

MINUTES

COLLIER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR VIRTUAL MEETING

April 26, 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 virtual due to the COVID-19 (aka CoronaVirus) Regulations.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. ROLL CALL:

BOARD

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

STAFF

Chuck Means, 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 – Absent
Bob Palmosina, PW Director – Present
Mary Beth Birks, Parks Director - Present
Jim Nordquest, NIRA Engineers - 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. March 8, 2021 – Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting

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

- B. March 22, 2021 – Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Commissioner Zymroz, seconded by Commissioner Cupples, 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:**
- H. Planning/Development/Zoning:**
- I. Public Safety – Fire:**
- J. Public Safety – Police:**
- K. Public Works:**
- L. Sewer Department:**

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

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked for any questions or comments on the reports.

Commissioner Zymroz questioned the Parks and Recreation Director, Mary Beth Birks, if the boys' and girls' basketball teams will be individual or coed?

Mrs. Birks stated they are individual.

Commissioner Zymroz questioned Mrs. Birks if the Senior Luncheons will be in the pavilion or in the banquet room.

Mrs. Birks stated in the pavilion.

Commissioner Styche informed Mrs. Birks and Mr. Palmosina, Public Works Director, that he noticed the parking lot lines are not very visible at some of the Parks and asked if they could be put on the schedule to be painted.

Mr. Palmosina and Mrs. Birks stated yes.

Commissioner Styche stated some of the signs at the Parks are either missing or disarrayed and asked if they could be replaced with new ones.

Mr. Thauvette will check the budget to see if signs can be replaced.

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. Thauvette read the following emails as public comments.

From: jennifer fox rabold <jennylee4769@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 6:13 PM
To: Collier Public Meetings <collierpublic@colliertwp.net>
Subject: Nevilleside

Can the Commissioners clarify that the March 22, 2021 acceptance of Cambridge Court [sic], Fair Acre Court, and the underlying storm sewers, was actually intended to accept the dedication of Cambridge DRIVE and Fair Acre Court, and the underlying storm sewers? Our deeds all state "Cambridge Drive."

Thank you,
Jennifer Rabold
2001 Cambridge Drive

.....

From: cstone5383@verizon.net <cstone5383@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 5:58 PM
To: Kyle Thauvette <kthauvette@colliertwp.net>; Collier Public Meetings <collierpublic@colliertwp.net>
Subject: Game Machine Permits Waiver

Dear Kyle and the Board of Commissioners of Collier Township,

We are writing with regards to the Game Machine Permits that are due. We have arcade machines in the Phoenix Chartiers Valley theater, which have been shut down since mid-March 2020 due to the pandemic, and we are asking if the township can please prorate our 2020 payment of \$2,750 to be used towards 2021 when they reopen, which is supposed to be sometime this month.

Other townships (N. Versailles, Cecil, and others) have waived our fees for this year since we paid them last year but were shut down all year.

Thank you in advance for presenting this to the Board of Commissioners and we are hopeful they can assist us in this matter, as this has been a difficult year to say the least and it would greatly help.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Carl W. Stone
Owner, Custom Amusements

.....

From: RAY NALEPA <r.nalepa@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 5:39 PM
To: Kyle Thauvette <kthauvette@colliertwp.net>
Subject: Gaming license fee

Attn: Collier Board of Commissioners,

I am requesting a waiver for this year's gaming license registration permit fees of \$550 due to Covid. I paid the fees last year (2020) and we had to unfortunately close the dining room right after I paid the fees. I hope you can take this into consideration and graciously approve my request, thank you in advance!

Thanks, You Tammi Nalepa
Rennerdale Corner Store

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked what the Township policy on COVID is for this.

Mr. Thauvette stated there is not a policy and we have had some businesses that have remained open. We already have businesses that paid for 2020 and 2021 gaming permits. Because the Gaming machines is an Ordinance, it would need to be a Board decision for fees to be waived.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated to be business friendly and for those who could not make any money on the gaming machines during the time period they were closed

Commissioner Styche stated we would have to look into this because what ever we do for these requests, we would have to do for everyone in the Township which he is okay doing. He doesn't know what the revenues are that we received for gaming machines and how would we determine what the amount is when some bars may have been open and some were open. We would have to be fair with all the businesses who requests this and not just one.

Commissioner Zymroz stated it could be just a smaller place like Collier Sportsman and they were not open.

