

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES – APRIL 1, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lower Makefield was held remotely on April 1, 2020. Dr. Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. and called the Roll.

Those present:

Board of Supervisors: Frederic K. Weiss, Chair
 Daniel Grenier, Vice Chair
 James McCartney, Secretary
 Suzanne Blundi, Treasurer
 John B. Lewis, Supervisor

Others: Kurt Ferguson, Township Manager
 David Truelove, Township Solicitor
 Andrew Pockl, Township Engineer
 Kenneth Coluzzi, Chief of Police
 Monica Tierney, Park & Recreation Director

COVID 19 UPDATE

Mr. Ferguson stated the Township Building, the Community Center, and the Golf Course are currently closed and are scheduled to be closed until April 13. He stated they will meet shortly to make the determination if that date will be extended. He stated the staff continues to work remotely, and they can process all requests including sanitary sewer lateral requests required for home sales. He stated contact information is posted on the Township Website.

Mr. Ferguson stated this is the first meeting to be held remotely, and they have reserved this to be done again on April 15 and both May meetings if necessary.

Mr. Ferguson stated they announced yesterday that the Township has waived all late fees and penalties associated with 2020 Sewer bills up to and including the third quarter bill. He stated they will work with anyone who has issues. He stated they are also examining a variety of other things including what they intend to do with the Township Pool. He stated the staff will be meeting shortly to come up with a recommendation regarding the possibility of whether there can be a partial opening or whether or not the Pool will have to be closed this year. He stated this will be communicated within the next week.

Mr. Ferguson stated in the interest of watching the Township's bottom line, they will not be hiring summer workers for the parks or for Public Works; and the full-time staff will be handling all of those responsibilities for this year. Mr. Ferguson stated they have instituted protocols for staff regarding how they can get to the sites, and only one person can be in each vehicle. He stated they will not be hiring the full-time Park & Recreation employee that was budgeted for this year. Mr. Ferguson stated they budgeted for three pieces of equipment from the Road Machinery Fund, and the staff will be presenting a scaled-back recommendation to only purchase one piece of equipment this year which has to do with the salting/plowing season for a piece of equipment that has to be replaced.

Mr. Ferguson stated he has repurposed two staff members who are calling Senior Citizen households. He stated there is a list of approximately 335 households that are part of the Police/Senior Partnership Program. He stated two full-time staff members are calling every Senior household every week, and they will continue doing that for as long as this situation goes on. He stated they have found Senior households where they were running low on food or needed their medicine refilled and were concerned about leaving the house. He stated for those they are particularly concerned about, the Police Department will do a wellness check. Mr. Ferguson stated if there is someone a resident is concerned about whether or not they are Seniors, they should contact the Township; and they will check on them at least once a week.

Dr. Weiss stated today there was a lot of discussion on Social Media about the Sewer bills and the appropriateness of the rate increase. He asked Mr. Truelove to discuss the background and the appropriateness of the Board raising the rates.

Mr. Truelove stated in 2006 there was a Lease Agreement between the Sewer Authority and the Township. He stated the Sewer Authority has been an Advisory Board as opposed to a true Authority since its inception and the Lease Agreement of 2006 gives the Township itself the right to set rates and charges on the system. He stated any employees who work for the Sewer Authority are actually paid by the Township, and any financing that has been done has been done by the Township and not by the Sewer Authority. He stated the Township has for years been responsible for the operation of the sewer system which includes setting the rates and charges. Mr. Truelove stated the Sewer Authority is frequently involved in reviewing and advising the Board with regard to the operation and the charges; however, they do not have the final say. He stated the rates were part of the Budget discussion last year as they have been every year. Mr. Truelove stated the rates were discussed frequently over the last two years, and the Sewer Authority was part of those discussions as well.

Mr. Grenier stated given the current situation he is unsure of the number of projects that will be able to be done based on the fact that the Governor has shut down a number of road projects and other infrastructure projects. He asked Mr. Ferguson if he has an idea as to what sewer projects that were planned for this year they can move forward with. He also asked if they can re-assess the Sewer Budget to see if there is an opportunity to reduce the overall percentage since they will not be able to complete all of the projects this year; and they could then re-assess for next year. Mr. Ferguson stated some of the costs are contributions that are made to Morrisville Municipal Authority which are based on their Capital projects. He stated approximately \$5 million is to pay for treatment. He stated there is a pump station project which they are ready to put out to Bid. He stated they would also move ahead with sewer lining this year. He stated it is possible that some of this work could carry over to next year, and there would also be additional work done in 2021 in order to stay on schedule. He stated the plan to line the pipes will take sixty-two years to complete; and as he advised the Board during the Budget discussions, he has concerns as to whether DEP will accept that as a reasonable timeframe.

