



THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE EAST DEER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024, AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE EAST DEER TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CREIGHTON, PA.

MR. TALIANI CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

The secretary called the roll: Anthony Taliani - present; Rick Stoneburner - present; Edward Kissel - present; Joseph Novosat - present; Jacob Gigler - present.

Also in attendance: Secretary - Chrystal M. Carmen - Residents - Alex Gigler, Amy Gigler, Dan Gigler, Jordon Gigler, Mr. & Mrs. Radvansky, Jean Tatatanni

MINUTES

Mr. Taliani advised that we will not be acting on the minutes tonight and will do that at next week's regular meeting.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mrs. Radvansky asked if we knew who was looking at the old church. Mr. Taliani advised that Chrystal has talked with the real estate agent. Chrystal advised that they want to use it as a church and have services maybe twice a month. Mr. Taliani advised that with it being closed for over six months that they would need to go through the process of the Board of Commissioners and the Zoning Board for it is a permissive use in the Zoning Ordinance. It was there before the ordinance went into effect. It cannot be opened as a Church in the Zone. We will need to check with the Solicitor more on what can be done. Mrs. Radvansky asked if they were looking into the old school building. Chrystal advised that it was a different organization that outgrew their space and was looking but that was one phone call and the same would need to be done there also. Mr. Taliani advised that is all that we know of right now and once we do they will need to follow the correct channels.

RESOLUTIONS – ORDINANCES

Mr. Taliani advised that we will have ordinance 849: - An Ordinance of The Township of East Deer, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, implementing a Five Percent (5%) Amusement Tax; Containing A Definitions Section. Requiring Providers of Amusement Events to Register with The Township; Detailing the Procedures for The Collection of the Amusement Tax by Providers or The Township; Requiring Providers of Amusement Events to File Reports with The Township; Providing for The Disposition of Taxes, Penalties, And Interest; Providing Penalties/Remedies for Violation; Repealing Inconsistent Ordinances And/or Portions of Inconsistent Ordinances; Including A Savings Clause and Providing an Effective date. He advised that the board should all have a copy of it to go over it and review it. It will not affect the business it goes on passing them and they will just collect and give to the township. - That's going to implement a 5% Amusement tax and all the members have copies of the ordinance and if there's any suggestions or discussion that anybody wants to have concerning no time to have a

little discussion on it. Amusement tax on this ticket sales that will go to the township and predominantly the thinking is that when you have any problem with additional traffic control additional wear and tear on Township services and so forth that that's the way that it does some of those costs would be removed by our account in the event that occurs the money should be there for that reason.

Mr. Taliani advised that we will have Ordinance 850 An Ordinance of The Township of East Deer, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Entering into Agreement with Other Member Municipalities of The Allegheny Valley North Council of Governments for The Establishment of a Joint Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals as Required by The Uniform Construction Code and Hereby Dissolves Any Borough/Township Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals that we're going to be considering next week is joining what is called a joint uniform construction code Board of Appeals telling the other Commissioners East Deer does not have a UCC board. East Deer Township never needed a UCC board, but I came to learn that the reality is the situation is if you don't have a UCC board that if they appeal a zoning question that you would need on. We will be joining in with other communities through AVNCOG. We will only need to pay if we use it. Cheswick already has one and we would be using theirs. Please read it over and hopefully we will approve it next week and there will be an agreement in there that we will approve. I think the way it works is the way it would happen is if we don't have and they appeal we will lose.

Mr. Taliani asked Rick if he would like to let everyone know what he found out on the Christmas wreaths. Mr. Stoneburner advised yeah, we were looking at 3 different companies and first, Chrystal you reached out to the company that we had before. Chrystal advised yes and I have heard nothing back from them. Mr. Stoneburner advised well that we reached out to three different companies the way we needed to. I will pass out a little bit of In-site. We have three to look at. We cannot do solar, or electricity is out. We could do the battery but it's more expensive. I will give this to you to look at now, I don't think the battery option is feasible right now. We would need to buy from a different company, string ourselves and change out every year, so every year we would have the change every year. My recommendation is that we don't do that this year so that we could go back to do that another time. We will go with 40 this time when it was 33 before. We also put it where there were lights so we could see them. 4ft single frame with 2 bows is going to be \$21,000 dollars, if we went with a double frame, it would be \$22,000.00 Bows would last 15 years and the Wreath would last 15 to 20 years. Mr. Stoneburner passed things out for the commissioners to look at. I personally think we should go with the fuller wreath and 2 bows. We will need to put the bows on this. More information will be given for next Thursday. This is the cheapest company I could find with their advertised price.

