

**PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
APRIL 14, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 via Telephone Conference Zoom Meeting Call-In Number: (888) 788-0099 (US Toll Free)

Conference ID: 391 592 5613 (Press # when prompted)

In accordance with Governor Wolf's ongoing COVID-19 pandemic emergency declaration by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Plainfield Township officials are holding this regular meeting utilizing the Zoom authorized telecommunication device platform only. Remote meetings are permitted under the provisions of Act 15 of 2020 (Health Care Cost Containment Act). The Board of Supervisors will not be physically present at this meeting. This public meeting will be recorded. We kindly ask that all interested parties participating via the dedicated conference call line to only speak during the sections of the meeting that are specifically reserved for public comment or when prompted by the Chairman and to also state your name each time you are speaking. Members of the public and all interested parties will have the opportunity to comment via the telephone conference call prior to any official action taking place and during the Citizen's Agenda/Non-Agenda portion of the meeting. Anyone intentionally disrupting the meeting will be promptly muted and/or ejected from the call.

Chairman, Randy Heard, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

ROLL CALL:

The following Supervisors answered roll call: Chairman Randy Heard, Vice Chairman Glenn Borger, Supervisor Jane Mellert, Supervisor Stephen Hurni and Supervisor Joyce Lambert.

Also present were Township Manager Thomas Petrucci and Solicitor David Backenstoe.

- *Now that the roll call of the Board of Supervisors is completed, we will proceed with a roll call of all members of the public who are participating on this call. Please state your name(s) one at a time so the Township can make sure that your participation is recognized.*

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE:

Chuck Piazza, Resident
Robert Cornman, Resident

Adrienne Fors, on behalf of Waste Management
Ron Carlson, on behalf of Advanced Disposal
Sam Augustine, on behalf of J.P. Mascaro
Al DeGennaro, on behalf of J.P. Mascaro
Paul Rinaldi, Jr., Resident
Alex Cortezzo, Fire Chief

I. TOWNSHIP MANAGER – THOMAS PETRUCCI:

1. Approval of the March 10, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes (DRAFT):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Jane Mellert to approve the March 10, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

2. Notification of December 8th, 2021 Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting Reschedule Date to December 15th, 2021:

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Randy Heard to approve changing the meeting date of the December 8th, 2021 Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting to December 15th, 2021.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

3. Resolution No. 2021-14: Opposition Against Local Government Fee to Fund State Police:

Tom Petrucci stated that Plainfield Township would have to pay \$25,232.23 under the Governor's budget proposal to help fund the State Police. The overall intent of the proposed Resolution No. 2021-14 is to state that the Township should not be responsible to help support the funding of the State Police, as the Township already funds a full-time (24/7) police department.

ACTION: Motion was made by Jane Mellert and seconded by Stephen Hurni to approve Resolution No. 2021-14 as submitted.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

4. Resolution No. 2021-15: A Resolution Supporting House Bill 606 and Senate Bill 419 (Local Municipal Usage of Radar):

ACTION: Motion was made by Joyce Lambert and seconded by Stephen Hurni to approve Resolution No. 2021-15 as submitted.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Prior to the vote, it was noted that the House Bill is essentially the same as the Senate Bill. There are no major substantive differences.

Resident, Chuck Piazza, inquired as to whether there will be grant funding for this project. Tom Petrucci stated that would likely be the case- also noting that the legislation as proposed limits the municipal share of the fine revenue to no more than ten percent (10%) of a municipality's overall budget. Mr. Piazza expressed a concern that this legislation could be used to obtain more revenue on a statewide basis.

Stephen Hurni stated that just because the Township has the option to utilize radar, does not necessarily mean it will definitely occur. The Slate Belt Regional Police Commission will need to consider all intended and unintended consequences prior to implementing this method of speed enforcement (if adopted by the House of Representatives and Senate).

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

5. 550 Male Road Industrial Land Development Conditional Approval: Approval of Six (6) Month Time Extension to November 28, 2021:

ACTION: Motion was made by Randy Heard and seconded by Stephen Hurni to approve an extension of time for the 550 Male Road Industrial Land Development, which is currently conditionally approved, until November 28, 2021.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

6. Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania: Notification of Girl Scout Award – Elizabeth Kondisko (266 Sycamore Court, Wind Gap, PA 18091):

ACTION: Motion was made by Jane Mellert and seconded by Randy Heard to approve sending Plainfield Township resident Elizabeth Kondisko a citation for her achievement of obtaining the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

