

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

ROLL CALL:

JEFFRY E. DENCE, CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFF BORASKI, VICE-CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFFREY ROCCO, SECRETARY	PRESENT
BRIAN M. GALLOWAY, SUPERVISOR	ABSENT
JOHN PALMER, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. with roll call and pledge to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Galloway. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Chief Code Enforcement Officer and Assistant Township Manager Matthew Takita, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, and Township Engineer Joe Jones.

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS FOR THE SCARECROW, FALL PHOTO, AND
HOLIDAY HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS**

Mr. Brian Andrews and Mr. Ralph Asplen presented certificates and gift cards to winners of the Scarecrow contest, the Fall Photo contest, and the Holiday House Decorating contest. Congratulations to everyone.

**ITEM # 1 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON
FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM**

Ms. Toni Battiste said there was no notice in the newspaper about the change in this meeting. Not everyone comes to the meeting and not everyone checks the website. If you went to the Board of Supervisor heading and the agenda, it was listed there. A lot of people won't think to do that. You may want to send out an e-mail blast or post it as an announcement on the website. Ms. Battiste asked if there were anything new with Elcon. Chairman Dence said nothing has occurred since our last meeting.

Commissioner Robert Harvie said he has started to make his way around different municipalities to talk about things they would like to do at the county level and also give some updates. The opioid crises has been a serious issue for many years. We feel like we are making some progress as board members. Narcan has been used for years to provide life-saving measures to those who have overdosed. The Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission is sponsoring free training to anyone who is interested. There are three different times and locations. The first training session will be held this Thursday at 7 p.m. at Jefferson Hospital. There will be a training session in March in upper Bucks and in May in central Bucks. One unit of Narcan per household will be provided. Chairman Dence asked for this information to be on the website as well as the change in meeting day. Commissioner Harvie said another topic he would like to address is the new voting

machine. The county purchased new voting machines and has already received dozens of these machines. There will be training sessions for poll workers and anyone who works inside the election areas. The new ballots will be hand marked and when inserted into the voting machine will let you know if you've made a mistake. The machines will be on demonstration and we'll work with the League of Women Voters so people can see the machines prior to April. This year's Primary is in April, not May. There is a special election in March to fill Commissioner Gene DiGirolamo's seat in Bensalem. Member Boraski said he reached out to Commissioner Harvie's assistant to see if there is any Open Space money available for Falls Township. Commissioner Harvie said he will follow up on that request. Commissioner Harvie said this is the last meeting for Manager Gray. They have known each other since 2003. It is not an exaggeration to say this township would be where it is today without the work of Manager Gray. He has done a tremendous job. He respects him and how hard he has worked. Commissioner Harvie thanked Manager Gray for all he has done.

ITEM # 2 CONSIDER AGREEMENT FOR FOSTER DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTIONS LLC

Mr. Takita said the agreement for Foster Digital Media Productions is in the amount of \$105 per hour billed in half hour increments. They will record our meetings and run them in the back. Member Boraski said this company currently serves Lower Makefield Township and Middletown Township and will be doing the same work. Member Boraski moved to approve the agreement with Foster Digital Media Productions as listed in their quote dated January 8, 2020 at the rate of \$105 per hour; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 3 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING MANAGER TO FINALIZE THE AWARD BID FOR THE HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONER REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ray Litwin's Heating and Air Conditioning Inc. was unable to meet the ordinance requirements. Member Boraski made a motion to reject all bids for the Heating and Air Conditioner replacement project for the police department; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDER PURCHASE OF VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Lt. Whitney said the police department is seeking to purchase three new vehicles that were approved in the 2020 budget. This will include one marked Ford Explorer (\$50,314), a ghosted Ford Explorer (\$48,294), and a ghosted Ford F150 (\$52,723). They are also seeking to outfit a vehicle for the Animal Control Officer (ACO) in the amount of \$6,379. The other vehicle they are seeking to buy is a replacement for a vehicle that was totaled in a crash and is in the amount of \$48,294. Member Boraski hopes they can seek restitution from the operator of the vehicle involved in the accident. Member Rocco asked what is a

low-profile or ghost vehicle. Lt. Whitney said it is not your typical black and white car. They decided to move in a slightly different direction. It is all black with an internal light bar, but also meets the safety concerns. Member Palmer asked about retrofitting the package. Lt. Whitney said some of it can be retrofitted. The cages cannot always be used. Sometimes the technology with the lighting changes so we may not re-use the lights. Member Rocco moved to approve the purchase of police vehicles in the total amount of \$206,004; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 5 CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR GEESE MANAGEMENT SERVICES
 AT THE FALLS TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARK**

