

PALMER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
February 13, 2017
7:00 PM
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Palmer Township Board of Supervisors held a general business meeting on Monday, February 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Chairman David Colver, Vice-Chairman Kendall Mitchell and Supervisors Ann-Marie Panella, Robert Smith and Jeffrey Young. Also in attendance were the Township Manager, Public Services Director, Police Chief and Attorney Ryan Fields from the Township Solicitor's office.

Colver noted the Board held an executive session prior to tonight's meeting regarding a real estate matter and no action is required tonight.

1. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes - January 24, 2017

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the minutes of January 24, 2017.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell, Seconded by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella. Passed. 3-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella

Supervisors voting Abstain: Smith, Young

B. Disbursement of Funds - February 6, 2017

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the disbursement of funds for February 6, 2017.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell, Seconded by Supervisor Jeffrey Young. Passed. 5-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Smith, Young

C. Disbursement of Funds - February 13, 2017

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the disbursement of funds for February 13, 2017.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Robert Smith, Seconded by Supervisor Jeffrey Young. Passed. 5-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Smith, Young

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Swearing-in of Part Time Police Officers

INFORMATION

Chairman Dave Colver will be swearing-in new part-time police officers: Randall S. Pompei, Jr., Peter Hamati-Attieh, and Alex Thomas Soloe.

DISCUSSION

Chairman Colver swore in the three new part-time police officers.

B. Chamber of Commerce Presentation

INFORMATION

Jeff Warren and Laurie Colvin from the Chamber of Commerce will be making a presentation to the Board about their Public Policy Outreach Program.

DISCUSSION

Laurie Colvin and Jeff Warren introduced themselves and stated they were here to inform the Board about the Chamber of Commerce's Public Policy Outreach Program.

Colvin stated they are the ninth largest chamber in the country and they reviewed the surrounding communities that their chamber covers. Warren said the Public Outreach Committee was formed to let area Boards and Commissions know all the things the chamber can do to assist you with topics related to public policies. The chamber can be a resource to Palmer Township regarding state and federal policies and we can assist you in making your voices heard.

Colver said, on behalf of the Business, Industrial and Professional (BIP) group of Palmer Township, we've had a good relationship dealing with the chamber and have held some co-events with them over the past several years, and it's always been a good experience. Warren said last year the U.S. Department of Labor initiated a policy regarding overtime that affected many non-profits in our community. We pulled them together and talked to our representatives about how it impacted them and it was very effective. We can take your messages to our Senators and Congressman and we would like you to use us as a resource.

C. Intermunicipal Transfer of Liquor License R-11631

INFORMATION

The township received a request from Attorney Rodgers on behalf of Mr. Vraj Bhumi of Easton to consider a transfer of a liquor license from 2332 Main Street, Northampton to the property of 2469 Nazareth Road, in Palmer Township. Mr. Bhumi needs the township's approval prior to him submitting an application to transfer the Liquor License to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the request.

DISCUSSION

Attorney Joe Mashinski was in attendance along with Mr. Patel for the request from Vraj Bhumi Inc. requesting to transfer liquor license R-11631 to Palmer Township. Mashinski said this is our first step. If the township approves the transfer, we will then go to the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board and will go through a rigorous review process prior to approval. If you approve our request this evening, it doesn't necessarily mean it will get approved by the state. Mashinski said there will be no live entertainment at this Wing Stop and no hard alcohol will be served. It will only have take-out beer and people can have a beer in the restaurant with their order. The business closes at midnight. Mashinski said, if this does get approved, they will have to staff accordingly and it will require two additional employees. There is no intention to operate as a bar or nightclub.

Colver asked if there are tables inside the restaurant, will you be able to drink in the restaurant, and what are your business hours? Mr. Patel said, customers will be able to have a beer with their wings and we operate 11 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week. Colver confirmed it will be selling six packs to go or single beers on-site? Mashinski said that is correct, and they have internal policing mechanisms on-site to monitor customers having beer with their wings. Colver asked if they would be holding any type of events? Patel said they have two TV's on-site and they would not be holding on-site parties. Colver asked if all their business would be contained inside the building? Patel said yes, they are not allowed to have tables outside per their landlord. Colver asked if they would be hanging any type of beer signs in their windows? Patel said we have to abide by the franchise agreement guidelines and that is not permitted. The only sign that will change is their menu board showing the beer options.

Supervisor Smith asked if the bar license restricts them to six pack sales only? Mashinski said Pennsylvania is pretty antiquated when it comes to liquor sales. An R license allows the sale of spirits, wine and beer. It is allowed by the state, but we can tailor this resolution to restrict certain things. Mashinski said the Liquor Control Board will visit the site and conduct interviews. Colver said if you would decide to sell to another owner, we want to make sure the window lighting, on-site entertainment and parties would not be allowed by any new owner.

Mashinski said they will change the resolution to include the concerns the Board made tonight for future adoption.

Supervisor Mitchell made a motion to approve the transfer of Liquor License R-11631 conditioned upon the resolution being satisfactory to the Township Solicitors office.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell, Seconded by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella. Passed. 5-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Smith, Young

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Ramut, Ares Vega and Justin Dephillipo from the Easton Area High School Technology Students Association distributed cost estimates to the Board regarding their organization attending a Technology State Conference. They asked the Board if they could

provide financial support to assist them in attending the conference.

Colver said we can not use taxpayer funds to assist you in going to the conference. Colver said we could pass on your information to the Business, Industrial and Professional Organization to see if anyone would be interested. Ramut said he believes that was done last year, but we never received any feedback from any of the members. Colver said, if you are interested, we could get you on the BIP's March business luncheon schedule to speak to the membership. Colver asked Brenda DeGerolamo to get the information about the March luncheon to Daniel Ramut when the information is confirmed.

5. REPORTS

Police Chief

Chief Palmer said the Commander from the John and Lynch American Legion Post presented us with a \$430 check that will be put toward the purchase of a vest for an officer.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Motion: Adjourn, Moved by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella, Seconded by Supervisor Robert Smith. Passed. 5-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Smith, Young

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher S. Christman
Township Manager