Mr. Lewis asked Mr. Ferguson to provide by the next meeting an estimate on the revised project spend for the sewer projects and the status of each project. Mr. Ferguson stated the projects would be the sewer lining and the pump station that he just discussed. He stated he does not feel there would be much to revise unless the Board decides that they want to hold off with the sewer lining project. Mr. Ferguson stated he was assuming that the sewer lining would take place, and it would just be Bid later in the year.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. McCartney stated St. Ignatius is taking donations for those effected by the virus, and the address for the Church is 999 Reading Avenue, Yardley, PA or those interested can call 215-369-9262. Mr. Grenier stated St. Ignatius is partnering with Neighbor In Need which has a Facebook page that provides information.

Mr. Michael Taylor, 1116 Daffodil Drive, asked if the Board of Supervisors knew that there was going to be a 37% increase in the sewer bill. Dr. Weiss stated they did know this, and Mr. Ferguson had provided an in-depth presentation during the Budget discussions last year on the need for the increase; and the Board of Supervisors approved the rate increase in December, 2019. Mr. Taylor stated

he wishes that there were other ways to offset that cost. He stated he feels there are other opportunities in the Township as opposed to passing on a 37% increase. Dr. Weiss stated he understands the concern, but when costs go up the ratepayers need to pay the bill. He stated given the financial condition the Township is in, it is difficult to find other ways to pay for these increased costs. He stated the Board shares the concern, and they continue to look for ways to mitigate future rate increases.

Mr. Taylor asked if there are opportunities to “change the cash flow” by doing a Corporate Bid for trash hauling which he feels could easily be reduced by 50% and could offset the additional sewer costs. He stated he has a number of other ideas which he could discuss at a future meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2020

Ms. Blundi moved, Mr. Grenier seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of March 4, 2020 as written.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT LISTS FROM MARCH 2, 2020 AND MARCH 16, 2020

Ms. Blundi moved, Mr. Grenier seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Warrant Lists from March 2, 2020 and March 16, 2020 in the amount of \$761,481.26 as attached to the Minutes.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY, 2020 INTERFUND TRANSFERS

Ms. Blundi moved, Mr. Grenier seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the February, 2020 Interfund Transfers in the amount of \$662,902.84 as attached to the Minutes.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Approval of Escrow Release #8 for the Estates at Sandy Run

Mr. Pockl stated they are recommending approval of Escrow Release #8 to Prime Custom Buildings for the Estates at Sandy Run in the amount of \$48,414.20. He stated upon release of the Escrow there will be a retainage in the amount

of \$68,935.61. Mr. Pockl stated the work has been completed and the only thing they are waiting for is the Notice of Termination of their Permit from Bucks County Conservation District signing off on the stormwater management system. Mr. Pockl stated his office has reviewed the system including the basin, the pipes, and inlets. He stated the road is a cul-de-sac which is not going to be dedicated to the Township. He stated he also checked the street lights which are working. He stated the amount being retained is well in excess of anything that might come up that they would have to address.

Ms. Blundi moved and Mr. Lewis seconded to approve Escrow Release #8 for the Estates at Sandy Run in the amount of \$48,414.20.

Mr. Grenier stated Bucks County Conservation District will be reviewing all of this, and he asked if there is a need to release this at this time. Mr. Pockl stated the contractor made the request approximately thirty days ago, and the Township has to act on it within forty-five days. He stated he does not feel they have any standing to reject it, and his office has signed off on the work which has been completed. He noted again that there is still a retainage of over \$68,000 which would cover anything that Bucks County might reject. Mr. Pockl stated the Board has to act on the request within forty-five days of the request, and the forty-five day deadline would be April 10.

Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Engineer's Update

Mr. Pockl stated after the Governor issued the shut-down order, his office went around to all of the current construction projects and spoke with the site supervisors and advised them of issues they had to address immediately in order for public safety. Mr. Pockl stated that work has been completed, and all of the construction projects within the Township are currently shut down with the exception of the Caddis Development since they are a health care facility and are exempt from the Governor's shut-down order so they are proceeding. Mr. Pockl stated they received a request from the Lightbridge Academy project next to the Yardley Woods Development. He stated they are currently doing work to add a driveway entrance, and they have requested that work be able to be completed. Mr. Pockl stated Mr. Majewski was at that site today and advised Mr. Pockl of the work that they could complete that would fall under the exemption; and that will be issued to the contractor tomorrow.

