

Howe Township
January 4, 2024

The Howe Township Board of Supervisors met in regular session at the Hope Eternal Church at 2 Burd Rd, Newport at 5:18 p.m. on Thursday, January 4, 2024. Present: Chairman Dale Beaver, Vice Chairman Charles Burd, Secretary/Treasurer Nancy Cangoli, James Strong-McNees, Wallace and Nurick LLC, Nancy Beaver, Herb Stoner, Juanita Zeigler, Steve and Amy Smith.

Chairman Beaver called the meeting to order. Secretary Cangoli called the roll. All Supervisors were present with one vacancy.

Chairman Beaver suspended the business meeting at 5:18 p.m. to open the public hearing on the Amendment to Signs of Section 14 of the Zoning Ordinance replacing it in its entirety. The hearing was properly advertised as required. Secretary Cangoli verified no letters or emails were received. Chairman Beaver called for testimony from the public. Hearing no testimony Chairman Beaver closed the public hearing at 5:21 p.m. and reopened the business meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the December 7, 2023 meeting as presented; Burd/Beaver. Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills as presented; Burd/Beaver. Motion carried.

A motion was made to accept Steve Smith's resignation by letter from the Zoning Hearing Board effective December 31, 2023; Burd/Beaver. Motion carried.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution 24-03 appointing Steve Smith to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Kathy Donahey in the office of Supervisor until the first Monday in January 2026; Beaver/Burd. Motion carried. Steve provided his Oath of Office form to Secretary Cangoli and was properly seated.

GENERAL GOOD AND WELFARE

Solicitor Jamie Strong with the firm McNess, Wallace and Nurick, LLC representing Access Commercial Development addressed the Board regarding the current building height requirement in the Commercial District which is 30'. A proposed text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to increase the building height to 60' has been drafted by Solicitor Strong. He is requesting the Board authorize Solicitor Jones to finalize the draft text amendment and forward to the Planning Commission and the Perry County Planning Commission for review and to schedule a public hearing. A motion was made to authorize Solicitor Jones to draft the text amendment ordinance to increase the building height to 60' in the Commercial District and to clean up the definition of Height of Buildings in the Zoning Ordinance and to advertise a public hearing for February 15, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.; Beaver/ Smith. Motion carried. Solicitor Jones will advertise the hearing.

Sewage Enforcement Officer Herb Stoner addressed the Board regarding removing Ten Acre Lot Exemption for On-Lot sewage systems ordinance. Solicitor Jones will advertise it for the Board to adopt on February 15, 2024. The letters for Zone 2 pump outs will go out at the end of March. Their regular meeting will be held January 24, 2024 with a snow date of February 24, 2024. The alternate SEO is Bob Kratzer. Herb will be doing home inspections for the Municipal Authority until July.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion was made to adopt Ordinance 24-01 amending Article 14-Signs of the Zoning Ordinance deleting the current language in its entirety and replacing it with the new Article 14-Signs; Beaver/Burd. Motion carried.

The AutoZone plans and Developer's Agreement have been signed. The financial Security has also been received.

The Developer's Agreement needs to be notarized by both parties and recorded however and is in the process of being corrected.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made to pay for room accommodations for 3 nights at the PSATS Conference for Chairman Beaver: Burd/Smith. Motion carried.

There is a vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board that needs filled.

Employee performance appraisals are due by January 31.

A motion was made to authorize Supervisor Steve Smith to attend a PSATS Boot Camp in Boalsburg on February 3 and February 10, 2024, the 2nd and 3rd sessions or whichever location he can get in and if he is available; Beaver/Burd. Motion carried.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Draft minutes of the December 18, 2023 meeting have been submitted. Supervisor Burd reviewed them with the Board.

A motion was made to accept Keith Sheaffer's resignation from the HTMA by letter effective December 31, 2023; Beaver/Burd with regret. Motion carried.

A motion was made to appoint Joshua Hitz to Keith Sheaffer's unexpired term; Beaver/Burd. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR REPORT

The EPREMA by-laws need minor changes and Chairman Beaver is waiting to receive those changes to send to Solicitor Jones. Their meeting date has been changed to the 4th Tuesday of each month, as needed.

ZONING REPORT

No permits were issued for December. The 2023 annual report was furnished from Ck COG.

PLANNING COMMISSION

A motion was made to appoint Supervisor Steve Smith as the Board Representative to the Planning Commission; Beaver/Burd. Motion carried. A meeting was held December 18, 2023 to review the amendment to Article 14-Signs of the in the Zoning Ordinance. A motion was made to re-approve the Larry and Theresa Moyer subdivision plan due to the 90-day time limit to record the plan missed by Burget & Associates: Burd/Smith. Motion carried.

ROAD MASTER

The Bus Stop signs and posts were installed per PennDOT regulations at 90 Juniata Parkway E. by the roadcrew. The garage inventory is scheduled to be completed by the end of January. Chairman Beaver is developing new forms. The salt shed roof has been repaired. There has been no response from LTAP or the PennDOT representative on the Church Rd speed humps liquid fuels funding and is pending.

Chairman Beaver adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Cangioli, Secretary