Mr. Brian Andrews said this is the fifth year we have been doing the goose management and hazing activity at the community park. In 2019, the cost was \$22,865. We also do the border collie program at a fixed cost of \$1,990. Member Boraski asked about goose control on Martha Drive. He would like to try something in that area. Member Boraski moved to open public comment; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Guido Mariani said every year we consider the proposal to treat the geese instead of eliminating them. Every year he recommends products like Flight Control. Mr. Mariani also recommends using solar-powered lights that are cost-effective and maintenance free. They charge every day and flash 360 degrees. There is a unit for every type of landscape. They have a floating water unit. There is a unit for decks and roofs, and they can easily be moved around. The cost of a unit is \$370. There is a free placement study and the company uses Google Earth. They come in, photograph the area, recommend the unit type, and then recommend placement of the unit. That is free and you will have it within 24 hours. What objection can you have to a trial that gets rid of the geese and prevents additional geese from coming in? Mr. Mariani would like the township to give this a try even in a small area. The name of the company is Geese Deterrent Products. Member Boraski said the Martha Drive area is the perfect place for the floating device. Member Boraski moved to close public comment; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Rocco asked Mr. Andrews to follow up on this. Mr. Andrews agreed the Martha Drive area would be a good place to look into this. Member Boraski asked Mr. Andrews to obtain information for the next meeting for the Martha Drive area. Member Rocco moved to approve the proposal from S&S Wildlife in the amount NTE \$22,000; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 6 CONSIDER QUOTES FOR THE PURCHASE OF A POOL COVER
 FOR THE PINWOOD POOL**

The township received three quotes for a new pool cover for the Pinewood Pool. They are: Factory Direct Fiberglass Pools Inc. in the amount of \$20,193; Perfect Pools Leisure Center Inc. in the amount of \$20,994.75; and Midatlantic Construction & Design Associates Inc. in the amount of \$21,180. Member Rocco moved to approve the quote in the amount of \$20,193 from Factory Direct Fiberglass Pools Inc. for purchase of a pool cover for the Pinewood Pool; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 7 CONSIDER JOHN STRAZZERI'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Mr. Strazzeri's employment agreement will be for the salary of \$71,000 annual and will change from a 35-hour work week to a 40-hour work week. Under Mr. Strazzeri's new agreement he answers to the Manager's office. Member Boraski moved to approve the employment agreement for Mr. John Strazzeri retroactive to September 20, 2019; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 8 APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COUNCILS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

Member Boraski moved to appoint the law firm of Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP consistent with the letter of December 5, 2019 that they sent as their request to be appointed for legal services as labor and employment counsel for the township; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Member Rocco moved to appoint Mr. Brian Binney to the Board of Appeals; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Member Rocco moved to appoint Mr. Erik Person, Ms. Jeannine Delwiche, and Mr. Philip McAloon to the Environmental Advisory Board; Chairman Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Mr. Ian James and Mr. Robert Leary to the Neighborhood Traffic Advisory Committee; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Mr. Ralph Asplen and Ms. Lolain Striluk to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Mr. John Haney and Ms. Mary Leszczuk to the Planning Commission; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Mr. Thomas Roche and Ms. Suzanne Hannigan to the Police Pension Committee; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Ms. Eileen Donahue to the Shade Tree Commission; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 9 MINUTES – DECEMBER 17, 2019 AND JANUARY 6, 2020

Member Rocco moved to approve the minutes from December 17, 2019 and January 6, 2020; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Palmer who abstained from the vote. (3-0-1)

