

Hamilton Township Board of Supervisors
Minutes of January 2, 2024 Meeting

The Hamilton Township Board of Supervisors met in a duly advertised business meeting this evening with Chairman Jeffrey Rockwell calling the meeting to order at 7:10 PM following the adjournment of the Organizational Meeting. Members and guests present in addition to Mr. Rockwell were Richard Troup, Ronald Yeager, Deborah Hollenshead, and Thomas Mongold of Portersneck LLC.

MINUTES – The Minutes of the December 20, 2023 regular business meeting were approved as presented.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE LIST – The Accounts Payable List was approved on a motion by Mr. Troup, second by Mr. Yeager.

TREASURER'S REPORT – The Treasurer's Report was received and reviewed without comment.

LAURICH GEMS SOUTH, PHASE 2B FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAN – Mr. Thomas Mongold of Portersneck LLC was present at this evening's meeting to discuss the final items required in order to receive approval of the Laurich Gems South (LGS), Phase 2B final subdivision plan. Mr. Mongold indicated that it was his understanding that the only outstanding item was the transportation improvement fee that had previously been determined when the LGS Phase 2 plans were originally submitted by the previous developer in 2010. At the May 5, 2010 meeting of the Hamilton Township Board of Supervisors, the Minutes reflect that the Board and the previous developer came to an agreement of \$2,000.00 per lot, to be paid at time of application for a Land Use Permit. Mr. Mongold was under the impression that he could have a traffic study performed in lieu of paying this fee. It was explained to him that Hamilton Township's procedure is that any subdivision creating 25 or more lots, whether to be developed in phases or all at once, is required to submit the results of a traffic study. The resulting number of peak trips generated by the proposed development then determines the transportation improvement fee. Because the previous developer submitted the traffic study results, and the fees were determined, it is not necessary to have a new traffic study done at this time. After a brief discussion, Mr. Mongold agreed to the fees as approved in 2010 if the current Board of Supervisors is willing to honor that agreement. On a motion by Mr. Yeager, second by Mr. Troup, the Board agreed to honor the agreement previously made for LGS, Phase 2 in 2010, being \$2,000 per lot to be paid at time of application for each Land Use Permit. Supervisor Rockwell abstained from all discussion and vote. The Secretary then advised that all other entities have approved the Final Plan for LGS, Phase 2B, and all other items required by our office have been submitted, including the performance guarantee. Because the traffic improvement fee issued has been resolved this evening, the Board could now consider final plan approval. On a separate motion by Mr. Yeager, second by Mr. Troup, the final plan for Laurich Gems South, Phase 2B was approved. Supervisor Rockwell abstained from all discussion and vote.

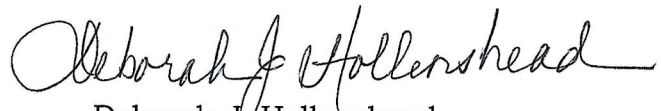
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FRANKLIN FIRE COMPANY #4 LETTER OF SUPPORT – The Secretary advised the Board of a telephone conversation that she recently had with Mark Trace, Fire Chief of the Franklin Fire Company #4. At her request, Chief Trace followed up with an email providing information on a T-Mobile Hometown Grant that they are applying for in the hopes of being awarded funds to purchase eight (8) sets of firefighter’s personal protective equipment (PPE). Chief Trace’s correspondence explains that during a recent annual risk assessment, there were five sets of PPE that do not meet National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards due to wear and tear. In order for a firefighter to complete the required basic training to fight interior fires, they must complete live fire training exercises wearing NFPA approved PPE. The Franklin Fire Company has also determined that three additional sets of PPE are needed for members who have recently joined the Franklin Fire Company and do not have any PPE. Sharing available PPE among firefighters in training, or firefighters responding to incidents, is not a desirable option. Doing so reduces the number of firefighters that can respond, and it causes quicker fatigue and possible injury because of improperly-fitting equipment. Chief Trace is asking the Board of Supervisors to consider providing a letter of support to accompany their application for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant. On a motion by Mr. Yeager, second by Mr. Troup, the Board unanimously agreed to have the Secretary prepare a letter in support of the Franklin Fire Company’s application for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant.

EMPLOYEE REINSTATEMENTS, WAGES AND BENEFITS FOR 2024 – On a motion by Mr. Yeager, second by Mr. Troup, the Board unanimously voted to reinstate existing employees Patricia Clugston, Deborah Hollenshead, Jeffrey Hollenshead, Adam Horst, and Phillip Pyles as employees for 2024. Wage increases were discussed at length for these five employees. The Supervisors have contacted other Townships to compare pay rates, and have learned that our employees are receiving wages much less than similar positions in other Townships. In addition, it was discussed that these five employees have not received pay increases equivalent to the Cost of Living Adjustment for many years. On a motion by Mr. Yeager, second by Mr. Troup, the Board unanimously agreed that all five employees will each receive \$1.50 per hour pay increase for 2024, with all other existing benefits regarding vacation, sick leave, personal leave, holidays, over-time or compensatory time pay, medical insurance, disability insurance and pension benefits being reapproved without modification for these five employees.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business this evening, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM on a motion by Mr. Troup, second by Mr. Yeager.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah J. Hollenshead
Secretary/Treasurer