

PALMER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
April 10, 2017
7:00 PM
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Palmer Township Board of Supervisors held a general business meeting on Monday, April 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. with the following in attendance: Chairman David Colver, Vice-Chairman Kendall Mitchell and Supervisors Ann-Marie Panella and Jeffrey Young. Supervisor Robert Smith was absent. Also in attendance were the Township Manager, Public Services Director, Planning Director, Township Engineer, Police Chief and the Township Solicitor.

1. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes - March 28, 2017

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the minutes of March 28, 2017

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell, Seconded by Supervisor Jeffrey Young. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

B. Disbursement of Funds - April 3, 2017

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the disbursement of funds for April 3, 2017.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella, Seconded by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

C. Disbursement of Funds - April 10, 2017

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the disbursement of funds for April 10, 2017.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell, Seconded by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

D. Invoices Against Palmer Township Sewer Line Escrow Fund

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the invoices against the Palmer Township Sewer Line Escrow Account.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Jeffrey Young, Seconded by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Requesting Authorization to Advertise an Ordinance Amending the Palmer Township Zoning Ordinance

INFORMATION

The Administration is seeking Board authorization to advertise an ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance to re-enact provisions relating to digital and electronic message signs. The attached copy of the proposed ordinance is under review by the Township Solicitor and would need to be reviewed by the Palmer Township Planning Commission and the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission.

Board action is requested.

DISCUSSION

Christman said, as you are all aware, at one point we had an ordinance on the books related to digital signs in the township. We recently made some amendments to that ordinance after receiving recommendations from our Comprehensive Plan Consultant. I'll turn it over to Cyndie Kramer for further information.

Colver said he wanted to clarify that the Board will not be enacting anything tonight, we are discussing what is in the ordinance and deciding on future advertising of the ordinance.

Kramer said once we feel it is in final form we will need to forward it to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and it still also needs to be reviewed by our Planning Commission. Kramer summarized the major changes to the ordinance. Kramer said digital signs can not be used in windows or as wall signs. The way to measure distances has changed and the measurements for the brightness has changed.

Kramer said height and landscaping restrictions also changed. Kramer said we still need to discuss the recommendation made by our consultant regarding off premise billboards being located on a separate lot. The frequency of message changes used to be 7.5 seconds and there was also some discussion about make that time period

longer, but no number has been agreed upon to date. Kramer added we also are prohibiting all white backboard on digital signs since it is the brightest color at night.

Colver said there was a lot of talk about the 24 hour operation versus the sign going off at 11 p.m. Kramer said it still is permitting 24 hour operation for billboards. Businesses would be required to follow the sign going off an hour after their closing.

Colver asked about requirements for dimming the signs at night. Kramer said the signs have technology built in them to automatically dim at night. We added language stating the maximum allowed during the day and the maximum amount allowed during the night. Colver asked about size? Kramer said we didn't change anything regarding size; we use the standard sizes used by billboard companies. Colver asked about any district changes in any township locations. Kramer said there is a new districts in the north end in the industrial area along Route 33.

Kramer again said the document needs to go to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission for their meeting the end of this month and to our Planning Commission at their May meeting. If there are no further changes it could be back to you by the end of May to request advertising of the ordinance. There is a two week advertising requirement prior to the public hearing.

Young asked about sizing for signs. Kramer said it allows a maximum sign area of 300 square feet. Young asked if we will still allow a billboard on William Penn Highway. Kramer said if it's within an allowed district. Young asked how many feet an electronic sign needs to be from the line of sight for residential areas. Mitchell said in Section 18 A (1) it states a digital sign shall not be placed within 500 feet of a residential property line. Young asked if that is far enough away. Colver said that is two football fields away. Young said you will still be able to see the sign from a residence. Young said he would like to have message resets at 12 to 18 seconds.

Bruno asked what his concern was. Young said houses are still going to see it so the less flashing the better. Colver said in our last ordinance we had 7.5 seconds. Colver said he is fine with 7.5. Mitchell said why not 7.5 on highways and in residential neighborhoods you make it longer.

