OLDMANS TOWNSHIP

Regular Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Oldmans Township Committee was held on September 9, 2020. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Bradford at 7:00 pm. This meeting was held in compliance with the Sunshine Law. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

In Attendance: George Bradford, Anthony Musumeci and Dean Sparks

Approval of Minutes: August 12 2020 Regular Meeting

August 12, 2020 Executive Meeting

August 26, 2020 Emergency Meeting

Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve, Mr. Musumeci seconded and all agreed.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

**Ordinance 2020-10** Amending Chapter 115 Entitled “Maintenance of Property” of the Township of Oldmans Code Adding a New Section, Article III, Entitled “Rehabilitation of Abandoned Property”

Ms. Trunk stated the ordinance is based on State Statute.

**Public Hearing**

Jennifer Dohner Wanted to know if anything was happening at Picken’s Corner.

George Bradford There is no septic system on the property. Additionally the property goes to tax sale almost every year.

**Resolution 2020-110** Final Adoption of Ordinance 2020-10

Mr. Musumeci made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

**Ordinance 2020-11** Amending Chapter 150-12 Streets and Sidewalks

**Public Hearing**

Jennifer Dohner Noted that the people that this ordinance affects are not in attendance at tonight’s meeting. Believes it’s the parents responsibility to watch their children if they play in the street.

George Bradford The Township has safety concerns about children playing in the street.

Bill Golt Wanted to know how the Township would enforce the ordinance.

George Bradford Police could be called.

Kenny Cole Families leave the equipment out on the street obstructing full use of the street.

Niki Trunk The Township is allowed to prohibit obstructions in public roadways. If an injury occurs, the Township would be exposed to potential liability. Roadways should be kept free of obstructions for emergency vehicles.

Jennifer Dohner Is this proposed ordinance similar to other municipalities?

Niki Trunk The Township is trying to balance safety of the children with potential liability. The ordinance is based on other municipalities. The Township can exempt certain areas from the ordinance.

Jennifer Dohner If a child is riding a bike in the street is the Township liable?

Niki Trunk Township could still be subject to a lawsuit if a child is hurt riding a bike. Another option the municipality could consider would be to allow equipment/children to play in the street but with time restrictions. Equipment would be allowed on the street for a specific amount of time, but not overnight.

George Bradford The Committee will consider the ordinance at the next meeting with more discussion about limiting the number of hours equipment can be left on the street. (Ordinance tabled).

**Resolution 2020-112** Revision to Municipal Alliance Program for Year 2021

The State is not funding Municipal Alliance as much as originally approved so resolution is needed to accept the new funding amount.

Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve, Mr. Musumeci seconded and all agreed.

STREETS & ROADS:

**Resolution 2020-113** Award Repair of Stumpy Road to Ricky Slade Construction, Inc.

Funds will be used from an old ordinance to pay for the repair, not taken out of the budget. The area repaired is 75’ long, 3’ deep and 5’ wide.

Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve, Mr. Musumeci seconded and all agreed.

PLANNING BOARD: Appointment of Alternate #3

Mr. Bradford appointed Barbara Wilson to the position.

TAX COLLECTOR:

**Resolution 2020-114** Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate 12-00005 for Property Located at 189 Straughns Mill Road.

Currrently Oldmans Township holds the tax sale certificate; an interested party has requested to have the Tax Lien assigned to them. They are willing to pay all the back taxes which equates to over $30,500. The new owner of the tax sale certificate will be responsible for the foreclosure proceedings.

Mr. Musumeci made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: Membership Application to Logan Volunteer Fire Company – Samantha Moore. Mr. Musumeci made a motion to approve, Mr. Sparks seconded and all agreed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS Mr. Sparks made a motion to approve, Mr. Musumeci seconded and all agreed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Golt Expressed his concern about the dirt that was dumped on his neighbor’s property. Has spoken both with Ms. Taylor and NJ DEP about the issue. The property is zoned AR but has an old greenhouse on the property. Mr. Golt previously filed a complaint against Mr. Valichka Sr. when the woods was cleared. Now there are large dump trucks going in and out of the property dumping dirt. Mr. Valichka has not responded to the Township’s request to obtain a permit. How is the Township going to deal with this issue? Can a “cease and desist” be issued?

Melinda Taylor A letter was sent to the property owner stating a permit is needed. Ms. Taylor also spoke with the NJ DEP but they could not assist in this matter, but are doing more research. Since there was no response a ticket was written to go to Court. Currently the court system is experiencing a backlog in hearing cases. Ms. Taylor will follow up with the Township Solicitor to inquire about a cease and desist order.

Justin Adams Concerned about poor road condition of Pennsville-Pedricktown Road where it was broken up and repaired by the gas company.

Anthony Musumeci He will follow up with the County about paving the road.

CLOSED TO PUBLIC

Anthony Musumeci \*Attended Freeholder’s meeting. The County tax increase equates to $.04 for Oldmans due to assessed values, even though the Freeholders stated taxes only increased by $.01.

\*Chemours will be taking over water treatment systems.

\*Mr. Musumeci currently obtaining quotes for more sale for Auburn Water.

Dean Sparks \*Mapsa meeting coming up.

\*State borrowing has been approved for the budget but limited to pandemic deficiencies only.

\*Trash hauler was able to pick up in one load for past three weeks.

\*Recycle- conducted an inspection in Auburn; 12 cans were stickered but doing better now with recycling.

\*Concerned about bulk items being brought to the curb too soon before pick up date.

\*School construction projects continuing – new storage shed, repaving parking lot and new playground equipment being installed.

\*New kindergarten teacher was hired – Andrea Gattuso who will replace Mrs. Marandola when she retires at the end of 2020.

\*Gas will increase by 9.3 cents October 1st.

\*County is now allowed to hire a fullt-time Agriculture Agent. Received approval from the State.

\*Handout available about the general election process in Salem County.

George Bradford \*August Tax Collector report- - 94.37% tax collection rate.

\*Flu Clinic will be held at Oldmans October 22nd 4 – 7 pm.

\*John Fenwick travel station at the Turnpike will be closing permanently October 15h.

\*The front gate at Camp Pedricktown will be locked once the GSA has finished boarding up the buildings.

Tom Tedesco \*Waiting to hear from County on a few issues.

Melinda Taylor \*Wanted to know if Committee would like to begin with the abandoned truck stop based on the ordinance that was passed at tonight’s meeting. Committee agreed to begin with the truck stop.

There being no further business, on a motion from Mr. Musumeci, seconded by Mr. Sparks and agreed to by all, meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda Taylor  
Municipal Clerk