Mr. Pockl stated his office is checking on all of the erosion and sediment control measures after major storm events. He stated they opened Bids for the bike path on March 26, and are currently evaluating that project and will be discussing this with the Township staff.

Mr. Grenier stated while it is early in the construction season, at this point they are not allowed to do road work; and he asked what they anticipate for the future. Mr. Pockl stated the contractor signed the Contracts and they have been submitted to Mr. Ferguson who will need to sign them. He stated they can then have a pre-construction meeting and issue a Notice to Proceed so that the contractor can get their paperwork submitted. He stated he has talked to the contractor, James D. Morrissey, and they are open and doing work that falls under the Governor's exemption order. He stated they have indicated that they could have the pre-construction meeting this week or it could be delayed if the Township wishes.

Mr. Grenier asked if the Township could apply for an exemption for this work. Mr. Pockl stated there is an exemption and there is a waiver which is a form that the contractor fills out and the State would rule on it.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Grenier asked Mr. Ferguson if he has an idea of what projects on the list may get "shifted," or if they could come up with a mitigation approach to address the projects. Mr. Ferguson stated they are looking at the Pool, summer camps, and a variety of other things. He stated certain staff has some of their salary, benefits, and pension contribution that come from the Pool; and if they decide not to open the Pool this year, this would result in approximately \$500,000 that would have to be offset.

Mr. Ferguson stated with regard to the Memorial Park project, last year they set aside \$250,000 for the match in the Recreational Capital Reserve Fund. He stated the Grant does not expire until December, 2021; and he has asked the Township engineer to approach the Commonwealth to see if they would be willing to extend that to 2022 with the idea that the Township could offset some of the expenses from the loss of Revenue and they could use the \$250,000 match money back into the Park & Rec Fund to offset the staff expenses attributed to the Pool. He stated they have also looked at the trail project for this year, and there was \$25,000 budgeted for that out of Park & Rec as well. He stated depending

on what is decided with regard to the Pool, he will be sending a report to the Board as to how he believes those costs can be offset. Mr. Ferguson stated it takes two months to open the Pool, and they hire 180 people. He stated a recommendation on the Pool will be coming to the Board next week.

Mr. Lewis asked for an update on Sandy Run Road. He stated he understands the Township has received RFPs for the design engineer, and he asked what steps can be taken now given the Governor's order, and if this will impact the timeline. Mr. Ferguson stated he provided an update to the Board today with regard to the Bids and some questions about the filing requirements in the RFP. He stated depending on how that is decided, design work could be completed. He stated if the Governor indicates that construction cannot take place for the rest of the year, that would influence the timeline. He stated they should be able to take this up to finalizing the design, making a public presentation, and preparing the Bid documents. Mr. Lewis asked when they have to select a design engineer according to the timeline, and Mr. Ferguson stated he believes that it was either this meeting or the next meeting on April 15.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Motion Accepting Bid for Asphalt and Stone Materials Through the Bucks County Consortium

Mr. Ferguson stated he still has staff working under controlled circumstances if there are safety issues that need to be addressed. He asked the Board to approve the Bid through the Bucks County Consortium for 2020/2021.

Ms. Blundi moved and Mr. Lewis seconded to approve the Bid for asphalt and stone materials through the Bucks County Consortium for 2020/2021.

Mr. Lewis asked if they expect asphalt prices to climb significantly and would that be reflected if we need to make purchases later in the summer.

Mr. Ferguson stated the primary asphalt purchase they would have would be through the Road Program, and they already have Bids for that. Mr. Ferguson stated what is being approved now is mostly for stone, and this would set the price. He stated he does not anticipate any of these prices would be subject to change.

Mr. Steven Severino, 1374 Revere Road, stated they have not had access to Sandy Run Road for two to three years. He asked if they have looked into holding off on this project entirely since it was only going to be a temporary solution and we are in a difficult financial situation. He asked why they should invest in this now since there is no urgency to put in a temporary solution that will not really fix the problem.

Dr. Weiss stated Public Comment at this point is limited to the Motion before the Board at this time which is approving the asphalt and stone Bid, and he asked Mr. Severino to call back during non-Agenda Public Comment.