II. TREASURER – KATELYN KOPACH:

1. Approval of the March, 2021 General Fund Disbursements (\$275,795.29):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Joyce Lambert to approve the March, 2021 General Fund Disbursements in the amount of \$257,712.02.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

2. Approval of the March, 2021 Treasurer's Report:

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Joyce Lambert to approve the March, 2021 Treasurer's Report.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

3. Approval of the following Real Estate Tax Refunds:

- 4.40 for 511 Clyde Street
- \$10.36 for 5664 Sullivan Trail
- \$10.00 for 481 Belfast Road

ACTION: Motion was made by Randy Heard and seconded by Joyce Lambert to approve the Real Estate Tax refunds, as listed.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

III. TOWNSHIP ENGINEER – MICHAEL KUKLES:

1. Getz Road Culvert Replacement Project – Status Update (Project Start Date of Monday, April 12, 2021)

Township Engineer Mike Kukles reported that he and Tom Petrucci had attended a pre-construction conference with the site contractor on Monday, April 12, 2021. The project is on track to be completed on or before June 30, 2021. The contractor is working with Met-Ed to relocate one of the poles that is located near the new culvert structure. The new utility pole has been placed, and the contractor is waiting for Met-Ed to come back and energize the new pole. There will be a power outage for a period of three (3) hours. It was noted that impacted residents should be notified of the power outage.

IV. TOWNSHIP MANAGER – THOMAS PETRUCCI:

1. Slate Belt Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan – Monthly Update:
 - The next meeting of Plan Slate Belt is tentatively scheduled for June 2, 2021 (6:00 PM) at the Weona Park Bandshell- not May 5, 2021.
2. Plainfield Township Act 537 Official Plan Update – Monthly Briefing:
 - Comments submitted by Plainfield Township Planning Commission/LVPC are currently being addressed by the plan consultant, Entech Engineering.
3. Plainfield Township MS4/Stormwater Management Program – Monthly Briefing:

Mr. Petrucci did not provide a report at this time.

4. **Review and Consideration of Contract Award: Solicitation of Bids for Collection, Transportation, and Disposal of Residential/Municipal Solid Waste and Recyclables in Plainfield Township- Bid Results- March 19, 2021 Bid Opening (12:00 PM):**

Plainfield Township had advertised an Invitation to Bid/Notice to Bidders for the above-referenced bid in the *Express Times* newspaper on February 17, 2021 and February 24, 2021 as required by the Second Class Township Code. The bids were opened by the Township Manager as the authorized designee of the Board of Supervisors on March 19, 2021 at approximately 12:00 PM by way of the PennBid program (<https://pennbid.procureware.com>).

The bid tabulation is provided for reference and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A". J.P. Mascaro was the lowest responsible bidder.

It is noted that representatives of both Advanced Disposal (Ron Carson) and J.P. Mascaro (Sam Augustine and Al DeGennaro) were present on the call.

The Board of Supervisors engaged in discussion regarding the service options for the contract in accordance with the bid (including bi-weekly vs. weekly recycling, the volume of solid waste collected,

Residents Chuck Piazza and Paul Rinaldi, Jr. both expressed the sentiment that weekly recycling is more of a benefit than bi-weekly recycling based on the cost difference. The expressed concern was that residents will recycle less if bi-weekly recycling is utilized as opposed to weekly recycling.

Al DeGennaro from J.P. Mascaro provided data that supported the weekly recycling versus bi-weekly recycling argument in favor of weekly recycling.

The contributing factors identified by J.P. Mascaro representatives as to why the current bid under consideration increased from the previous solid waste/recycling contract, which was a total of five (5) years:

- Current labor market has made it difficult to hire sanitation workers and CDL drivers.
- Increased costs of recycling.
- Increased costs of employee benefits.

Following discussion, the Board members took formal official action to award the Solicitation of Bids for Collection, Transportation, and Disposal of Residential/Municipal Solid Waste and Recyclables in Plainfield Township Contract.

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to award the Solicitation of Bids for Collection, Transportation, and Disposal of Residential/Municipal Solid Waste and Recyclables in Plainfield Township

Contract to J.P. Mascaro for in the total amount of \$2,576,331.36 for Base Bid 1A and Billing Option A as set forth within 3.1 of the Detailed Specifications and the Schedule of Prices (Attachment C-1), which is summarized as follows:

Reference Number	Type	UOM	Quantity	J. P. Mascaro & Sons
Base Bid 1A (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)	Base	Lump Sum	1	\$847,071.36
Base Bid 1A (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023)	Base	Lump Sum	1	\$857,446.92
Base Bid 1A (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024)	Base	Lump Sum	1	\$871,813.08
Base Bid 1A Optional Per-Container Collection Service Charge	Option	Lump Sum	1	\$3.00