ITEM # 10 ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Jones said there are two new earth disturbance projects, one new land development application, and one new flood plain permit application. The earth disturbance project is a legacy project we inherited. St. Josephs Court is moving along. We approved a temporary certificate of occupancy for the apartment building nearest to the stream. MLH operations is for phase 1 (small building addition). The storm water management basin for Kelly Pipe is functioning properly as designed. AirGas had some issues with their permitting but they are now back on track to continue operations and construct the larger equipment. We will be attending weekly meetings out there. The Kampi components project is well underway. For McGill Composting we are working with the applicant on final plan documentation. We hope to have mylars for the board at the next meeting. The TruckSmart project will be before the Planning Commission next week and probably before the board in March. Britton Industries is another Legacy project. They were recently cited by the DEP for moving their operations across M-Y Lane and into the junkyard. After a number of meetings, they are back in compliance on their development site. They will lease a portion of the junkyard from the owner. The Covanta scalehouse is operational and substantially complete. The driveway for Metals USA is complete. Newport Village asked for a final inspection for a Certificate of Occupancy, but they have a couple of minor site issues to construct. Skyline Steel, an operation in the KIPC, is in operation and substantially complete. The Gelest building addition project is complete. We issued a review letter for the stream bank restoration at the county, so they have some work to do. At Quaker Penn Park, we have a restoration plan in place for re-forestation. We have a plan to restore vegetation, but we will work with the board to enhance the plan. The 2018 Road Program is substantially complete. We are still holding 10% for the landscape portion of the contract. For the 2019 Road Program, we are substantially complete. We will have our last resident meeting in early February for the Burgess Manor folks. The resident meetings have been very successful. Some residents may have a drainage problem and they are asking for a stub pipe. Chairman Dence asked about the county park restoration project. Mr. Jones said as you travel along Trenton Road, Lake Caroline is on your right (going toward Tyburn). There is a walkway that connects with Trenton Road. The walkway is failing due to streambank erosion. They will rebuild the trail to protect it from future erosion conditions. Member Boraski moved to approve the December Engineers Report; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

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ITEM # 11 BILL LIST

Member Rocco moved to approve the bill list for January 20, 2020 in the amount of \$2,128,856.48; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 12 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Clarke said that while in Executive Session, the board spoke about various personnel matters and a matter involving collective bargaining.

ITEM # 13 POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Wilcox reported on the following:

- A. Chief Wilcox wished everyone a Happy New Year. He wishes the best of luck to Chairman Dence and welcome to the Board to Member Palmer.
- B. Although we were just accredited in November, we are starting the process again. One of our goals is to review our existing policies. Sgt. White and his existing team have a goal this year to review the policy and do year 1 of our accreditation. There have been some rule changes and Sgt. White is aware of this. This is a continuous thing to keep on top of, especially with the policy book, but it doesn't cover everything. We will be up for accreditation in 2022.
- C. For our S.T.E.P.S program, Penn Ryn graduation is tomorrow night. We are also teaching this program in Fallsington, Manor, and Walt Disney schools.
- D. Coffee with a Cop is coming up in February.
- E. The Chief for a Day Program is going very well.
- F. Our hiring program is going well. With speaking with two of the officers today they were very happy with the caliber of candidates.
- G. Chief Wilcox said he has worked with Manager Gray for 20 years. He always put Falls Township first and foremost. Chief Wilcox is sorry to see him go and he thanks him for everything he has done for the township.

ITEM # 14 MANAGER COMMENT

- A. Member Rocco moved to approve the purchase of 12 trees at the price of \$50 each (\$600) for the annual Bare-Root Tree program; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
- B. Member Boraski moved to approve Resolution # 20-5, appointing Mr. Matthew Takita as the open records officer; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
- C. Mr. Takita announced the following new businesses:
Comcast/Xfinity; Rodriguez Engraving Inc.; Acupuncture by George; CMR Audio; First Call Towing and Recovery.

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- D. Member Rocco moved to approve Resolution # 20-6 to accept the resignation of Peter Gray; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Manager Gray spoke about his time working for the township. He said it has been a wonderful opportunity to serve the Township of Falls. He has had nothing but great memories and he wishes nothing but the best for the township going forward. He thanked the Board of Supervisors for the years of support and assistance, as well as the professionals and the wonderful staff. Mr. Gray said he appreciates everything, and he thanks everyone from the bottom of his heart.

ITEM # 15 BOARD COMMENT

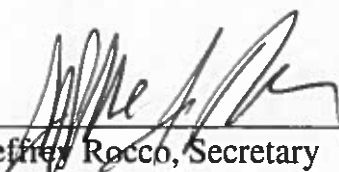
Member Boraski thanked Mr. Gray and said he appreciates everything he has done. We have worked together for six years. He has made himself available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Member Rocco said Mr. Gray always had an answer. He was very knowledgeable. He will miss him as a person and wishes him nothing but the best. Good luck and stay in touch.

Member Palmer said he appreciates Mr. Gray's help with his transition to the board. It is greatly appreciated. Member Palmer said he has worked with Mr. Gray in the past and he has always been very professional. Mr. Palmer wishes Mr. Gray and his family the best in the future.

Chairman Dence said it has been nothing but a pleasure working with Mr. Gray. He has been a good friend. He was available seven days a week, even on vacation. Falls Township is a better place because of him. We wish him nothing but the best. Thank you very much and good luck.

Member Rocco moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Boraski seconded the motion all board members were in favor. (4-0) The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.



Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary