

Supervisor Meerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance. Board members present: Evelyn Coxon, Helen Dietrich, Mike Dunnuck and Troy Goodno. The meeting was available to residents remotely via zoom. Fire Chief Sheridan also present as well as legal counsel Cliff Bloom.

**Agenda Approval-**

Motion by Goodno to approve the agenda with the following addition: Under new business, Treasurer Status. Second-Dunnuck, motion carries.

**Public Comment-**

A resident is disappointed in the way ordinances are enacted. The cost is excessive to enact new ordinances.

**Consent Agenda-**

Approval of Minutes from October 11, 2021

Financial Report/Payment of checks 17612-17637 and ACH transactions 824-936 and Direct Deposit Payroll DD3882-DD3916 and tax payments/dues, totaling \$112,652.36

Motion by Coxon to approve the consent agenda, second by Meerman. Motion carries

**Township Reports-**

Community Policing-monthly report was presented

Fire Department-Chief Sheridan reported there were 9 medical calls in September and no fire calls. One person may attend the fire academy. The FEMA grant is opening. The department may re-submit for the SCBA gear. The asphalt project is going well and may finish if the weather cooperates. The crushed asphalt is going to the Big Springs cemetery driveway for improvements. Have received a paint estimate for just under \$4,000. Will do in the spring.

Planning Commission-A public meeting was held for the non-conforming structures ordinance. There was a lot of public comment. The new ordinance will clarify items such as height and set-backs. Section H was removed. Farm labor housing was discussed. There are two ponds that are non-conforming and Zoning Administrator is in contact with the property owners. The Master Plan Survey is on the website and paper copies are available at the office.

Senior Services-no report.

Zoning Department-written report was not in the board packet. Clerk will send to board members.

**Unfinished Business-**

Employee Handbook Review-Tabled.

**New Business-**

Treasurer Status-Motion by Dunnuck to accept Evelyn Coxons' resignation as Treasurer as of December 4<sup>th</sup> at midnight. Second by Dietrich, motion carries.

Farm Labor Housing- There are several concerns in the community as to the farm labor camp located on Coolidge street. Motion by Goodno to adopt the proposed Moratorium, initially for 4 months. Second by Coxon. Attorney Bloom provided comment on the moratorium and how it would affect the agriculture community. Supervisor Meerman opened the floor to public comment. A resident asked if there was a way to let long time growers continue to build. A resident asked if growers with existing camps would be able to maintain and repair. A resident is concerned that there may be additional building going on at the Coolidge site. A resident asked if the Coolidge site operator obtained building permits.

Motion by Coxon for a friendly amendment, Article 4 shall read, "However, normal maintenance, repair and sanitary and safety upgrades are allowed." Second by Dunnuck, motion carries.

Roll Call vote:

Coxon-Yes

Dietrich-No

Dunnuck-Yes

Goodno-Yes

Meerman-Yes

Motion carries.

American Classic Dumpster Service-Township was contacted about supplying township wide service. Will look into further, consensus is that this type of service would not be welcome.

Scott Tanner Drain-The Township received the Drain Special Assessment Roll for the Scott & Tanner drain, Chester Township tax amount is \$5,315.28, an additional \$13,847.77 will be assessed to the residents within the drain district.

Ottawa County Board of Commissioners resolution-For the Boards information: The Ottawa County board of Commissioners passed a Resolution to waive the mandatory submission process whereby townships are required before adoption to submit rezoning's, new zoning ordinances, and proposed zoning ordinance amendments to the Ottawa County Planning Commission (or its successor).

**Public Comment-**

A resident would like a new updated proposed non-conforming structures ordinance to be sent to him.

A resident doesn't think that township wide garbage pickup is practical.

A resident would like to have Planning Commission look at set-backs when two parcels are owned by the same person.

**Board Member Discussion-**

Dietrich said that the election went well and thanked those who voted.

**Adjournment-**

Motion by Goodno to adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

Helen Dietrich

Chester Township Clerk

*(Any document referenced in these minutes is on file in the Clerk's office)*