Motion carried unanimously.

RATIFY DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Chief Coluzzi thanked Mr. Ferguson for bringing up the Police Partnership Program working with the Seniors. He stated anyone in the Township in need should contact the Police Department.

Chief Coluzzi stated the Declaration of Disaster Emergency was prepared on March 15 in conjunction with the President's Order and the Governor's Declaration of Emergency. He asked that the Board of Supervisors ratify the existing Declaration of Emergency and keep that Declaration in existence to run concurrent with the Governor's Order or until there is no more threat in the Township. He stated the reason for a Declaration of Emergency is to recoup funding and expenses related to COVID-19 and also allows the Township to do things that they normally would not be able to do legally. He stated this Declaration is now in the hands of the County, the State, and FEMA; and we want to keep it in existence as long as needed.

Mr. Lewis moved, Ms. Blundi seconded and it was unanimously carried to continue the Emergency Order until such time it needs to be removed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Truelove stated the Board met in Executive Session beginning at 6:30 p.m. and items related to Real Estate and confidential items were discussed.

Discussion of Adoption of Ordinance No. 422 Amending Responsible Contractor Ordinance and Motion to Advertise

Mr. Truelove stated this matter has been properly advertised and it will amend the Ordinance in two ways. He stated it changes the language for internal review from “a minimum of thirty days” to a “maximum of thirty days.” He stated this was generated because of numerous experiences with the Ordinance where it was felt that there was excess time since most of the information was readily available for most of the contractors submitting information that was subject to the review. Mr. Truelove stated the second part is for public review, and Mr. Majewski specifically requested this because it was his experience that the twenty-one days required in the Ordinance was excessive compared to what the practical circumstances were. He stated this change will reduce it from twenty-one to fourteen days.

Ms. Blundi moved and Mr. McCartney seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 422 Amending Responsible Contractor Ordinance.

Mr. Grenier stated the Motion that was made at the February 19, 2020 meeting was limited to changing it “up to thirty days,” and there was no mention of changing the “twenty-one to fourteen days.” Mr. Grenier stated he agrees with the change of “up to thirty day,” since he feels that provided a significant amount of time and does not put too much pressure on Township staff to review it too quickly, but still provides a fair amount of time for others; however, he is not in favor of revising from twenty-one days to fourteen days, since there are times when things at the Township cannot get done in fourteen days, and he feels it is important to keep it at twenty-one days.

Mr. Lewis stated the primary reason for this was to provide flexibility in cases where they have to move quickly. He stated he would be flexible with twenty-one days. He asked Mr. Truelove the impact of that, and Mr. Truelove stated they would have re-advertise in that circumstance since that would be a substitutive change. He stated that portion would no longer be an Amendment; and since it was advertised as an Amendment, it would have to be re-advertised that there would only be one change included.

Ms. Blundi asked Mr. Truelove to elaborate on Mr. Majewski’s comments with regard to this section. Mr. Truelove stated Mr. Majewski stated that in his experience, this change was his preference for the public review. He stated normally the public review would be made by other contractors, and they would generally comment within a shorter period of time.

Mr. Ferguson stated with regard to the twenty-one day timeframe there are times during the year when there are three weeks between meetings, so with the twenty-one day period depending when it falls could become thirty plus days as well. He stated there are two processes – the one to review and the one where the Board will be signing the Agreements so they could still hold off from signing the Agreement if a resident were to raise a concern.

Mr. Grenier asked Ms. Blundi if she would agree to Amend the Motion to change the public inspection period from fourteen days back to the original twenty-one days, and Ms. Blundi agreed. Mr. Truelove stated they would therefore retain the public review period at twenty-one days as it is currently. He stated since that is a substitutive change, they should re-advertise this change. He stated he feels this could be ready for the April 15 meeting.

Ms. Blundi moved, Mr. McCartney seconded and it was unanimously carried to Amend the Motion to remove the second part of the change and retain the twenty-one day requirement for public comment.

Mr. Grenier moved, Mr. Lewis seconded and it was unanimously carried to advertise Ordinance No. 422, Chapter 99 only to include the first change in language from at least thirty days to no later than thirty days for internal review.

ZONING HEARING BOARD MATTERS

With regard to the John Goodz and Felice Fascano Variance request for the property located at 312 Saly Road in order to permit construction of an inground pool resulting in greater than permitted impervious surface Mr. Grenier moved, Mr. Lewis seconded and it was unanimously carried that the solicitor participate.

APPROVAL OF EXTENSION REQUESTS – DOGWOOD DRIVE AND CAPSTONE TERRACE

Ms. Blundi moved, Mr. McCartney seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Extension Request of Dogwood Drive to April 30, 2020.

Mr. Grenier moved, Ms. Blundi seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Extension Request of Capstone Terrace to December 31, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gregory Eggert, 561 Keswick Drive, asked what new powers the Township and Chief of Police would have that they did not have before the Emergency Declaration. Chief Coluzzi stated this meeting is the first thing that they are doing that they would not ordinarily do if there was not the Disaster Declaration issued. He stated other areas of the Declaration involve costs and expenses since the Township will incur a great deal of expenses as a result of the COVID-10 virus, and we will be able to petition FEMA to be reimbursed for some of those expenses. He stated with regard to what the Township is now able to do legally involves keeping parks closed, trying to separate people who are gathering, and issues dealing with businesses that are non-compliant; and these are issues that they would not ordinarily do as a Police Department, but which they now have the authority to enforce.

Mr. Ferguson stated it is the Emergency Declaration that will allow the Township to apply for reimbursement for various expenses such as overtime and additional equipment they may have to purchase.

Mr. Zachary Rubin, 1661 Covington Road, commended the Board and the Township Manager for providing this format to reach the public.

Mr. Steven Severino, 1374 Revere Road, called back and asked about holding off on the Sandy Run Road project. He stated it has not been used for two to three years and there is “really not an urgency to get on Sandy Run right now.” He stated the Township could use the \$800,000 within the Township based on the current financial situation.

Mr. Ferguson stated any decision to delay the project would be up to the Board of Supervisors. He stated the project had been described as an interim measure and two roundabouts would be created one at Schuyler and one at Mill with the idea that would serve as a traffic-calming measure for speeds that are too high to allow for the road to be opened. He stated it would allow for right-in and right-out turns only. He stated if they are able to get the speeds down low enough, a more comprehensive road opening possibly including left-ins and left-outs could be allowed. He stated the challenge is that putting this project off and doing the broader project in the future would involve an indeterminant amount of time. He stated the estimate by the traffic engineer for the broader opening would involve raising Sandy Run Road higher to change the sight lines and carving down the hill coming off the train tracks and that would cost between \$7 million

and \$10 million. He stated what was proposed was seen as a way by which to get the road opened and see if this less expensive version would suffice and to see if right-in and right-out turns would be enough. He stated he would not want there to be a misperception that if they put this project off, they would be able to do the bigger \$7 to \$10 million project in the next few years; and in fact that would be a much longer time period and could result in the road staying closed for five to ten more years.

Mr. Severino stated he feels things have changed over the last few months and it has been revealed that the Township is not in a very strong financial position and there are also global issues. He stated he felt this would potentially move the Township to not spend this kind of money on a temporary solution. Mr. Ferguson stated that would be a discussion the Board may want to have about the merits of continuing with the proposed project.

Mr. Grenier stated Mr. Ferguson is looking at the projects and finances of the Township every day and considering making recommendations on projects that may need to be put on hold and schedules that may need to be changed. Mr. Grenier stated he is open to re-addressing Sandy Run Road if it is felt necessary, but he does want to get the road opened.

Mr. Ferguson stated Lower Makefield is in a different situation compared to many of the neighboring Townships since other Townships rely on an Earned Income Tax which is a volatile tax that can change dramatically given potential lay-offs. He stated Lower Makefield Township's tax is driven primarily on property taxes; and while those could be impacted, roughly 55% of taxpayers in Lower Makefield have their taxes escrowed and those payments will come in. Mr. Ferguson stated the volatile tax that is of concern is the Real Estate Transfer Tax which was budgeted at \$1.3 million. He stated in 2019 there were approximately 555 property sales; and while January and February of this year were on average what would be expected, that number could change in the future. He stated if that number is impacted by 50% that would be \$500,000 to \$600,000 and they will have to determine where the Township can offset that.

Mr. Ferguson stated he has already discussed the Park & Rec expenses related to the Pool. He stated he will have a discussion in the future with the Board as to measuring the impact and what the options will be.

Mr. Ferguson stated the RFP for Sandy Run Road is scheduled to be discussed on April 15. He stated this is an important project that has been discussed for a number of years, and there are those who are anxious to see that road re-opened.