Charles Diefenderfer, 2918 Hay Terrace, said the sign on Route 22 always did turn down at night. It is now at 150 nits. That isn't based on township requirements, it is based on an agreement I have with the sign company. Diefenderfer said a standard billboard is around 100. Diefenderfer added the sign on Route 22 is about 500 feet from his home. Diefenderfer said his neighborhood talked about rapid changes and when Acopian's trees are full you don't see the sign for a very long period of time. On Route 78 by the 412 exit they have an extended time frame. Colver said he only knows what was discussed with different billboard companies a few years ago and we agreed to go with 7.5 seconds. At that time, we looked at what everyone else was doing in the Lehigh Valley area. Diefenderfer said the constant changing does have an impact.

Young asked who determines when it changes for darkness. Mitchell said it probably has an electronic eye on the sign. Diefenderfer said it seems to adjust around a half hour before dusk. Diefenderfer asked when he could see the revised document online so he can read it. Bruno said when we advertise it, it will be available to the

public. Bruno said if the Board wants Mr. Diefenderfer to have a copy earlier, there is no problem with him having a copy. Bruno said once Cyndie has it in a final draft form after it is reviewed by the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and the Township Planning Commission, it will be available.

Supervisor Young made a motion approving sending the draft ordinance to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, the Township Planning Commission and then, if there are no further changes, authorized advertising the ordinance for a public hearing before the Board of Supervisors.

Bruno noted it is still a working document and could have additional changes made to it before being advertised.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Jeffrey Young, Seconded by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

B. 2017 Road Materials, Construction Rental Equipment, Concrete Work and Equipment Trailer Bid Award Recommendations

INFORMATION

The Public Services Director has provided a summary of the road materials/equipment rental/ concrete work/equipment trailer bidding information and has recommended bid awards per the attached memos for the Board's consideration.

DISCUSSION

Colver said we received a low bid from Plasterer Equipment for a 2017 Eager Beaver 20XP Tag-a-Long Trailer for the low bid of \$25,500.

Supervisor Panella made a motion to award the low bidder, Plasterer Equipment.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella, Seconded by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

Supervisor Panella made a motion to award concrete work to low bidder A. J. Trunzo, Inc. as follows:

- Concrete curbing - 1500 lineal feet (more or less) - \$38.00 per lineal foot
- Rolled concrete curbing - 50 lineal feet (more or less) hand formed - \$50.00 per lineal foot
- Horizontally curved rolled concrete curbing - 20 lineal feet (more or less) -

\$55.00 per lineal foot

- Concrete sidewalk - 1,800 square foot (more or less) - \$18.00 per square foot
- Slip formed concrete curbing - 400 lineal feet (more or less) - No bid will be awarded

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella, Seconded by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

Supervisor Young made a motion to award Milling Machine and Operation Rental Equipment to low bidder Rota-Mill, Inc. of Oley, PA at the rates listed below:

- 6.5' wide milling machine w/oper/gman and water truck - \$650.00/hour
- 4' wide milling machine/oper/gman and water truck - \$475.00/hour
- Skid Loader with all attachments - \$125.00/hour
- Mobilization/demobilization of milling machine - \$700.00/each
- Mobilization/demobilization of skid loader - \$200.00/each

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Jeffrey Young, Seconded by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

Colver said we received one bid from Gaver Industries, Inc., dba Barker & Barker, for paving at a price of \$2,000.00 an hour. At this time we will not be awarding the bid for paving crew. If needed, the paving crew rental work will have to be purchased subject to state bidding requirements or re-bid.