NOTE: Pursuant to the Bidding Documents/Detailed Specifications/Contract, the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors, in their sole discretion, retains the right to award the two (2) one (1) year option periods (Option Year 1 (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025) and Option Year 2 (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026) as set forth in the Schedule of Prices (Attachment C-1), identified as follows:

- Bid 1A (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025) (Option Year 1): \$898,949.16 (if approved by Township)
- Base Bid 1A (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026) (Option Year 2): \$930,607.92 (if approved by Township)

However, it is important to identify that Option Year 1 and Option Year 2 were not awarded as part of the Contract approved by the Board of Supervisors at this time.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

5. ***Authorization for Advertisement:*** 2021 Road Paving Program (State Liquid Fuels Portion) Grand Central Road (T-641) Scratch/Leveling and Wearing Courses

ACTION: Motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Jane Mellert to approve advertising a competitive bid package to resurface Grand Central Road using State Liquid Fuels funding.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

It was identified that Grand Central Road is in poor condition, and that this is the only project that will be bid out for road work for outside contractors to complete this year. All other road work is projected to be completed in-house utilizing Road Department personnel.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

6. **Authorization for Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) Advertisement:** Municipal Uses Zoning Ordinance Amendment:

ACTION: Motion was made by Joyce Lambert and seconded by Jane Mellert to approve advertising the Municipal Uses Ordinance Amendment in accordance with the requirements of the MPC.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

6. **Consideration of Professional Services Contract Award:** Plainfield Township Clean Fill Regulations Ordinance Professional Planning Consulting Services (Recommendation of Environmental Advisory Council):

ACTION: Motion was made by Jane Mellert and seconded by Joyce Lambert to award the Plainfield Township Clean Fill Regulations Ordinance Professional Planning Consulting Services Professional Services Contract to URDC in the amount of \$20,000.00, as recommended by the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC).

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Stephen Hurni questioned why URDC was recommended by the EAC. Tom Petrucci stated that the primary factor for the award was the Township's familiarity with URDC, as well as URDC's demonstrated knowledge of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regulations that will guide this project as it moves forward.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

7. **Consideration of Approval: Aesthetic Timber Barrier Placement at Knitter's Hill Recreation Trail Parking Lot/Trailhead – reviewed/recommended by Recreation Board:**

Tom Petrucci stated that he, Zoning Officer Sharon Pletchan and Road Department Foreman Larry Sapone had recently visited the Knitter's Hill Recreation Trail Parking Lot/Trailhead, and it was apparent that there is a more long-term solution that could be configured for this site. It is apparent that more parking spaces could be added at this location.

This matter was tabled until additional information is received.

8. **Consideration of Approval: PennDOT Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement {required as per Publication 191: Traffic Signal Maintenance Manual (12-20)} and Resolution No. 2021-16:**

PennDOT had recently issued a directive to all municipalities that own and maintain signalized intersections to execute a Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement. This is a new requirement, and Tom Petrucci had forwarded the draft Agreement to Solicitor Backenstoe for his review. Solicitor Dave Backenstoe asked for the Board of Supervisors to table this matter indefinitely until he could discuss the proposed language with the general legal counsel of PennDOT. The identified concern of Solicitor Backenstoe was that the Agreement grants indemnification and protection to PennDOT in perpetuity. He would at least like some language that protects the Township should the underlying statute change. He identified the fact that if the Township agrees to this document as drafted, the Township would be stuck.

Stephen Hurni postulated that PennDOT should spend more time fixing roads than crafting legal agreements, and that the Township should communicate this sentiment to local legislators.

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Randy Heard to to table the PennDOT Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement matter indefinitely.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

9. **Consideration of Approval:** 2021-2022 Winter Season De-Icing Road Salt Bid:

ACTION: Motion was made by Randy Heard and seconded by Stephen Hurni to approve advertising the 2021-2022 Winter Season De-Icing Road Salt Bid.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

10. **Confirmation/Approval:** Municipal Park Pavilion Design (2019 Liveable Landscapes Grant) – reviewed/recommended by Recreation Board:

ACTION: Motion was made by Joyce Lambert and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve the procurement of the following COSTARS price quotation from George Ely Associates/Willow Playworks for a 20' x 36' pavilion (including Prevailing Wages labor) and to authorize the Township Manager and Township Engineer to proceed with all necessary zoning/planning requirements for this project:

- 20' x 36' pavilion- \$16,323.00
- Installation- \$25,225.00
- Excavation/Site Work- \$8,250.00
- Concrete Pad- \$9,500.00
- Total- \$59,298.00

