Minutes for Regular Meeting of East Union Township Supervisors

Held on February 18th 2021, 2020 via Zoom

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Call to Order:**

**Present at Meeting:** Dennis Antonelli, Kyle Mummey, Don Karpowich, Mike Gaizick, Stephanie Van Gieson, Michele Moyer. Jon Dettery – Absent

**Public comment on agenda items only (the Chairperson reserves the right to limit each person to five minutes).**

Motion to approve Re-Organization meeting minutes for January 2021. Motion made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for January 2021. Motion made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to dispense/approve the reading and approval of the Treasurer’s Report for January 2021 as copies we made available to the public. Motion made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to dispense the bills and approve bills for payment, as copies we made available to the public. Motion made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries.

**Township Reports:**

* Police Report – None (will be added to website)
* Solicitor’s Report – Codification for Website, eminent domain (Cranberry Alley), 931 Centre St. appraisal)
* Code/Zoning Report – Motion made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries. (3 permits, 2 violations, 1 burn violation, 1 verbal warning, 1 tow)
* Engineer’s Report - None

**Old Business:**

* Motion to approve Ordinance 2021-3 – Solid Waste/Collection of Municipal Waste. Motion made by Dennis Antonelli, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carries.

**New Business:**

* Motion to lease a 2020 Chevrolet 5500 ($14,230.03 yearly – leasing for 6 years). Motion made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries.

**Public comment on non-agenda items (the Chairperson reserves the right to limit each person to five minutes)**

**Agenda/Non-Agenda Item(s) Discussion:**

Pam Hartz – seeking clarification on 931 Centre St (eminent domain) for a parking lot or park. Kyle Mummey explained that they would be attempting to receive a grant to fund this project.

Pam Hartz – asking about the $250.00 invoice for Michael Andretta. Dennis Antonelli advised this was for emergency assistance with plowing during the heavy snow storm that occurred. Pam Hartz was seeking if this was offered to anyone else, and she didn’t agree that this was handled properly. Dennis advised that this was not offered to anyone as this was an emergency situation. Ms. Hartz did advise a solution could possibly be setting a rate, having a list of people to assist, and whether they would use their equipment or the townships for future occurrences.

Pam Hartz – seeking clarification on Ordinance 2021-3. Dennis Antonelli advised that this was initially completed by Schuylkill County; and East Union Township followed up accordingly. The Ordinance states that garbage must be picked up at least once a month, and must have a trash hauler. Don Karpowich stated the reason the Ordinance is worded that way (Ch. 16 – Part One) is it must be formatted in that manner. He advised no compost, burn, recycles. Pam Hartz was seeking clarification on recycling. Kyle Mummey stated that the county regulates recycling, and that East Union will not be handling this. This updated Ordinance allows residents to be cited for example, if trash is being burned. This Ordinance does not require residents to choose a “specific” garbage hauler, but requires them needing to have one in general. (Residents are able to contract whomever they choose for this purpose; just must have someone)

Tom Houser – asking about penalties regarding the Ordinance. Don Karpowich clarified that there will be penalties, and the Code/Zoning officer and/or the Police will handle. Michele clarified that she will be driving around daily to ensure residents are abiding by this Ordinance (issuing warnings, and/or citing residents, if needed)

Pam Hartz seeking clarification on the eminent domain, stating that is taking away someone’s livelihood. Dennis Antonelli/Don Karpowich advised that they would need to pay for the demo ($35,000-$50,000) and would need to sell it for that price to break even.

Tom Houser asked about the demo and how much would the township and Don Karpowich advised nothing (934 Centre St.)

**\*\*Motion for Resolution for the Eminent Domain proceedings for 934 Centre St. in Sheppton. Motion made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries.**

Pam Hartz addressed that there was a burning issue two Tuesday’s in a row in the location of Oak and Franklin St. (smelled like plastic) and she called the Officer of the Fire Co. Michele Moyer advised to fill out a complaint form to have these occurrence(s) on file.