Commissioner Chiurazzi advised Mr. Thauvette and the Finance Director, Jeff Hinds, to get together and discuss what would be fair for businesses that were not open and bring that to the Board for further discussion and could Federal money be used for this.

Mr. Hinds informed the Board the majority of businesses have already paid for their 2021 permits.

V. New Business:

1. Roadway Discussion by Commissioner Styche.

Commissioner Styche informed the Board on a couple of things that were brought to his attention. He gave the Board an information packet.

- *Margaret Street.* He received a photo of two (2) big trucks passing each and there is not enough room. The road is not wide enough.
- *West Noblestown Road.* The owners of the concrete plant were looking into continuing the spur onto West Main Street which would alleviate the problem with the trucks on Margaret Street. Commissioner Styche feels the Township should look into helping this happen because it would alleviate the safety issue on Margaret Street.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned what he is asking for.

Commissioner Styche stated he is asking for the Township to get involved with that spur. It is in Collier Township's best interest to help get the spur done for the safety of the residents. The residents that live on Margaret Street brought this to his attention and about it being unsafe. The trucks cannot pass safely.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if this is a State Road and is there a weight limit on Margaret Street.

Mr. Thauvette stated West Main is a State-owned road. Margaret Street is a Township road. There is a weight limit on Margaret Street and the owner of the concrete plant bonded the road to allow for the heavy traffic on the road. The concrete plant owners have tried to create another entrance and exit to the plant which is directly onto Noblestown Road. A conversation will need to be started again with the State and the Railroad. Mr. Thauvette will try to facilitate this.

- *Thomas Street Ext.* The residents on this street brought to his attention that heavy trucks are coming from Thoms Run Road and trying to make the turn onto Weinstein Road. If cars are parked there, the trucks cannot make the turn and have to back up and it creates a problem for the residents on that street. There is a no truck sign on that road from Steen Road turning onto Thomas Street Ext. Can the Police Department help out with this issue? This seems to happen when the red light at Steen is backing up. The trucks are trying to bypass the light.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if Commissioner Styche is trying to eliminate trucks from using Weinstein Street?

Commissioner Styche stated he was open for suggestions on how to fix this issue.

Mr. Thauvette stated he would not speak for the Chief of Police but once the Police get involved and stop a few trucks, the word gets out and the issue stops.

Chief Campbell stated he will look into this and he will have the Truck Inspection Officer know. The Police Department has not noticed a big problem since that intersection was improved because it is much easier for trucks to get out and particularly make a left. He will have Officers patrol the area.

1. Consider action on Resolution 042621-01, a Resolution amending the Official Sewage Planning act to include Amalfi Ridge Phases 3-6.

Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Cupples, to approve Resolution 042621-01 as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

2. Consider action on bond reduction request No. 1 from South Hills Bible Chapel. The Township Engineer recommends the Township reduce the bond amount from \$531,018.62 to \$56,774.42, which is 110% of the remaining improvements and 10% of the completed items.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Zymroz, to approve bond reduction request No.1 from South Hills Bible Chapel as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

3. Consider action to award the 2021 Collier Township Paving Program Base Bid to Youngblood Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$148,572.

Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Cupples, to award the 2021 Paving Program base Bid to Youngblood paving, Inc. as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

4. Consider action to appoint Mary Popeck, Matt Shipton and Suzanne Harford to the Parks and Recreation Board for a four (4) year term ending on December 31, 2024.

Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Cupples, to appoint Mary Popeck, Matt Shipton and Suzanne Harford to the Parks and Recreation Board as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

VI. Account Transfer:

- Approval of the transfer of \$13,000.00 from the General Fund Account to the Capital Fund Checking Account.

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

VII. Approval of General Fund Operating Account items:

- Invoices paid and checks written April 13, 2021 to April 25, 2021 in the amount of \$195,240.71.

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

- Bills requested for payment for April 26, 2021 in the amount of \$58,487.51.

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

VIII. Approval of Capital Investment Account Items:

- Bills requested for payment for April 26, 2021 in the amount of \$12,701.43.

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

X. Approval of Sewer Account items:

- Invoices paid and checks written from April 13, 2021 to April 25, 2021 in the amount of \$43,118.90.

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

XI. Adjourn

Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Cupples, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25p.m. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.

Wayne M. Chiurazzi – President
Board of Commissioners

Valerie A. Salla
Township Secretary