

Robinson Township
Board of Supervisors
Conditional Use Hearing and Regular Meeting
May 11, 2020
5:45 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE: DUE TO STATEWIDE SOCIAL DISTANCING ORDERS, THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN A MODIFIED MANNER, WITH FEW PERSONS PHYSICALLY PRESENT, WITH OTHERS PARTICIPATING VIA CONFERENCE CALL. PROPER ADVERTISING AND NOTIFICATIONS WERE GIVEN IN ADVANCE OF MEETING TO ENABLE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Robinson Township Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Monday, May 11, 2020. Chairman Donaldson called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. to begin the properly advertised Conditional Use Hearing of Patrick and Chrissandra Smith for a Neighborhood Business at 1047 Robinson Highway, Bulger, PA.

Chairperson further requested that individuals desiring to speak identify themselves prior to doing so.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was conducted.

Present at the meeting were Chairperson Mary Donaldson via phone, Vice-Chair David Foley, Supervisor Chris Amodeo, Solicitor Gretchen Moore, Township Engineer Keith Straight, Zoning Officer Mark Dorsey, and Township Manager Crystal Brown present in-office. Applicants Patrick and Chrissandra Smith participated via phone. Court reporter Kim Strnisa documented the meeting via phone. Public participants via phone were Bonnie Moore, and John and Nancy Campbell.

CONDITIONAL USE HEARING – introduced by Solicitor Gretchen Moore. Applicants explained their project, which is to locate a single operator beauty salon in an existing building on their Commercial zoned lot at 1047 Robinson Highway, Bulger. Keith Straight contributed his comments. David Foley questioned the method of sewage disposal, which was answered by the applicant. No members of the public had any questions. A complete record of this proceeding was taken and will be published by the court reporter, Kim Strnisa, and does not appear in these Minutes.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION The Chair asked if anyone wished to speak on agenda items only. John Campbell of 738 Campbell Road questioned the motion to direct solicitors to create “mud on road” ordinance. Mr. Campbell has concerns about this possible regulation, as he runs an active working farm. Gretchen Moore provided explanation that care would be given to ensure this ordinance addressed excessive cases of mud deposits and is not intended for ordinary debris.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Donaldson made a **motion** to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of April 13, 2020. Motion was seconded by Amodeo.
RCV: Amodeo – Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley – Yes

BILLS AND PAYROLL Foley made a **motion** to authorize payment of the April bills and payroll. Seconded by Amodeo.
RCV: Amodeo – Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley - Yes

CORRESPONDENCE Chairperson Donaldson read the itemized list of Correspondence aloud. Donaldson made a **motion** to accept correspondence for April. Seconded by Foley.
RCV: Amodeo – Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley – Yes

REPORTS Reports on file:

- Fire Department**-Midway 13 calls, McDonald not received.
- Police**-on file, 45 calls reported
- Zoning**-M. Dorsey report on file, discussed the many cases he is overseeing.
- Animal Control**-12 calls
- Supervisors**-Donaldson reminds township personnel to submit statements of financial interest, due in office asap.
- Solicitor**-Gretchen Moore provided updates on many legal matters: the Vance/Lodge Validity Challenge has briefs due, Drummond case re-appealed in 3rd circuit court, Brockman case has been withdrawn, Dysert case has arguments upcoming.
- Public Works**- Donaldson described multiple activities of road crew; tree removals, ditching, pipe cleaning, and working with contractors for road repair, and curb repair on Fourth Street.
- Engineer**- K. Straight reported on Cooks Road extension, reworking of the SALDO, and municipal building renovation (now on hold)
- Manager** –Brown reported on office staffing being a combination of in-person and remote working, coordinating various hearings and notifications of same, working with contractors in meeting room renovation, and resolving resident complaints with affiliated professionals.

Foley made a **motion** to accept reports. Seconded by Amodeo.
RCV: Amodeo-Yes, Donaldson-Yes, Foley-Yes.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Solicitor Moore announced that an executive session of the Board took place on this day at 5:15 p.m. for the purpose of obtaining legal advice on some pending litigation.

OLD BUSINESS

Amodeo made a **motion** to award the 2020 Flexible Base Road Repair Bid for repair to Valleyview and King in the amount of \$299,692.32 to Russell Standard Corporation of Mars, PA. Seconded by Foley. Explanation was given by Moore that a clerical error on the part of Suit Kote necessitated their bid withdrawal. An affidavit from Suit Kote is on file with the Manager.

RCV: Amodeo - Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley – Yes

Donaldson made a **motion** to TABLE a motion directing solicitors to explore zoning amendment options relative to Sportsmen’s Clubs. Seconded by Foley.

RCV: Amodeo - Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley – Yes

Donaldson made a **motion** to release maintenance bond number 82300956 held by Chevron Appalachia for a slip repair performed at the Robinhill site in 2012. Site has been inspected and release is recommended by Engineer. This is an insurance bond, not a cash bond. Seconded by Foley.

RCV: Amodeo - Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley – Yes

NEW BUSINESS

Donaldson made a **motion** to alter the working hours of part-time employee Renee Szymanski from 24 hours/week to 8 hours/week due to reduction in staffing needs due to COVID-19 restrictions. Seconded by Foley.

RCV: Amodeo - Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley

Foley made a **motion** to approve the Conditional Use Application of Patrick and Chrissandra Smith of 1047 Robinson Highway for a Neighborhood Business in a Commercial zone. Seconded by Amodeo. Amodeo clarified matters of sewage disposal. Board approves application with five conditions, which were discussed with applicant and will be formalized in a letter. These included inspection of holding tank by Washington County Sewage Council, installation of alarm on holding tank, shielded outdoor lighting, dedicated parking places, and no further subdivisions to current lot.

RCV: Amodeo - Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley – Yes

Donaldson made a **motion** to approve construction proposal by Timothy Ramacker for meeting room renovation at a cost of \$18,750.00, Mr. Ramacker being a low bidder on the project. Seconded by Foley.

RCV: Amodeo - Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley

Foley made a **motion** to direct solicitors to create an ordinance to address mud and debris on township roadways, and authorize Manager to advertise same. Seconded by Amodeo. Donaldson commented that she supports this motion if motorist safety is compromised, believes day-to-day agricultural pursuits should be exempted, and that oil, gas and construction industry are already held to road cleanup requirements as conditions of their operations.

RCV: Amodeo - Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley

PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF OTHER MATTERS

No remarks.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairperson Mary Donaldson adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m. which was seconded by Amodeo.

RCV: Amodeo – Yes, Donaldson – Yes, Foley – Yes

Respectfully submitted:

Crystal Brown, Manager and Secretary