Tom Houser was seeking an update on the re-zoning changes. Dennis Antonelli advised that this was on until a meeting can be conducted with Butler Enterprise. He also advised that Green Mtn. was on hold until the next meeting until more information can be provided. Brandonville and the baseball field location is not on hold. Tom was seeking an update on his request as well. Dennis Antonelli advised that it was sent over to Jack Varaly for review. Kyle stated that with Mr. Varaly’s input that Tom’s suggestions can be incorporated into the final determination. Tom stated that he was concerned additions would be added to people’s property (i.e. windmills/communication towers) and would cause hardship for these residents. Dennis Antonelli concluded that Jack Varaly is currently looking into this and will take his opinion into consideration, and make a final determination accordingly.

**\*\*Motion made to add lien at meeting made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries.**

Tara Dolzani – Seeking clarification on John Stoffa. Stated he is posing issues for residents with how he is plowing in inclement weather. Advised that Oak/Washington St. wasn’t plowed with the last storm. Dennis Antonelli advised that there were truck malfunctions and that they didn’t have the manpower; overall just a bad circumstance. Tara asked about Dennis, and Jon Dettery utilizing the trucks. Dennis advised that the plan is to downsize the vehicles so everyone is able to utilize them during inclement weather.

Pam Hartz – Recommended coordinated an “Emergency Management” protocol. Encouraged making a notice/bidding for staffing, asking for help from local residents, set amounts (wages), and set workers, set equipment (personal/Township). Dennis Antonelli advised that many townships are already contracted; he did reach out to 3 companies who is was unsuccessful on getting assistance from. (Companies are contracted for a set amount of hours/time for a season). Dennis clarified that the Non-CDL required vehicles was broken down for 2+ days. Kyle Mummey stated these were all valid and helpful points that would be taken into consideration for the next storm system.

Pam Hartz – questioned about insurance coverage with alternative non-affiliated township drivers. Don Karpowich explained that oral contracts were made, they would be liable for their equipment and well-being; using at the contractor’s discretion.

Kyle Mummey stated the Township vehicles are experiencing a lot of unforeseen issues; which is why they’re looking into investing in newer equipment. Dennis Antonelli stated that they will be going through the COSTAR contract and no bidding is required. Currently there is no grant(s); however, they will be looking into additional means for the purchase of these vehicle(s). Dennis advised information about the vehicles: 05’ Sterling, 09’ International, and 09’ 550. With the purchase of the 20’ Silverado, the inclusion of salt spreader. (This vehicle is equipped with electric connections, instead of hydraulic – which posed expensive issues on previous vehicles). Kyle Mummey reiterated that the USDA Grants can be utilized as an alternative and they include a low interest rate. (Similar to what the Police Vehicle was purchased with).

Pam Hartz – asking clarification on lien of previous property. She stated that this was discussed at a public meeting and the Supervisors were advised to not follow through with the lien. Don Karpowich advised that he did not follow through with the lien, as the Supervisor’s did not want to continue with those proceedings. (Due to the conditions of the property, after further researching the location). Pam asked why more money was spent if proceedings weren’t wanted to be followed through with, and how much was spent/how many times billed. Don Karpowich advised that this was a property search, research about the location. Don Karpowich stated he was unaware of how many times bills were generated for this. Pam advised the $17,500.00 was used for a demo of a property that was never even set foot on, $976.00 for 2020 on fees, and in May 2020 it was sold for repository sale of $1,099.00. Kyle Mummey had asked Don Karpowich to explain the logistics of a repository sale. Don Karpowich stated this is when no other party is interested in the location/property. He concluded that since purchasers weren’t interested/there was no real productive use that it would be foolish to spend any more time and money on this property.

Tara Dolzani/Pam Hartz – seeking clarification on whether Right to Know’s are needed for meeting minutes. Dennis Antonelli did advised that RTK’s (Right to Know’s) should be utilized when making a request. Kyle Mummey stated that they were not currently on the website as it has been updated, and additions are still occurring.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Dennis Antonelli. All in favor, motion carries.

**Conclusion Time: 7:00 pm**

**Attendance: Zoom**