Mr. Taliani advised that he will be giving a new 5 Year Capital Improvement at the meeting. I am going to jump over the Water rates and go down to new business and will come back to the Water rates.

Mr. Taliani advised that the letter of resignation of Kathy Canfield is self-explanatory.

Mr. Taliani advised that Codification of Ordinances is something that I have wanted to do for a while now. Our ordinances are over 800 and some are outdated and need some cleaning up. I am going to have a proposal for you for next week. I met with Steve who works for General Code, and he is going to get me a proposal and he is going to have that before the 14th. General Code is Co-Star and we do not have to get the three quotes. He advised that it would be \$16,000 to \$20,000 and it takes over a year to do and can be split in the budgets so much one year and so much the other year. Until we see what the quote is going to be I think we can afford it and since it will be 2 years and we can look at dating the ordinances. They have people that will go through and pull them

out and will not have to do it. When they are done, they will publish a book and I can guarantee that we will have to update some of them. Hopefully I will have the price and we can move forward with that.

We are going to have an executive meeting on March 14th, 2024 at 7:00 PM to talk with our solicitor regarding a legal case that the township is involved with. Please be here at 7, our solicitor will be here at that time.

I am also putting on the agenda, Resolution 2024-02 commending the Deer Lakes Boys Basketball Team and Coach Albie Fletcher in winning the WPIAL Section 3A Championship for the second consecutive year. That is a tremendous accomplishment and especially in this day and age with the private schools dominating basketball. For a public school winning 2 years is a major accomplishment.

Mr. Taliani advised us to go back to the water rates. We all know that as of March 1st the water rates were raised by Tarentum. We have to raise our rates because we can absorb what they raised. They raised us 30% in our bulk price. We do not need to raise our rates 30% but we do have to raise to be able to pay for the water, do what we need to do to keep our water department in good standing with what we are mandated to do by the DEP. The water system is a very serious thing, and we have to be able to take care of. What I am looking at is that we have to raise the water rates to the \$1.30 that Tarentum raised us to pay what they are charging us. Tarentum bills us 1000 gallons on a graduated scale. Mr. Taliani went through the billing rates. It is the very high wholesale rate that we are paying. This is what I think will be a starting point, the sheet that you have now is our rate scale, which is mirrored off of Tarentum's, what put on here for right now the minimum bill will go from 15.50 to 19.00 for the first 1500 gallons, next 198500 will go up 1.80 and this is what most of the residential will pay. We will take it up to \$1.80 on all levels. Once you get past the 1st to rate lines there are only 2 customers that pay, that is Air Products and the Brewery. My concern is that we will price them out of the market. We must pay Tarentum and make a little profit from things that we must do and want to do with the water system. This paper that I am passing out now are things that we have. This sheet has what we know that we are going to have to do. We were audited by the DEP that we have mandated that we must inspect the inside of our tank every 5 years. You can empty or do it with a robot. They also asked us to clean, and power wash the outside of the tank, and this is what we must do. This is a proposal for me that is the starting point and right now we can do what we need on this now and we might have to reevaluate at the end of this year. I am open for any thoughts that you have for next week. What are your thoughts? Mr. Gigler, thanks for passing this out and I would like to look it over and run it in a simulation and see what it comes out with. I am trying to show the lay of the land. Rick, what are your thoughts? You are the chairman of the water department, Mr. Stoneburner says that it must go up no matter what. I want to make sure that there is enough in here that we do not have to be going back to this in 6 months. I just do not want us to be razor thin and we must see this again, every time that we get this it makes me sick, and this penalizes our two businesses and our residents. Mr. Novosat advised that the residents of East Deer should also know that the residents of Tarentum are getting the same 1.30 raise.

Mr. Gigler with that, I passed out a little presentation on cyber security with what to look for with emails to look out for. I will email and there are some that you must watch what you download and even with AI to watch for. If you guys have any questions let me know even though we have a tech guy you can always ask me also.

BILLS

Mr. Taliani advised that we approve the bills at the meeting next week.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Stoneburner motioned to Adjourn. Mr. Kissel 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting Adjourned:
8:40 PM

Board Chairman

Township Secretary