Supervisor Mitchell made a motion to award road materials to low bidders as listed below:

Highway Materials - F.O.B. - DELIVERED

Superpave 9.5mm Wearing 0-0.3 - \$46.85/Ton - \$52.55/Ton
Superpave 9.5mm Wearing 0.3-3.0 - \$46.85/Ton - \$52.55/Ton
Superpave 12.5mm Wearing 0-0.3 - \$45.85/Ton - \$51.55/Ton
Superpave 12.5mm Wearing 0.3-3.0 - \$45.85/Ton - \$51.55/Ton
Superpave 19mm Binder 0.3-3.0 - \$43.85/Ton - \$49.55/Ton
Superpave 25.0mm Binder 0.3-3.0 - \$40.35/Ton - \$46.05/Ton
Superpave 25.0mm Base 0-0.3 - \$40.35/Ton - \$46.05/Ton
Superpave 25.0mm Base 0.3-3.0 - \$40.35/Ton - \$46.05/Ton

New Enterprise Stone & Lime - F.O.B. - DELIVERED*

Anti-Skid - \$12.65/Ton (N)
3A Modified - \$ 10.05/Ton (N)
#57 (2B) - \$12.85/Ton (N)
#3 - \$12.60/Ton (N)
Gabion - \$18.20/Ton (N)
2A - \$ 9.55/Ton (MC)
Screenings (#10) - \$15.25/Ton (N)
2RC - \$6.85/Ton (N)
#8 - \$18.25/Ton (N)

Not awarding for HP Cold Patch, we will be purchasing off of the Co-Stars Contract.

*Note: No bids were received for delivered crushed limestone materials. The Township may alternatively purchase crushed limestone materials delivered directly from the Co-Stars Contract based on material availability, trucking availability and ton-mileage trucking costs.

Ton mileage and potential Palmer Township ton mileage trucking costs for FOB materials were taken into consideration when assessing the bid prices.

No Bids were received for the following materials:
FABW, FJ1 or FJ1C; Tack Coat; Rip Rap R4; Rip Rap R5; Rip Rap R6; Rip Rap R7

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell, Seconded by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

Supervisor Panella made a motion to award construction equipment rental without operator to Plasterer Equipment Company, Inc., as follows:

Amounts listed: DAILY - WEEKLY - MONTHLY - DELIVERY/P-UP CHG.

655K Track Loader - \$930.00 - \$2,565.00 - \$7,225.00 - \$355.00
755K Track Loader - \$990.00 - \$2,820.00 - \$7,920.00 - \$525.00

130GLC Excavator - \$600.00 - \$1,595.00 - \$4,390.00 - \$355.00
160GLC Excavator - \$620.00 - \$1,755.00 - \$4,795.00 - \$355.00
210GLC Excavator - \$720.00 - \$2,070.00 - \$5,705.00 - \$525.00
250GLC Excavator - \$860.00 - \$2,395.00 - \$6,660.00 - \$525.00
300GLC Excavator - \$960.00 - \$2,705.00 - \$7,180.00 - \$525.00

450J Dozer - \$480.00 - \$1,340.00 - \$3,195.00 - \$250.00
650K Dozer - \$580.00 - \$1,645.00 - \$3,725.00 - \$250.00

410L Backhoe - \$400.00 - \$1,110.00 - \$2,995.00 - \$250.00

Bomag BW211 Soil Roller - \$580.00 - \$1,575.00 - \$4,195.00 - \$355.00

Indeco IHC150 Compactor - \$290.00 - \$710.00 - \$1,845.00 - \$125.00

Indeco HP 300 Breaker - \$650.00 - \$1,670.00 - \$4,625.00 - \$125.00

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella, Seconded by Supervisor Jeffrey Young. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

Supervisor Mitchell made a motion to award construction equipment with operator to A. J. Testa as follows:

TRACK LOADER

23,600 lb. - \$145.00/hr.

33,950 lb. - \$155.00/hr.

46,255 lb. - \$165.00/hr.

HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR

28,840 lb. (Class 120) - \$135.00/hr.

39,980 lb. (Class 160 LC) - \$145.00/hr.

49,940 lb. (Class 200 LC) - \$160.00/hr.

54,434 lb. (Class 240 LC) - \$175.00/hr.

HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR ATTACHMENTS

Excavator w/ Vibratory compactor - \$220.00/hr.