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Stephen Hurni inquired as to the Township's cost of this project, and it was identified that the matching funds grant cost is just under \$35,000.00 in total.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

11. **Confirmation/Approval:** Community Park Pavilion Program of Areas (prepared by USA Architects) – reviewed/recommended by Recreation Board:

ACTION: Motion was made by Randy Heard and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve of the proposed Program Areas for the Community Park Pavilion prepared and submitted by USA Architects, provided that the architect justifies the listed square footage items (i.e. identify the statute or professional guidance). In accordance with the recommendation of the Recreation Board, the facility should provide at least one (1) more female lavatory and one (1) more male lavatory, provided this addition does not cause a change to the size and cost of the septic system. Following the approval of the Program of Area, the floor plans will be reviewed by the Township (and this may cause additional comments to be generated). It also recommended that security control provisions (i.e. cameras, etc.) be accounted for at the Community Park Pavilion facility during the design/planning phase.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Stephen Hurni stressed the need for security at the Community Park Pavilion.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

12. **Acceptance of Road Department Employee Resignation:** Received March 29, 2021 (Last Day of Employment was April 9, 2021):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Randy Heard to formally accept the resignation of Road Department Laborer employee Ryan Hester, who had submitted a resignation letter on March 29, 2021. His last day of employment was April 9, 2021.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

13. **Consideration of Approval of Sealed Bid Submission:** 2008 Old Dominion Self Contained Leaf Collector (Slate Belt Council of Governments) (due on or before April 28, 2021 at 12:00 PM Noon):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Randy Heard to authorize the Township Manager (Tom Petrucci) to utilize his discretion and best judgment to submit a sealed bid at a figure that he determines to be fiscally

appropriate to the Slate Belt Council of Governments for one (1) of the 2008 Old Dominion Self Contained Leaf Collectors.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

14. **Consideration of Approval: Snow Removal on Recreation Trail (designating the Knitter's Hill Recreation Trail Parking Lot/Trailhead to Buss Street corridor as the unplowed country skiing area)- reviewed/recommended by Recreation Board:**

Citing that the Road Department does not have sufficient time and the traditional practice of residents to use the Recreation Trail for cross country skiing, the Board of Supervisors were not inclined to approve this policy. Additionally, the question was raised whether or not the Township will incur any additional liability of plowing the Trail. Solicitor Backenstoe stated that if the Road Department plows the trail and creates an unsafe condition (icy and slippery areas) that otherwise would not have existed, the Township may in fact incur more potential liability.

Resident, Chuck Piazza, stated that there is some chance that the Recreation Trail could face more damage if the Road Department plows the narrow trail.

BOARD AND FIRE COMPANY AND AMBULANCE REPORTS:

1. Planning and Zoning Report- March, 2021
2. Road Department Report- March, 2021
3. Fire Company and Ambulance Report- March, 2021
4. Recreation Board Report- March, 2021

ACTION: Motion was made by Randy Heard and seconded by Joyce Lambert to approve the March, 2021 Reports as listed and presented.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

SLATE BELT REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

1. Slate Belt Regional Police Department Monthly Report- March, 2021:

ACTION: Motion was made by Randy Heard and seconded by Joyce Lambert to approve the March, 2021 Slate Belt Regional Police Department Monthly Report as listed and presented.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Randy Heard, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

CITIZEN'S AGENDA/NON-AGENDA:

The questions, concerns and comments of residents/meeting participants were stated during other various portions of the meeting.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

1. *Randy Heard, Chairman*- No report.
2. *Glenn Borger, Vice Chairman*- Mr. Borger stated that there is a definite need for security at Community Park given a recent vandalism event (rutting of the athletic fields) which had occurred. Tom Petrucci will explore options for enhancing the security at Community Park and report back to the Board of Supervisors. Resident, Chuck Piazza, inquired whether internet would be required for the cameras, and Tom Petrucci stated that it would be required to interface with the existing cameras. He also added that internet is able to be added at the location.
3. *Joyce Lambert*- No report.
4. *Jane Mellert*- No report.
5. *Stephen Hurni*- Mr. Hurni reported that there is nothing to report concerning the ongoing arbitration decision for the Slate Belt Regional Police Department.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT- DAVID BACKENSTOE, ESQUIRE:

Solicitor Backenstoe did not have any additional agenda items besides what was already addressed during the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, motion was made by Glenn Borger and seconded by Joyce Lambert to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Petrucci
Township Manager/Secretary
Plainfield Township
Board of Supervisors