

**COLLIER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**October 25, 2021**

**7:00 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** President Chiurazzi called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 P.M. This meeting was held both publicly and virtual.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**B. ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD**

Mary Ann Cupples – Absent  
Debra Zymroz – Present  
Rick Ruffennach – Present  
Daniel Styche – Present  
Wayne Chiurazzi, Esq. – Present

**STAFF**

Kay Diersen, Solicitor - Present  
Kevin Brett, Engineer - Present  
Craig Campbell, Police Chief – Present  
Robert Caun, Planning Director – Present  
Jeff Hinds, Finance Director – Present  
Tom Plietz – Bldg/Fire Codes – Present  
Bob Palmosina, PW Director – Present  
Josh Werner, Parks Director – Present  
Kyle Thauvette, Twp. Manager – Present  
Valerie Salla, Twp. Secretary – Present

**C. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Was held to discuss legal and personnel issues.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. September 13, 2021** – Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Ruffennach, to approve the minutes as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

**B. September 27, 2021** – Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Zymroz, to approve the minutes as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

### III. REPORTS OF OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES:

All reports were submitted to the Board prior to the meeting.

**A. Solicitor:**

**B. Engineer:**

**C. Manager's:**

**D. Building/Codes:**

**E. COG:**

**F. Finance:**

**G. Parks and Recreation:**

Commissioner Styche questioned what the pricing was for the Pickle ball lines.

Mr. Werner stated we cannot do full lines but we did get a price on doing the corners, a T in the middle to separate the court, and there will be dashes to show where the kitchen is located. The pricing was around \$2,500.00. We had a professional guy from Sports Floor Inc., come in and he agreed that if pickle ball lines were installed, there would be way too much going on. We discussed what was done with the rubber lines and he recommended we still use the rubber lines.

Commissioner Styche questioned how many people have signed up for pickle ball since the flyer for the pickle ball program went out.

Mr. Werner stated one (1) person signed up.

Commissioner Styche questioned if we are thinking about revamping that. Maybe going from 4 courts to 2 courts.

Mr. Werner stated yes and it depends on who signs up.

Commissioner Styche asked when the cutoff date is for signing up.

Mr. Werner stated November 1<sup>st</sup> which is the first day of the session. We are doing drop ins on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The drop ins are not signing up for a session. You would just pay a fee for those 3 hours of play.

Commissioner Styche stated he spoke to a few pickle ball players and they felt that 4 courts would not be a good fit and that 2 courts would be better. If no one else signs up will there be revamping of the program.

Mr. Werner stated that when he met with the Pickle Ball players. The lady said there would be over 100 people interested in this so that is why we went with 4 courts to give them the whole gym for a certain amount of time. If there are only 24 people that sign up, they will have one side of the gym and the other side will be for our members.

Commissioner Styche questioned what if no one signs up, what are we going to do.

Mr. Werner stated nothing.

Commissioner Styche questioned if we will try to redo the program.

Mr. Werner stated yes.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned what would we do.

Commissioner Styche stated some players were concerned about having 4 courts and the pricing.

Mr. Werner stated if you break down the pricing, it is a \$1.00 an hour.

Commissioner Styche stated we are talking about the residents and not people who are not residents.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated it is \$1.00 an hour.

Mr. Werner stated it is listed as members and non-members.

Commissioner Styche stated we want to make it enticing for our residents.

Mr. Werner stated that is why we have a membership, they can play inside and they get a discount.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated we had one person sign up and how long ago was the sign up.

Mr. Werner stated only one person signed up and it started at least two (2) weeks ago.

Commissioner Styche stated after the first of November, we are going to have to rethink a different program.

Mr. Werner stated clearly there is no interest right now.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated right. How much is it?

Mr. Werner stated \$75 for a member. It is 7 weeks long and 9 hours a week.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if Commissioner Styche wanted to lower it to 50 cents.

Commissioner Styche stated in the past, members paid \$5.00 and non-members paid \$10.00 to play.

Commissioner Zymroz stated it was \$5.00 a day and a guest pass.

Commissioner Styche stated it was a lot cheaper.

Commissioner Zymroz asked about the Veteran's luncheon.

Mr. Werner stated we are doing a salute to a veteran's brunch on November 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This is free. We have two (2) speakers, two (2) Marine Corp Veterans, which will speak about their experiences. One of the Veterans will be bringing

their service dog and talking about how to get a service dog, what it means and how the dog can help them. If anyone wants to sign up, you must pre-register by calling the Community Center.

