

MAY 12, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Rudolph at 8:04 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 by virtual teleconference due to the present Emergency Declaration for the COVID-19 Crisis.

REGULAR MEETING

The following Commissioners were present: Mrs. Sage, Mrs. Hoffman, Messrs. Kelly, Wechsler, Layden and Lanciano. Also present were Messrs. Fulton and Byrne, and Mrs. Warner on via Zoom..

ROLL CALL

The Invocation was given by Mr. Wechsler followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

On motion of Mr. Kelly, the minutes of April 14, 2020 was approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.

MINUTES

Mr. Byrne announced the Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session conference via Zoom earlier today. Mr. Byrne read a letter with questions from Mr. Brian Phillips, 966 West Avenue, regarding an agenda item of a proposed ordinance on hotels, motels and inns. Mr. Phillips asked why the Township was not able to close the Parkway Motel and Days Inn. Mr. Phillips noted the number of emergency calls to the motels due to the type of clientele staying there.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Byrne explained while the Township undertook the process of closing the motels down and suspend their licenses, the motels' operators hired attorneys who filed a preliminary injunction to prevent closure. It is a permitted used in that zoning district. Mr. Byrne said while the Township has a good motel ordinance, the proposed ordinance will make the regulations stronger.

Mr. Rudolph called for Committee Reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Hoffman announced the Library remains closed. The book drop-off box is closed until the Library reopens. Story times are being held virtually.

Library

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Health

Mr. Kelly reported for the month of April, the Health Officer inspected 10 restaurants, 5 retail establishments, and 2 reinspections. For the protection of our Public Works employees, Mr. Kelly reported that all recyclables are being put into one truck. Once the pandemic is over, mix papers and commingled items will again be collected separately.

Public Works

Mr. Kelly reported the Public Works Department responded to 7 sewer emergencies during the month of April. Trash and recycling collection continues on regularly scheduled days. Bulk collections has resumed with a maximum of 25 appointments. Weekly yard brush will be picked up on Wednesdays only. Due to the upcoming Memorial Day holiday on May, 25th, trash and recycling will not be collected.

Pool

Mrs. Sage announced the opening of the pool is under the control of the governor.

Memorial Day

Mr. Wechsler reported there will be no Memorial Day parade this year. The American Legion will be holding their annual ceremony at the Township Building at 10:00 a.m. The ceremony will be filmed and played on the Township Community channel.

Golf

Mr. Layden announced that the golf course was permitted to open on May 1st. He said tee-times must be made in advance. The golf course has implemented the guidelines issued by the CDC, local, state and federal guidelines, there has been numerous changes implemented in our golf operations to assist in providing the safest experience possible for guests and staff.

Zoning

Mr. Layden stated that due to the Governor's Stay at Home Order, the May 28th Zoning Board hearing has been postponed. All hearings will be placed on the Zoning Hearing Board's agenda for the regular scheduled June 25th hearing date.

Mr. Lanciano reported the Parks Department crew planted a dogwood tree in Memorial Park to honor Arbor Day. The Township also received Tree City USA award for the 28th year. The crew also mulched under the trees on the median strip on State Road. All basketball rims were painted and new nets installed.

Parks

Mr. Rudolph announced that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Police Department, Fire Company and EMTs have been fully staffed and are responding to all emergencies. Mr. Rudolph thanked the first responders.

Public Safety

Mr. Kelly moved that all bills approved for payment by the appropriate chairperson be paid. Seconded by Mr. Wechsler and carried.

BILLS SUBMITTED

Mrs. Sage read the introductory page of a proposed ordinance supplementing Chapter 68 providing for regulation, inspection and licensing requirements for hotels and motels within the Township. She moved that the proposed ordinance be accepted on its first reading and advertised. Seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE
Hotels, Motels & Inns

Mr. Rudolph announced the Board will continue to work on the proposed ordinance. He said an ordinance requires two readings which gives the Board more opportunity to for modifications between now and the second reading which probably will be conducted at the June meeting.

Mr. Rudolph noted this proposed ordinance will give the Township more opportunity to speed up the process. If the owner of a hotel or motel is denied their license, the owner will have to first have a hearing before the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Byrne explained the legality of this issue. If the Township goes too far with the regulations there is the issue of constitutional rights of the hotel/motels owners.

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Planning Commission

Mr. Kelly moved to appoint Mr. Matthew Mingey, 819 Rhoads Drive, to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Wechsler. and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Rudolph asked Mr. Byrne he received any public comment. Mr. Byrne replied he received one from Thomas Wiesak asking if the pool will be opening on Memorial Day. The opening of the pool will be depend on the Governor's orders.

ADJOURNMENT
(8:50 p.m.)

Mr. Layden moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.