

The Board of Supervisors of Dallas Township held their monthly meeting for December on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 6:30pm in the Administration Building located at 105 Lt. Michael Cleary Drive, Dallas, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Those in attendance included: Supervisor Chairman William J. Grant, Supervisor Vice Chairman Elizabeth A. Martin, Supervisor Robert J. Wagner, Attorney Thomas J. Mosca, Township Manager Martin K. Barry, Police Sergeant Todd Adams, Roadmaster Gary R. Van Deutsch, and Secretary/Treasurer K. Gary Kirk. Dodie Coolbaugh, Russell Coolbaugh, Jack Dodson, Diane Dreier and Brenda Pugh were also in attendance. Marketing Consultant Amanda Faneck was at the Administration Building and set up Facebook Live to allow additional residents to participate in the meeting.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to Pay the Bills**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to approve the Minutes** from the November 3, 2021 Monthly Meeting and the November 11, 2021 Informational Meeting, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried.

There were not any employee health care reimbursements in November. Total employee health reimbursements made for 2021 is \$8,591.58.

Citizens' Comments Concerning Agenda Items:

None

Agenda:

Supervisor Grant provided a financial update as of November 30, 2021. We have received \$1,041,436 or 100.62% of the Real Estate taxes which is better than the previous 4 years. Earned Income Tax collections are at 107.19% of budget or \$1,393,407 which is better than most of the previous 4 years. Local Services Tax collections are at 97.68% of budget or \$156,295 which is lower than the previous 4 years, but in line with our 2021 budget. Our Police Pension Plan is at 128.28% and our Non-Uniform Pension Plan is at 106.99% of the January 1, 2021 actuarial liability. Pension plan assets as of November 30, 2021 were \$6,156,054 for the Police Pension Plan and \$3,454,62 for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan. Our non-restricted cash balance is about \$2,800,000 and the Fire Protection account is about \$36,000.

Township Manager Barry stated that we received bids on 6 of the 8 items we listed on Municibid. No bids were placed on the 4 pieces of steel stormwater pipe or the York YB32 3-point hitch broom. The items which did have bids and the high bidder on those items are:

2007 Chevrolet Impala	Gregory Bieselt	\$2,400.00
1988 Case International 585 Tractor	James Izzo	\$8,510.00
1997 Ford F800	Daniel Graybeal	\$8,400.00
2005 Chevrolet 3500 Truck	Leon Supsic	\$11,800.00
1985 John Deere 2350 Tractor Flail Mower	Shirley Landis	\$14,610.00
2004 Chevrolet Tahoe	Frank Perkowski	\$4,400.00

Township Manager Barry stated that Shirley Landis has contacted us and stated that she made her bid by mistake. If we release her from her bid, Municibid will contact the second highest bidder to see if they are still interested. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to approve all the bids except for the bid on the 1985 John Deere 2350 Tractor Flail Mower**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to approve permit Shirley Landis to withdraw her bid on the 1985 John Deere 2350 Tractor Flail Mower and have Township Manager Barry contact the second highest bidder to see**

if they are still interested, and if so, approve their bid of \$14,510, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried.

Township Manager Barry stated that we have received a contract for 2022 from No Nonsense Neutering. Their 2022 contract is an increase from \$35 per cat to \$40 per cat. Due to COVID-19 restrictions there were only about 25 cats which were caught, neutered and released in 2021. There is \$3,500 in the 2022 budget for their services. Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to approve the 2022 No Nonsense Neutering contract at \$40 per cat up to \$3,500**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Township Manager Barry stated that Back Mountain Community Partnership 2022 Annual Dues are \$300 and their 2022 Annual Maintenance Dues are \$300. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to approve the Back Mountain Community Partnership Annual Dues of \$300 and Annual Maintenance Dues of \$300**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried.

Supervisor Grant discussed the proposed 2022 Fire Protection Tax (FPT). There was an Informational Meeting on November 11, 2021 on the FPT. The FPT would be .35 mills and be used for a paid Firefighter driver 12 hours per day Monday through Friday at approximately \$48,500 for each fire department, \$40,000 in operating expenses for each department, the Volunteer Fire Workers' Compensation, fire hydrant expenses and the Tax Collector fees. Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to approve Resolution 2021-15, A Resolution to Enact a Fire Protection Tax**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Supervisor Grant discussed the 2022 budget and specifically explained the grants impact on our cash flow basis budget. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to approve the Proposed 2022 Budget**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried.

The Dallas Township Planning Commission approved a Resolution at their November 9, 2021 meeting to recommend to the Dallas Township Supervisors that the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance be amended by revising the language of Article 2-Definitions, section 202, Item E under the definition of Land Development. The Resolution states that the amended definition would read:

Any nonresidential use of land, with or without structures, excluding agricultural use of land. After discussion on the change, Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to proceed with the Dallas Township Planning Commission recommendation to amend Article 2-Definitions, section 202, Land Development definition Item (E) and to proceed with advertising the proposed Ordinance amendment and to schedule a public hearing on the proposed Ordinance amendment**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Township Manager Barry stated that the 2022 budget includes the purchase of a 2022 Western Star Plow Dump Truck for \$205,000 and there will be one available to purchase in early 2022. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to approve the purchase of a 2022 Western Star Plow Dump Truck at a cost of \$199,631**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried.