Excavator w/ Hydraulic breaker - \$250.00/hr.

TRACK DOZER

D-3 GXL (JD 450) - \$ 90.00/hr.

D-4 GXL (JD 650) - \$ 95.00/hr.

BACKHOE (410 or equal) - \$ 90.00/Hour

TANDEM DUMP TRUCK - \$ 75.00/Hour

TRI-AXLE DUMP TRUCK - \$ 85.00/Hour

TRACTOR AND LOWBOY TRAILER - \$120.00/Hour port to port (non- permit load)

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell, Seconded by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

C. Update on Charles Chrin Community Center Project

INFORMATION

At the last Board of Supervisors meeting, the Township Engineer presented some additional options for consideration with respect to the walking trail at the Charles Chrin Community Center. If the Board is in agreement with the concepts proposed, a change order will be requested.

Board direction is requested.

DISCUSSION

Township Engineer, Brian Dillman, reviewed a drawing showing proposed sidewalk in two areas at the Charles Chrin Community Center. Dillman said to add the two areas it will cost between \$10,000 to \$12,000, which he believes can be handled as a quality over-run of the project.

Supervisor Young made a motion approving the change and authorized The Pidcock Company to notify the Contractor of the change.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Jeffrey Young, Seconded by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

D. Discussion of the Two Rivers COG

INFORMATION

The Two Rivers Council of Governments (COG) has been inactive for a number of years. Commissioner Tom Nolan of Bethlehem Township has proposed to dissolve the COG and divest the member funds accumulated in the COG bank account by making a donation to the Miracle League of Northampton County.

If the Board is in agreement to dissolve the COG, a motion would be needed to move Palmer Township's consent to dissolve the COG and divest its funds to a donation to the Miracle League of Northampton County.

Board action is requested.

DISCUSSION

Colver said Tom Nolan of Bethlehem Township has proposed dissolving the Two Rivers Council of Governments (COG) since it has been inactive for a number of years. Colver said he spoke with Tom previously when he was looking for recommendations for where to donate the \$15,000 that is left in the COG account.

Colver said he had suggested the Miracle League as an option for the donation since the Miracle League is open to residents of all municipalities.

Supervisor Young made a motion to have the Township Manager send a letter on behalf of the Board of Supervisors stating our agreement to dissolve the COG and approval of making the donation to the Miracle League of Northampton County.

Motion: Approve, Moved by Supervisor Jeffrey Young, Seconded by Supervisor Kendall Mitchell. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

Chairman Colver reviewed the local government process with the students that were in attendance from Easton Area High School.

5. REPORTS

Township Manager

Christman had one personnel item for executive session.

Planning Director

Kramer said we will not be holding the regularly schedule Comprehensive Plan meeting in April. Kramer said we held a status update meeting last week with our consultant and they will be working on an update for the May meeting.

Kramer also noted there is no Planning Commission meeting in April due to lack of agenda items.

Kramer said the township received a billboard application from Hess Pallet for along Route 33. It is a submission for a regular billboard and it meets the requirements for the location proposed, and it is permitted in that district. They are looking to put the structure in. Kramer said they are aware of us currently working on a digital sign ordinance.

Public Services Director

Adams reported that progress continues at the pool. A lot of the water features are up and the slides should be coming this week.

Police Chief

Chief Palmer reported that the Police Department went through our re-accreditation assessment and the words the accreditation group used were "terrific" and

"exceptional". It will now be forwarded to the Commission and we should receive re-accreditation in June.

Supervisors

Supervisor Panella reminded everyone that the Palmer Township Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Friday at 10 a.m. at the Palmer School complex.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. with one personnel item for executive session.

Motion: Adjourn, Moved by Supervisor Jeffrey Young, Seconded by Supervisor Ann-Marie Panella. Passed. 4-0.

Supervisors voting Ayes: Colver, Mitchell, Panella, Young

Supervisors Absent: Smith

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher S. Christman
Township Manager