

WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING
Minutes of March 31, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING

The special meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held at the West Hempfield Township Municipal Building, 3476 Marietta Avenue. This special meeting was advertised in the Legal Ads section of the LNP Newspaper on Monday, March 30, 2020, and posted on the front window of the Township Building Friday, March 27, 2020. The public was permitted to attend in-person or remotely via Zoom (video and audio), with instructions provided at our Township internet website homepage.

Board Chairman David Dumeyer, and Board Members Kent Gardner, Edward Fisher, and Robert Munro were present. Board Member Naomi Martin was not present. Also physically in attendance were: Township Manager Andrew Stern, and Finance/HR Director Brenda Baumbach. Also in attendance remotely via Zoom were Zoning Officer Dwayne Steager, Assistant Zoning Officer Maria McDonald, Public Works Director Dale Getz, and Police Chief Lisa A. Layden. Several members of the public were also present remotely, although their identities were not known.

- I. Chairman David Dumeyer called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

- II. Communications
 - a. Board of Supervisors: NONE
 - b. Township Manager: Next week's Board Packets have been provided.
 - c. Public Comment: None in attendance. Those who joined remotely were also asked, but no one provided comment.

- III. COVID-19
 - a. **Declaration of Disaster Emergency**
Motion by Kent Gardner to ratify the Declaration of Disaster Emergency previously approved via phone/email on March 26, 2020; Seconded by Rob Munro. Motion passed unanimously (4-0).

 - b. **Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)**
Mr. Stern explained the new Federal regulation provides eighty hours of paid leave related to Corona and an additional ten weeks of paid leave at 2/3 pay related to Corona. The Act specifically allows the exclusion of emergency responders. The Township Manager has asked that the Board adopt a policy and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to exclude the Police from FFCRA, but instead provide eighty hours of additional paid leave to the police if they are infected with Corona, are quarantined due to Corona, or has symptoms of Corona (details are specified in the MOU). The West Hempfield Township Police Association has agreed to this and has already signed the MOU.
Motion by Kent Gardner to approve this policy and Memorandum of Understanding; Seconded by Ed Fisher. Motion passed unanimously (4-0).

 - c. **Police Scheduling**
Mr. Stern explained that in an effort to limit potential police officer exposures, the Police Chief has developed a policy to rotate officers on shift with more than two officers so that extra officers will have a 'work-from-home' status, beginning April 6,

2020. Similar policies have been implemented by several other area departments. The West Hempfield Township Police Association has agreed to this new policy. Chief Layden participated in the meeting remotely and added her explanation that officers will be assigned in pairs to limit cross-exposures.

Motion by Kent Gardner to adopt the Side-Agreement for this policy; Seconded by Rob Munro. Motion passed unanimously (4-0).

d. Hempfield RecCenter

The Township pays Hempfield RecCenter \$14,747 each quarter for our annual contributions, plus \$19,326.67 every other month for our park maintenance agreement. Given the suspension of Hempfield RecCenter's membership revenues at present time, Mr. Stern is asking approval to pre-pay the June 1 park maintenance payment and July 15 contribution payment upon request by Hempfield RecCenter.

Motion by Kent Gardner to authorize staff to pre-pay as needed; Seconded by Rob Munro. Motion passed unanimously (4-0).

e. Other COVID19 Business

Mr. Stern indicated he has nothing new to add. The Board has been kept apprised of all developments.

Mr. Fisher asked about permits, inspections, and SALDO applications. Things have been fairly quiet. A few contractors have obtained waivers from the state Stay-at-Home order so we have had to find ways to address their needs.

There is a Public Hearing for a zoning ordinance amendment on April 7. Per the Solicitor we need to have a quorum physically present for this hearing. We will provide the public with the ability to attend or to join remotely.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dumeyer adjourned the Special Board of Supervisors meeting at 11:19 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Stern,
Township Manager

