

Michael Stump, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:03 pm. Also present were Vice Chairman Sam Mallatratt, Member David Barth, Asst. Secretary Courtney Harris, and Solicitor Gary Swavely. The meeting was held at the Alsace Township Municipal Building. Mr. Stump led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Chairperson Stump asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2019 meeting. Mr. Mallatratt made that motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Barth and the motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Chairperson Stump asked for approval for the Township payment of bills. Sam Mallatratt made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$104,724.71 from the General Fund, \$20,483.64 from the WWTP Operations and Maintenance Fund, \$393.46 from the Septic and Sewer Fund, and \$0 from the Liquid Fuels Fund seconded by David Barth, and the motion was approved. Mr. Barth made a motion to pay taxes, payroll and interim bills, seconded by Mr. Stump, and the motion was approved.

GENERAL NOTICES –The Township will be holding their Annual Spring Clean-Up Day for Township residents on Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Flyers for this event were made available.

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT

- Alsace Manor Fire Company – EDU Reduction Request. The Board is waiting for a response from Mr. Gavin on this matter. The matter has been tabled to the next meeting.

ZONING / BUILDING:

- Mr. Reinert stated that the monthly report has been submitted to the Board.
- 2030 McKnight's Gap Road – Well Variance. There is a well variance request from Petersheim Bros. based on the difficulty of site conditions in order to meet the 50' setback requirements. David Barth made a motion to grant the variance request, seconded by Sam Mallatratt and the motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Swavely had nothing to present to the Board.

PUBLIC WORKS:

- Mr. Stump requested approval to advertise for the Sommers Road project bid. The project will be advertised on April 22nd and April 26th. There will be a pre-meeting on May 15th with the bid opening for June 5th. David Barth made a motion to authorize the placement of this advertisement, seconded by Sam Mallatratt and the motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Darlene Bartsch had nothing new to report.

SUPERVISORS: Mr. Mallatratt had nothing specific to report.

Mr. Barth stated he has been following news regarding the potential of municipalities needing to pay for State Police coverage, he was interested in reaching out to a local department to receive proposals and pricing on what coverage would cost the Township. The Board agreed to have Mr. Barth look into getting quotes from the local police on various coverage options.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Stump opened the Public Comment period by discussing a potential option to restructure the Fire Company. Mr. Stump stated that there would be no vote taken and this does not guarantee any outcome at this point. Mr. Stump expressed his concern about using services from surrounding Townships and Mr. Barth expressed mutual aid.

Charlie Folk – 469 Antietam Rd. – Mr. Folk stated that he would be in favor of the Fire Company being under new management.

Maryann Ohlinger – 19 Woodside Ave. – Ms. Ohlinger stated that she is concerned about the use of foul language on social media. Ms. Ohlinger also stated that she is concerned about traffic control during accidents.

Carol Miller – 1966D Mt. Laurel Rd. – Ms. Miller is in favor returning the Fire Company to operation and would like to see a report on what has transpired. Mr. Stump stated that all information is in meeting minutes.

Patricia Moyer – 56 Woodside Ave. – Ms. Moyer expressed concern about individuals climbing the playground fence and would like a sign erected. Ms. Moyer also asked about sponsorship of the Township Egg Hunt. Ms. Moyer was also concerned about the newsletter not prepared for this year.

Eric Kraft – 190 Heckman Rd. – Mr. Kraft is in favor of potentially restructuring the Fire Company.

Chad Kauffman – 4011 Hillview – Mr. Kauffman is in favor of restructuring of the Fire Company.

Gary Michalowski – 103 Greenwood Drive – Mr. Michalowski is in favor of restructuring the Fire Company and would like a Supervisor to be involved.

Bonnie Landis – 3230 Pricetown Rd. – Ms. Landis asked if there was any new information on the sewer extension. Mr. Stump stated that there is a proposal regarding surveying beginning within the next two weeks. Ms. Landis then asked about Cogle Recycling regarding whether recycling was actually being recycled. Ms. Landis stated that Cogle has said they do not have permits to put recycling materials into landfills. Mr. Stump replied that Cogle's may sell to companies that have those permits. Ms. Landis then stated that she would like the Fire Company issue resolved soon.