Commissioner Zymroz stated that over the weekend, the Rennerdale VFD and with the Monty Python Band held a fundraiser for the mailman (Louis Vignone) family. It was a very nice event and she extended her thanks to the band, Kips of Fort Pitt Catering (they catered most of the food), the Corner Store, Don Stephens (for raffle baskets) and the Collier Police. This was a nice event and great to have Collier's support even though he did not live here. Mr. Vignone was part of our Community and it shows a lot for Collier Township and Rennerdale.

Commissioner Zymroz also wished good luck to all our candidates on Tuesday and urged people to get out and vote.

**H. Planning/Development/Zoning:**

**I. Public Safety – Fire:**

**J. Public Safety – Police:**

**K. Public Works:**

**L. Sewer Department:**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Ruffennach to approve all the Directors reports as submitted. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

**IV. Public Comment/Comment on New Business Items:**

3-minute duration to each signed up participant. Any comments were submitted via email to the manager prior to the meeting and by 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

**Mr. Ed Smith** of 1086 Gregg Station Road approached the Board for an update on the rooster situation he has been having in the neighborhood. He wanted to know the status of this legal issue.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated that this being a legal issue, we will not talk about this out here and that Mr. Smith is welcome to call the Manager, Kyle, to discuss where the Township is on this.

Mr. Smith then stated that Kim Secreet, the Animal Control person, is a professional acquaintance of his and has faced this situation before and not to step on the toes of Mr. Wilson Durisko and Collier Township, Ms. Secreet suggested the Township send the neighbor a letter stating they allegedly have a rooster on their property. Have them respond to that letter to confirm that it is their rooster. If the rooster is not theirs, than the rooster is feral and Ms. Secreet has the authority to cease the rooster. He volunteered to take a day off to go with Mr. Durisko to the Magistrates to support him on this matter. Mr. Durisko told him not to worry about it and that he can handle it.

Mr. Smith stated he knew the Magistrate and felt there would have been a more successful outcome than what occurred if he went also. He would like the Township to go to the Magistrate again and have him go as well.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated this is a legal matter and we do not discuss legal matters with the public.

Mr. Smith stated he was just making a suggestion and was here to be part of the solution and make suggestions.

The Board thanked Mr. Smith for coming.

**Missy Maxwell** of 2515 Hilltop Road approached the Board about flooding issues in Presto. With the heavy rains we are getting her mother's house, Aunt's house and neighbors house have been a lot of water runoff from Nevillewood. There were two (2) occurrences in August that sewage came up through the drains and ruined the furnace, washer, dryer and hot water tank plus the cleanup. We paid for all this the first time it happened in August and then it happened again with Hurricane IDA. She wanted to know what the status was on getting them help with the flooding. She has spoken to the Manager, Kyle about this already.

Mr. Thauvette stated this is part of the backflow preventers in the next part of the meeting to see how the Board wants to move forward in partnering with the residents with this ongoing issue.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated if this is a Collier issue, we will handle it.

Ms. Maxwell stated she grew up in Collier and they never had any issues until Nevillewood was built. Anytime there is a big rain we get flooded and something is not right.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated the Board will make sure this is on our Agenda.

## **V. Board Discussion**

### **1. Backflow Preventer Program.**

Mr. Kevin Brett of Lennon, Smith, Souleret was asked by Mr. Thauvette if there were any communities that have installed backflow preventers. Collier's neighbor put a program in place about two (2) years ago. The consent order that was signed and passed at the last meeting with the Health Department has a provision in it permitting the community to have a backflow preventer program.

Mr. Brett gave the Board information on the type of backflow preventer they have used and explained how it works. The backflow preventer is installed on the sewer lateral from the resident's house. It helps prevent the sewage from the main line being pushed back into the residents sewer lateral and into their home.

Commissioner Zymroz questioned how much the backflow preventers are.

Mr. Brett stated in Bridgeville they put out a contract for installing 18 at a time. The cost was \$8,100.00 each. The resident does need notified of the backflow preventer being installed because it is a private lateral. The resident must sign an agreement that indicates the resident will maintain it. They had 90% of the residents that wanted one and 10% did not. It has been a successful program for Bridgeville.

Commissioner Zymroz questioned what if the resident can't afford this and is there a payment plan.

Mr. Brett stated in Bridgeville, since the residents were flooding, they have an account set up from the public side that the municipality is paying for because the flooding is coming from the public sewage system. This can be put into the sewer budget.

Mr. Brett stated to set up a program; he would need to work with Mr. Thauvette to figure out all the resident's that get flooded.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if there is grant money for this program.

Mr. Brett stated no. Bridgeville has their program payments spread out over five (5) years.

Commissioner Styche questioned if the Board needs to make a motion to do this program or can we just do the program.

