

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

ROLL CALL:

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

The meeting commenced at 5:00 p.m. with roll call and pledge to the flag. All Board members were present. Also present were Township Manager/Chief Code Enforcement Officer & Zoning Officer Matthew Takita and Township Solicitor Michael Clarke.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN PRESIDING

ITEM # 1 CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENT

Member Galloway moved to appoint Member Dence as Chairman; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 2 VICE-CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENT

Member Galloway moved to appoint Member Mullen as Vice-Chairman; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 3 SECRETARY/TREASURER APPOINTMENT

Member Palmer moved to appoint Member Galloway as Secretary/Treasurer; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 4 ASSISTANT SECRETARY/TREASURER APPOINTMENT

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Member Palmer as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Member Boraski asked if the Manager is supposed to be appointed for this position. Member Palmer moved to rescind the previous motion appointing Manager Takita as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Chairman Dence moved to appoint Manager Takita as the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

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**ITEM # 5 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON
FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM**

No one signed in for Public Comment.

**ITEM # 6 ESTABLISH MEETING DATES AND TIME FOR REGULAR
MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Member Galloway moved to hold Board of Supervisors meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Township's temporary building and the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Middletown Township Municipal Building; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Chairman Dence said he will do his best to make the 5:30 p.m. meetings. Member Boraski said he cannot attend 5:30 p.m. meetings.

**ITEM # 7 APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR AND SPECIAL
COUNSEL – SET COMPENSATION FEES**

Member Galloway moved to appoint Mr. Mike Clarke (Clarke Gallagher Barbiero Amuso & Glassman) as Township Solicitor at the rate of \$220 per hour for the Township, \$400 per hour for land development and \$135 per hour for Paralegal fees; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor.
(5-0)

Member Mullen moved to appoint Bidlingmaier & Bidlingmaier as Conflict Counsel in the amount of \$195 per hour; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

Member Boraski moved to appoint Campbell Durrant as Labor Counsel at the rate of \$325 per hour; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

Member Galloway moved to appoint Flager and Associates as Zoning and Land Development Counsel at the rate of \$400 per hour; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

Member Galloway moved to approve David Truelove from Hill Wallack as Code Appeals Counsel at the rate of \$200 per hour; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

**ITEM # 8 APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ENGINEER AND TRAFFIC
ENGINEER – SET COMPENSATION FEES**

Member Boraski moved to appoint Jones Engineering Associates as Township Engineer at the rate of \$163 per hour; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

Member Galloway moved to appoint Remington Vernick as Conflict and Traffic Engineers at the rate of \$170 per hour; Chairman Dence seconded the motion; all board members were

in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 9 CONSIDERATION OF KATALINAS COMMUNICATIONS FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

Member Galloway moved to appoint Katalinas Communications for Public Relations and Social Media Coordinator for the monthly retainer of \$3,800 and additional services at the rate of \$85 per hour; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 10 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT FOR BARRY ISETT & ASSOCIATES FOR UCC INSPECTOR & PLANS EXAMINER

Member Boraski moved to appoint Barry Isett & Associates as UCC Inspector & Plans Examiner at the rate of \$120 per hour; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

Chairman Dence asked about the electrical inspector appointment. Mr. Clarke said they will hold over with United Electric and put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

ITEM # 11 NOMINATE A DELEGATE AND AN ALTERNATE TO THE STATE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW – MAY 4 THROUGH 7, 2025

Member Mullen moved to appoint Chairman Dence as Delegate to the State Association's Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show to be held May 4 through 7, 2025; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Chairman Dence moved to appoint Member Boraski as Alternate to the State Association's Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show to be held May 4 through 7, 2025; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 12 APPOINTMENT OF DEPOSITORIES BY RESOLUTION

Member Galloway moved to approve Resolution # 2025-01 for Appointment of Depositories; Chairman Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 13 CONSIDERATION OF HIRING POLICE CANDIDATE ZACH SHERMAN

Member Galloway moved to approve hiring police candidate Zach Sherman; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Member Boraski said he appreciates the summary from Lt. Clarke. We have discussed this as a Board in Executive Session multiple times to start talking about our police hiring procedure in the way neighborhood communities are doing it as opposed to how we are doing it. If we are not going to move forward by having discussions in Executive Session, we should start

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talking about it here. Member Boraski believes we are leaving candidates on the table by using the Consortium Test over and over. Other municipalities such as Bensalem, Middletown, Bristol and Abington, the larger municipalities like us, are having their own testing process. We want to hire the best of the best. As a Board, we can do better for our residents and start running our own process. Member Boraski asked Mr. Clarke compared to us, how many applicants did they have in Abington? Mr. Clarke said when they ran their own process they had over 300 applicants. Plymouth had over 500 applicants. A great many of them were immediately eliminated. Member Boraski wants to get better applicants. There is nothing wrong with us as a Board wanting to do that. For Falls Township, we should have our own hiring procedure. Chairman Dence agrees. Member Mullen said at their last meeting, she doesn't think any of them objected to that. Mr. Clarke said before the holidays, he reached out to the Chiefs in both of those municipalities and asked them to provide us with their documentation. They have indicated that they would. Mr. Clarke will get back to the Board and Manager Takita with that information.

ITEM # 14 RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF AUDITORS TO SET THE TREASURER'S BOND AT \$2,000,000

Member Boraski moved to approve the recommendation to the Board of Auditors to set the Treasurer's Bond at \$2,000,000; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 15 CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE CODE ENFORCEMENT, FINANCE AND PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENTS

Member Galloway moved to table this agenda item; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 16 APPOINTMENT OF VACANCY BOARD CHAIRMAN

Member Palmer moved to appoint Mr. Jeff Rocco as the Vacancy Board Chairman; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 17 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF APPEALS

Member Galloway moved to re-appoint Mr. Robert Hedden to the Board of Appeals; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 18 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE CABLE ADVISORY BOARD

There was no action on this agenda item.

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ITEM # 19 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE DISABLED PERSONS BOARD

Member Galloway moved to re-appoint Mr. Robert Leary and Ms. Dianna Siderio to the Disabled Persons Board; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 20 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 21 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 22 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 23 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 24 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Member Galloway moved to re-appoint Mr. Ralph Asplen to the Parks & Recreation Board; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 25 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Member Galloway moved to appoint Mr. Jesse O'Brien to the Planning Commission; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 26 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE POLICE PENSION COMMITTEE

There was no action on this agenda item.

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ITEM # 27 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 28 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE TOWNSHIP OF FALLS AUTHORITY BOARD

Member Boraski moved to appoint Mr. James Goodwin to the Township of Falls Authority Board; Chairman Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
Member Mullen moved to appoint Ms. Lanie Striluk to the Township of Falls Authority Board; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 29 CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT BY RESOLUTION TO THE ZONING HEARING BOARD

Chairman Dence moved to approve Resolution # 2025-02 to re-appoint Mr. Robert McTague to the Zoning Hearing Board; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 30 EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 31 MANAGER COMMENT

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 32 BOARD COMMENT

Member Galloway wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Member Mullen – No comment.

Member Palmer – No comment.

Member Boraski – No comment

Chairman Dence thanked the Board for nominating him as Chair. He looks forward to 2025.

Member Boraski moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Mullen seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.



Brian Galloway, Secretary