Dennis Feeg – 18 Antietam Road – Mr. Feeg stated that he would like the Fire Company brought back.

Darlene Bartsch – 149 Oley Road – Ms. Bartsch stated her concern about the issues surrounding the Fire Company.

Keith Blankenbiller - 326 Freeman Drive. Mr. Blankenbiller requested the opinions on the possible Fire Company restructuring from Mr. Mallatratt and Mr. Barth. Mr. Barth stated that he supports the Social Quarters, he further stated that the Fire Company (truck crew) side is no longer up to the Board, but is up to a judge regarding the path forward. Mr. Barth stated that he supports a new system of using outside services. Mr. Barth further noted that there have been no resignations from the truck crew as of this date. Mr. Mallatratt stated that he is in full agreement with Mr. Barth and has seen no remorse or resolutions put forth by the Fire Company. Mr. Blankenbiller expressed his concern that there are residents that feel strongly in favor of the Fire Company. Mr. Barth stated that many residents are unaware of the facts. Mr. Mallatratt stated that the Attorney General's Petition has been filed since February and is available for public review. Mr. Mallatratt encouraged the public to read this document.

Mr. Blankenbiller asked why the Board has been mum on this issue? Mr. Mallatratt stated that this has been an active investigation. Mr. Barth also stated that until the Petition was issued that the Board was unaware of what was going to be included in the Petition and that the Board was not asked for their opinion. Mr. Barth stated that the Fire Company is its own Corporation.

Tom Furillo – 104 Skyline Drive – Mr. Furillo stated that he agrees with bringing the Fire Company back under new management. Mr. Furillo is concerned about the potential rising costs to the Township for fire coverage. Mr. Barth stated that this is an issue he has researched and that since there are a significant number of fire companies surrounding the Township that there are ample negotiating opportunities.

Marybeth Feeg – 18 Antietam Road – Ms. Feeg expressed concern with a new Board and would like a resident involved who could be “non-partisan”. Mr. Swavely stated that the makeup of the Board is not up to the Township Board of Supervisors. Mr. Swavely also stated that the potential restructuring is an idea of the Receiver, Mr. Jim Gavin.

Jeff Baum – 13 Essig Drive – Mr. Baum spoke in favor of the Fire Company.

Gloria Timmons – 51 Hartz Road – Ms. Timmons asked about the cost for the Fire Companies to respond. Mr. Barth explained the current budget and the responses of the surrounding fire companies to emergencies within the Township.

Evan Scroble – 44 Woodside Ave. – Mr. Scroble is concerned about speeding on Woodside Ave. Mr. Stump stated that the Township is planning to purchase an electronic speeding sign.

Phil Kline – 71 Antietam Road – Mr. Kline presented a petition signed in support of the Fire Company to the Board. Mr. Kline then asked about the budget numbers. Mr. Barth explained the budget again.

Scott Moyer – 56 Woodside Ave. – Mr. Moyer explained that the air packs were paid for by a federal grant. Mr. Moyer also stated that the Alsace Fire Company's equipment was used previously to help other companies.

Morgan Huessman – 200 Pricetown Road – Ms. Huessman expressed concern about children and accidents on Pricetown Road.

Scott Moyer – 56 Woodside Ave. – Mr. Moyer asked if the fire companies are charging residents for accidents? Mr. Barth stated that the Township is unaware that they are billing residents.

Bonnie Landis – 3230 Pricetown Road – Ms. Landis asked about the money and numbers and expressed her appreciation for sharing the information. Mr. Barth stated that the Board took an oath when they were elected Supervisors and that he brought discrepancies to light that have yet to be rectified. He further stated that this will be his stance until the investigation is concluded and he is provided with additional information.

Mr. Stump asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Barth made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sam Mallatratt and the motion was approved. Adjournment was at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney Harris
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer