

Minutes of the Antrim Township Supervisors  
Regular Meeting

March 24, 2020

7:00 PM

The Antrim Township Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at the Antrim Township Municipal Building, located at 10655 Antrim Church Road, with the following members present: Pat Heraty, Chairman; John Alleman, Vice Chairman, by phone; Fred Young; Rick Baer and Chad Murray. Also attending was: John Lisko, Township Solicitor; Brad Graham, Administrator.

Heraty called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Heraty reminded the audience that meetings are audio recorded and posted to the Township website.

Graham stated that Supervisor John Alleman was attending the meeting by phone conference and that the only audience in attendance were two members of the press.

Graham opened the meeting with prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Heraty called for Public Comment. There was none.

A Murray/Baer motion passed 5-0 approving the minutes from the March 10, 2020 Regular Meeting.

A Baer/Young motion passed 5-0 approving the payment of the bills on the Treasurer's Report dated March 24, 2020.

Lisko announced that he was recently made aware of a provision in the Sunshine Act that allows the Supervisors to call an emergency meeting without public notice if it concerns a threat to life or property. Lisko wanted the Supervisors to know of this provision as we enter this unprecedented Coronavirus pandemic.

Graham announced that the Water/Sewer and Road Department members are working normal schedules.

Graham reported that the Roadmaster/Park Director has posted his report to the Supervisors update file for their review.

A Young/Alleman motion passed 5-0 approving Workers Compensation coverage for Rescue Hose Fire Police during the Greencastle Memorial Day Parade (set for Monday, May 25, 2020) should Rescue Hose Fire Police decide to participate in this event.

A Young/Baer motion passed 4-0-1 (*Rick Baer opposed*) authorizing the advertisement of Paving Bids for the budgeted road projects which include the following: Kings/Queens Court, Coldsmith, Harriet/Campion Court, Meyers Road, Patton Bridge Road, State Line alleys, Rocking M Lane and S. Rabbit Road. This motion also gave discretion to the Road Committee and Administrator to choose which additional projects to add to the Paving Bid, which may include the following: Harshman, Phillippy, Wingerton or Long Lane.

Alleman inquired if the Roadmaster has heard anything from Columbia Gas concerning their digging project on Park Avenue in State Line. The Administrator said he would pass this question on to the Roadmaster to inquire on the status.

In discussion regarding financing of Sewer Plant upgrades, the Supervisors authorized staff to begin the process of determining when to issue the financing. While the current interest rates are very low they will likely stay that way for some time. As a result, the determining factor will be when the money is needed to begin payments to contractors.

The Administrator and Young, who is on the Antrim Township Finance Committee, informed the full board that RBC, the Township investment firm, has informed the Township that a lot of the Township's investments are being called as rates are falling, leaving RBC with a substantial amount of cash on hand that needs to be reinvested. The choices for RBC are limited and offering very low returns. RBC contacted the Township with a possible investment option to have reviewed by the Township Solicitor and Finance Committee. Young explained that the investment option would involve taking a determined amount of funds and setting it up to operate as a donor assisted/endowment fund, allowing for more aggressive investing options. The determined benefactor, such as emergency services, could be set up to receive the annual interest earned. It was determined that more information needed to be obtained before reaching a decision.

A Baer/Alleman motion passed 5-0 approving the Disaster Declaration, which puts the paperwork in place to allow for PEMA (Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency) funding in the event the COVID-19 outbreak escalates further, and it also allows the Township to expedite remediation actions related to the Coronavirus outbreak.

The Supervisors discussed several other areas of Township business that could be affected by the Coronavirus outbreak and the direction was given as follows:

- Board of Supervisors meetings: not to suspend any meeting at this time but will decide as we move along.
- Committee meetings: allow the committee leader and Administrator to decide how best to conduct meeting or discretion to cancel.
- Utility billing:
  - keep billing schedule as normal-do not delay billing;
  - not extending the bill due date at this time;
  - recommended processing water disconnections as usual as the delinquent amount due is for a previous billing cycle not related to Coronavirus inability to pay.
- Park Closure: no, park to remain open.
- Playground Closure: no, but signage will be posted "use at your own risk".
- Restrooms at Park: leave open with signage "use at your own risk".
- Porta-pots at Parks: no, remain open, with signage "use at your own risk".

Heraty shared a quote from one of our founding fathers Benjamin Franklin: "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety."

Graham shared with the two attending press members that the Township office staff is working from home for now and it is going well.

Heraty called for Public Comment. There was none.

A Young/Baer motion passed 5-0 to adjourn the Regular meeting into Executive Session at 8:08 p.m.

A Baer/Young motion passed 5-0 to adjourn the Executive Session, back into the Regular meeting, at 8:43 p.m.

Heraty stated Real Estate and Personnel matters were discussed and that there are no decisions to be announced.

A Young/Murray motion passed 5-0 to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Becknell  
Board of Supervisors Secretary