Board of Supervisors - May 13, 2024

TOWNSHIP OF FALLS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

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JEFFRY E. DENCE, CHAIRMAN	ABSENT
ERIN M. MULLEN, VICE-CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
BRIAN M. GALLOWAY, SECRETARY	PRESENT
JEFFREY M. BORASKI, SUPERVISOR	ABSENT
JOHN W. PALMER, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT

The meeting commenced at 5:39 p.m. with roll call and pledge to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Chairman Dence and Member Boraski. Also present were Township Manager/Chief Code Enforcement Officer & Zoning Officer Matthew Takita, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher and Township Engineer Joe Jones.

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

No one signed in for Public Comment.

ITEM # 2 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTING A HEARING OFFICER FOR THE TENURE ACT – ACTION ITEM

Mr. Clarke said in February the Board took action to demote an employee. That employee has chosen to appeal the decision by filing a Tenure Act Appeal. It was decided it would be best to have a Hearing Officer appointed. Member Galloway moved to appoint Attorney Patrick Hitchens from the Law Firm of Kilkenny Law as the Hearing Officer for the Tenure Act at the rate of \$225/hr; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 3 CONSIDERATION OF RESIGNATION FROM DANIEL DOYLE – ACTION ITEM

Mr. Clarke said this resignation is effective April 23, 2024. Member Galloway moved to accept the resignation from Daniel Doyle; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF MOU BETWEEN FALLS TOWNSHIP AND BUCKS COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS FOR CAD SYSTEM ACCESS – ACTION ITEM

Chief Whitney said the Bucks County Department of Communications had an incident

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where they were hacked. They are asking each of the 34 police departments that we engage in a MOU as to what our responsibilities are moving forward. Member Palmer asked if there were any dollar amount attached to this understanding. Chief Whitney said no, it does not require us to spend any money other than what we were already spending. Member Mullen asked if it was the fault of a department. Chief Whitney said they haven't released anything publicly but there was another provider in the County that works off the CAD that did not have the kind of protections in their system that we have. Member Galloway moved to approve the MOU between Falls Township and Bucks County Emergency Communications for CAD System Access; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 5 CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF VEHICLE PURCHASES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT – ACTION ITEM

Chief Whitney said this is for purchase of three 2024 Ford Explorers and one 2024 Ford F150 from Fred Beans with upfitting from Tryon. This is off of the Costars list. Member Galloway moved to approve the purchase of police vehicles in the amount of \$285,922; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 6 CONSIDERATION OF BIDS FOR TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL OF TREE SERVICES – ACTION ITEM

The low bid for tree trimming and removal of tree services is Kent's Tree Service. Member Galloway moved to accept the bid for Kent's Tree Service as the lowest responsible bidder; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 7 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO ADOPT INITIATIVES TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A PENNSYLVANIA AUDUBON COUNCIL – BIRD TOWN PENNSYLVANIA – ACTION ITEM

Member Galloway moved to approve Resolution # 2024-17 to adopt initiatives to be recognized as a Pennsylvania Audubon Council — Bird Town Pennsylvania; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 8 CONSIDERATION OF MASCOT FOR TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION EVENTS – ACTION ITEM

No action (tabled).

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TITEM # 9 CONSIDERATION OF HIRING CLEANERS FOR THE FALLS TOWNSHIP TEMPORARY LOCATION, COMMUNITY PARK & QUAKER PENN PARK – ACTION ITEM

Member Galloway moved to approve hiring cleaners for the Falls Township temporary location, Community Park and Quaker Penn Park at the rate of \$17/hr; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 10 CONSIDERATION OF HIRING SECURITY GUARD FOR THE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT – ACTION ITEM

Member Galloway moved to approve hiring of a security guard for the Parks & Recreation Department at the rate of \$17/hr; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 11 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Clarke said the Board held an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss several personnel matters. They also received information from the Township Manager on several other matters in which no deliberations or votes were taken.

ITEM # 12 MANAGER COMMENT

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 13 BOARD COMMENT

Member Galloway – no comment.

Member Palmer – no comment.

Member Mullen – no comment.

Member Galloway moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Palmer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Brian Galloway, Secretary