Township Manager Barry stated that we have received some requests to make the Lower Demunds Road, Overbrook Avenue and Main Road intersection to be a 4-way stop instead of a 3-way stop. Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to approve a traffic study at the intersection of Lower Demunds Road, Overbrook Avenue and Main Road to see if a 4-way stop sign is needed**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Township Manager Barry stated individuals are building a new house on Yeager Avenue and that they built over an existing stormwater pipe. An easement will need to be created so that the homeowners and the Township will each know who is responsible for the new stormwater runoff created by the new

house. Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to approve a Stormwater Easement on Yeager Avenue**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Township Manager Barry that EBI, LLC and Dallas Area Municipal Authority have completed all work related to Phase I of the Southside Avenue Nature Park. We are still waiting for some picnic tables and waste dispensers to be delivered. The hand rails have been installed and AMP is in the process of installing lights and a security camera system which they have donated. DCNR did their inspection today and we will be working on closing out the grant.

Township Manager Barry stated that Franklin Township is applying for a Local Share Account (LSA) for Misericordia University and they have requested a LSA Grant Support letter. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to approve the LSA Grant Support letter**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried.

Supervisor Grant stated that the Dallas Township Supervisors Organizational Meeting and Monthly Meeting will be on Monday January 3, 2022 at 6pm.

Supervisor Grant stated that Elected Auditor Amanda Faneck has submitted a letter of resignation effective November 22, 2021. Ms. Faneck was recently elected to the Dallas School Board and is not allowed to also serve as an elected auditor. Ms. Faneck was congratulated on being elected to the Dallas School Board and thanked for serving as one of our elected auditors.

Supervisor Grant stated that Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Carl Alber is retiring on December 31, 2021 and thanked him for his over 10 years of service to Dallas Township.

Brenda Pugh and the Christmas Tree Lighting Committee were thanked for putting together the annual Christmas Tree Lighting event. Everything went very well and 750-800 people were in attendance.

Police Update:

Police Sergeant Adams stated that the Police Department is doing well and reminded everyone too not park on the streets during winter storms and for 8 hours after the storm. They will be ticketing cars who violate the parking ordinance.

Road Department Update:

Roadmaster Van Deutsch provided the Road Department update. The Road Department has been busy with leaves in the township with the leaf vac truck and bag leaf pick up. Similar to last year, they have collected over 60 tons for compost recycling. Yalick Road was paved from Yalick Farms to the township line and overall, just under 2 miles of road were paved this year which included Sedlar Road, Yeager Road, the end of Richard Drive, the first section of Glendalough Road and Southside Avenue and the new parking lot for the Nature Park. The supply chain shortages have made it difficult receiving goods. Most notably the new Ram 5500 ordered February 26th with hopes of arrival in early 2022 has yet to go into production with chip shortages. This makes the new Western Star big dump truck for start of 2022 that much more important. Many supplies were ordered early with anticipated delays in items such as tires and cutting edges for the plows. We have received our initial order of salt and have over 300 tons stored to start the season with our new salt shed. In continuing education classes, Bill Fedrow, Donn Hunter and Mark Good completed a Conservation District sponsored Dirt and Gravel Road maintenance class and the entire crew took a flagger training class becoming recertified for three years. Through our Safety Committee participation, we continue to strive for the best and safest working environment with 2,057 days without a lost time accident. He is very proud of the crew and the work completed this year through the pandemic including plowing and treating roads with a near record snowfall, Christmas tree pick up, sweeping the streets, spring cleanup, work regarding the dirt and gravel roads, addressing many drainage issues, paving and leaf pickup. We also worked with some vendors for dust control, crack sealing, line painting, and guide rail installation. The Road Department also had several in-kind hours in

assisting the Master Gardeners and at the Southside Nature Park where we removed trees and tons of material to clear the way for the beautiful playground. Ray Miller constructed a big sign board and with the assistance of the boom truck and operator from Sean McGrath Enterprises and our road crew placed it at the Southside Nature Park.

Additional Citizens' Comments:

Ms. Dreier, on behalf of the Bluff Point Homeowners Associations, thanked the Road Department for paving Richard Drive and diverting rain water runoff in Bluff Point.

Ms. Pugh asked about the status of Fairground Road. Supervisor Grant suggested that there be a meeting with her and the Township to gather more information on how to proceed.

Supervisor Martin thanked the Police Department and especially Officer Gina Kotowski for their help with the coat and toy collection at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting.

Adjournment:

Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to adjourn**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried. The Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Gary Kirk".

K. Gary Kirk, CPA
Secretary/Treasurer