Mr. Thauvette stated the Board would need to formally move forward with this program.

Commissioner Styche stated to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **VI. New Business:**

1. Consider action on bond reduction request No. 2 from Maronda Homes for Amalfi Ridge Phase 2. The Township Engineer recommends the Township reduce the bond amount from \$333,894.83 to \$168,180.08, which is 110% of the remaining improvements and 10% contingency of the completed items.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Ruffennach, to approve the bond reduction request No. 2 from Maronda Homes for Amalfi Ridge Phase II as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.*

2. Consider action on bond reduction request No. 1 from Maronda Homes for Amalfi Ridge Phase 3. The Township Engineer recommends the Township reduce the bond amount from \$89,796.63 to \$53,056.63, which is 110% of the remaining improvements and 10% contingency of the completed items.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Zymroz, to approve the bond reduction request No. 1 Maronda Homes LLC for Amalfi Ridge Phase 3 as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.*

3. Consider action on bond reduction request No. 2 from Maronda Homes for Amalfi Ridge Phase 3. The Township Engineer recommends the Township reduce the bond amount from \$53,056.63 to \$51,306.63, which is 110% of the remaining improvements and 10% contingency of the completed items.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to approve the bond reduction request No. 2 from Maronda Homes for Amalfi Ridge Phase 3 as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

4. Consider action to advertise request for proposals for 2021 Stormwater Improvements.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Ruffennach, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to advertise for proposals for the 2021 Stormwater Improvements. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.*

5. Consider action to advertise an Ordinance accepting the public improvements in Phase 2 & 3 of Amalfi Ridge.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Zymroz, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to advertise and ordinance accepting the public improvements in Phase 2 and 3 of Amalfi Ridge. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.*

6. Consider action to enter into an agreement with Stambrosky Homes Inc. for conditional tap-in application approval for the Settlers Pointe Development.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to enter into an agreement with Stambrosky Homes Inc. as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.*

7. Consider action on the following Concurring Resolution 102521-01; A Resolution to designate Kyle P. Thauvette to perform the required duties between the Township and Allegheny County Economic Development CDBG grant application.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Zymroz, to designate Kyle P. Thauvette to perform the required duties between the Township and Allegheny County Economic Development CDBG grant application. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.*

8. Consider action on the following Concurring Resolutions to designate Kyle P. Thauvette to perform the required duties between the Township and the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County grant applications:

- Resolution 102521-02 – Stockyard Sanitary Sewer Line Extension
- Resolution 102521-03 – Shadow Drive Stormwater Improvement Project
- Resolution 102521-04 – Stormwater Detention Pond Retrofit Program
- Resolution 102521-05 – Panhandle Trail and Parking Upgrade
- Resolution 102521-06 – Dog Park waterline extension and bathrooms

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Zymroz, to designate Kyle P. Thauvette to perform the required duties between the Township and the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County grant applications as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion passed.*

9. Consider action to hire Jake Horew for the position of public works laborer at a rate of \$22.13/hour effective November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to hire Jake Horew as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.*

**VII. Account Transfers:**

- Approval of the transfer of \$225,000.00 from the Liquid Fuels Account to the General Fund Account.
- Approval of the transfer of \$28,000.00 from the General Fund Account to the Capital Fund Checking Account.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Zymroz, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to approve the account transfers as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.*

**VIII. Approval of General Fund Operating Account items:**

- Invoices Paid, Checks Written and Bills Requested October 12 to October 25, 2021 in the amount of \$761,747.92.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Zymroz, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to approve the General Fund Operating Account items as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

**IX. Approval of Capital Fund Operating Account items:**

- Invoices Paid, Checks Written and Bills Requested October 12 to October 25, 2021 in the amount of \$27,715.72.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Zymroz, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to approve the Capital Fund Operating Account items as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

**X. Approval of Sewer Account items:**

- Invoices Paid, Checks Written and Bills Requested October 12 to October 25, 2021 in the amount of \$686,814.00.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, and carried, to approve the Sewer Account items as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

**XI. Adjourn**

Commissioner Zymroz asked Chief Campbell about the two (2) stop signs at the bottom of the hill on Walkers Mill Road and Noblestown Road. Which stop sign are you supposed to stop at?

Chief Campbell stated it is covered under the State Law. When you come to an intersection that has this type of stop sign, you are supposed to stop at the first stop sign or as close to the intersection as you can be to see the intersection and then proceed through the intersection. If everyone would stop at the stop signs it would be a safe intersection.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Zymroz, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40p.m. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

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Wayne M. Chiurazzi – President  
Board of Commissioners

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Valerie A. Salla  
Township Secretary