use is not provided for, it is prohibited in the Township. The appellate court has ruled that the prohibition of Section 401 is illegal and that if a use is not provided for in any district it is to be permitted in any district. Our Solicitor, Scott T. Williams, recommended that we modify this section of our zoning ordinance dealing with this issue to say that the use is permitted in any district as a conditional use. This will allow the Supervisors the opportunity to hear, decide and attach conditions. The Supervisors will have the authority to permit the use or deny the use in accordance with the standard governing conditional use applications (set forth in Section 1101 “Conditional Uses” of the Township Zoning Ordinance). In addition, the use may only be permitted if:

1. It is similar to and compatible with other uses permitted in the District where the subject property is located.
2. It is not permitted in any other District under the terms of the Township Zoning Ordinance
3. It does not conflict with the general purposes of the Township Zoning Ordinance.

The burden of proof shall be upon the Applicant to demonstrate the proposed use meets the foregoing criteria and would be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare of the neighborhood where it is located.

The Supervisors approved passage of Ordinance No. 2024-01 “AMENDING THE PIATT TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE OF 2021 TO DESIGNATE THOSE USES NOT PROVIDED FOR IN THE PIATT TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE AS CONDITIONAL USES” with a motion by Scott and seconded by Dennis, motion carried.

**Amend Zoning Ordinance;**

 **Add Solar Facility Use –** An associate of our Solicitor, Zachary DuGan, explained the benefit to the Supervisors of establishing a Solar Facility Ordinance. If the township has an ordinance we maintain the control - we dictate which district it can be in or absolutely cannot be in. An ordinance will also address minimum acreage, set-backs, bond for remediation and establish a decommission agreement. Zachary will email a draft Ordinance for us to review and modify.

 **Amend Zoning Ordinance cont’d**

**Personal Storage/Warehouse Facilities –** Personal Storage/Warehouse Facilities is listed in multiple districts with different requirements; in Commercial District it requires a conditional use, in Light Industries it is a permitted principal and requires a special exception. Zachary will review and let us know if something needs changed.

 **Weld Shop in Agriculture Area -Return to Commercial –** The parcel of land where Simcox Welding is located, changed from Commercial District to Agriculture District. The landowner would like it switched back. Zachary explained the process and will prepare the paperwork

 **Remove Section 435, Letter C –** After a lot of discussion, the Supervisors decided to KEEP Section 435, Letter C. The Supervisors would like the Dock Permit requirement combined with the River Lot Permit requirement; they requested Shelly to discuss this with Victor.

**2010 Ford F-550 Truck** - Marion Township is accepting sealed bids for a red 2010 4WD Ford F-550 Super Duty XL Package Truck. The truck is equipped with a 6.4-liter diesel engine with 50,000 miles. A 10’ plow w/double blade cutting edge and Flink spreader is included. As well as a safety tailgate light bar and beacon lamp. Sealed bids will be accepted and opened on February 14 at 7:00 pm. After some discussion the Supervisors decided to place a bid for $25,000 with a motion by Dean, seconded by Scott, motion carried.

**Remembrance for Scotty Moore** – After a discussion and approval from Zachary. Dean moved to pay for twelve Junior Hunting License from National Sporting Goods in Jersey Shore in honor and remembrance of Scotty Moore, Dennis seconded, motion carried. Scott abstained.

**Correspondence File** –

* The Supervisors accepted the resignation of Bob Miller and Dan Clinger as auditors, effective January 3, 2024.
* Shelly has completed the 2023 MS-965, which is required by the State to receive the 2024 Liquid Fuels payment.
* Shelly has completed all DCED required reports and mailed the W-2, W-3 and 1099-NEC forms.
* The Department of Labor & Industry has increased the 2023 bid limit. Shelly provided new guidelines to each Supervisor.
* Shelly will prepare and provided each Supervisor with a new Piatt Township Official sheet at the March meeting.

Dean moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, Dennis seconded, motion carried.

Dean moved to approve payment of all bills, Dennis seconded, motion carried.

Dean moved to adjourn, Scott seconded, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

 Submitted by:

 Shelly S. Davis

 Secretary/Treasurer