Mr. Richard Garnier, 31 Homestead Drive, stated it was indicated that COVID-19 was costing the Township money, and he asked what they are doing to cut costs. He stated he feels they could cut costs by putting a break-away chain on Sandy Run Road so that an ambulance could get through, and just leave the road closed. Mr. Ferguson stated there are costs because of decreased revenue coming in when economic activity is decreased. He stated there are also costs associated with overtime necessary since they have had to put in measures to disinfect the Township Building/Police Department. He stated there are also costs related to extra protections that the Police Department has to take. He stated they will also be less efficient as to how the Public Works staff is engaged since they can only have one person per vehicle at all times. He stated a lot of work that needs to be done would involve three to four employees, and they will not be able to do that for the short term at least. He stated he is starting to track those expenses at this time.

Mr. Ferguson stated another loss they are faced with involves economic activity. He stated they are contemplating what they will do with the Pool which is challenging because it is self-sustaining, and they need all of the members to pay for those costs which are approximately \$1 million. He stated there are also staff costs assigned to the Pool, and they need to consider how to handle those negative numbers. He stated they are also discussing not purchasing certain equipment and not hiring summer workers to help with mowing, etc. and the full-time staff will be doing that. He stated they are also looking at holding off on proceeding with certain proposed projects such as the Trail Plan and the Memorial Park Plan, and that will be a discussion for the Board.

Mr. Ferguson stated the Township staff continues to work remotely adding the staff they currently have is lean. He stated the Police are able to handle the calls coming in, but there are only eleven Public Works employees for 130 miles of roads. He stated there is one Building Inspector and one Code Enforcement Officer, and one to two secretaries. He stated the goal is to keep the employees engaged and keep doing everything we have been doing. He stated they will continue to look for savings, and that will be a point of discussion going forward.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Discussion Regarding Face Value Collection for Property Taxes Being Extended From June 30 to July 31

Dr. Weiss stated he understands that the County Commissioners have made this decision; however, the Board should consider discussing the Pennsylvania Association of Tax Collectors' recommendation that we agree to extend this to December 31.

Mr. Ferguson stated the message that he had sent the Board originally was that the County Commissioners were considering extending the face period from June 30 to July 31. He stated they then indicated that they were contemplating taking that out to December 31. He stated they have since scaled back an expressed willingness to do that, and it is now back to July 31. Mr. Ferguson stated the County bill and the Municipal tax bill are on the same bill so the ability to have later dates becomes more complicated as to how a Tax Collector would manage that. He stated the most recent information is that the County is considering passing a Resolution to extend the face period from June 30 to July 31. He stated this Resolution, if passed, would then be made available to the Lower Makefield Board of Supervisors if we wish to participate along with the County to have the date of July 31. He stated the Tax Collectors for those Townships that are participating in this with the County would have the same due date for both of those taxes. Mr. Ferguson stated the Board could consider approving this at the April 15 meeting if the County has it available at that time.

Mr. Lewis stated he would be in favor of following the County's lead on extending the penalty period. He stated those looking for the 2% discount can still get that before April 30.

Mr. Grenier asked if there is a movement among the other Townships to try to convince the County to go later than July 31. Mr. Ferguson stated he feels the County's biggest concern was Tax Collectors putting different dates on the same bill which would be difficult to manage. He stated the Board of Supervisors could discuss this with the County Commissioners to get their insight as nothing has been passed yet. Mr. Grenier stated he would be in favor of extending it as long as possible in line with the County.

Dr. Weiss stated he feels the Board agrees that they want to do whatever they can do to help the residents. He stated they will wait for the County Commissioners to make their decision. Mr. Truelove stated he believes that the County Commissioners have a meeting today, and he could contact the County tomorrow to see what was done. Dr. Weiss suggested that the Township send a letter to the Commissioners indicating that the Township supports the longest delay possible before issuing penalties, and other Board members asked that be done.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Mr. Grenier noted that there are vacancies on several Township Boards including the Sewer Authority and the Electricity Reliability Committee. He stated those interested should check the Township Website for information.

Mr. Lewis stated the Zoning Hearing Board is considering potentially providing remote meeting access to address concerns where possible for property owners who need to make repairs and need Zoning Variances. He stated while the Zoning Hearing Board meeting of April 7 has been canceled, there are discussions about how a meeting similar to tonight's meeting could be done for the Zoning Hearing Board in the future. He stated he will advise the Board if there is a resolution on this as the solicitor for the Zoning Hearing Board is working on that.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

James McCartney, Secretary