

DON GRAY

CAPITAL TOWNSHIP CLERK

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MINUTES

CAPITAL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MAY 10, 2021

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Capital Township Board of Trustees met by phone due to the Governor’s Executive Shelter in Place Order regarding COVID-19. The following members answered to roll call: Joe Aiello, Richard Berning, Brad Carlson, Alysse Aiello Hewell, and Lakeisha Purchase. Mark Crawford, Judy Johnson, Susan Shea, and Jessica Blackford Cleeton were also present.

A motion was made by Trustee Purchase, seconded by Trustee Berning, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Upon a roll call vote, there were 5 Yeas - 0 Nays, for approval of the minutes.

A motion was made by Trustee Aiello Hewell, seconded by Trustee Carlson, to approve payment of the Supervisor/Collector/General Assistance Administration Expenditures, in the amount of \$13,749.46. Upon a roll call vote, there were 5 Yeas – 0 Nays.

A motion was made by Trustee Berning, seconded by Trustee Purchase, to approve payment of the Township Clerk/Township Assessor’s Administration Expenditures, in the amount of \$951.50. Upon a roll call vote, there were 5 Yeas – 0 Nays.

REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL

There was no report from legal counsel.

ENOS PARK TIF DISTRICT

Supervisor Aiello stated he sent each of them an email with items to consider. One of the items they discussed was the performance of the TIF Districts. They have discussed the idea of going forward and creating a smoother transition for the TIF districts because there are some that have tried to create their own agreements with the City of Springfield. In fact, the school

district and park district have come to an agreement. There are still two outstanding letters, which are from Capital Township and the Sanitary District. There has been a lot of discussion concerning TIF districts and how they can make things better going forward. What is important for them is to make sure the TIF districts are doing what they were intended to do, and to see if they can do better. This has given them the opportunity to take a look at TIF districts locally. He has put some things together for the group that shows performance on the TIF districts. The question is how they make improvements to create a smoother transition going forward when each of these expire. They know there are several TIF districts expiring in the City of Springfield and countywide within the next 10 years. If TIF districts are done properly, they help to spur growth and clean up neighborhoods, but the question is how they do it going forward. He emailed a list of items to each of the trustees at about 11:45 a.m. today. Obviously, there is a lot there to digest. He would like to open it up for discussion.

Trustee Purchase stated she just got the email at 11:42 and did not have a chance to review it before the meeting. Supervisor Aiello stated he does not think they need to make a decision on this today. They need to talk about the items, which are things they talked about before, and how to move forward with the City regarding a little more accountability. Trustee Purchase said Mr. Aiello was going to put a letter together because he had a lot of different entities together and they all discussed concerns they were going to put in a letter. She asked if that is what the email is stating. Trustee Aiello stated he and his staff conducted further review, and they identified a variety of things where performance is not where it should be. The initial intent has not been met. In fact, sometimes the intent of the TIF districts gets somewhat blurred, and the original intent is sometimes forgotten over time. He would like to go through these items and discuss them then maybe come back later on Thursday, June 20th. In the meantime, they can firm up an agreement to present to the City of Springfield. The more review he and his staff did, the more things they found. There are issues concerning performance in TIF Districts along with other items. They can implement these and move forward in a more positive way and create growth so taxing bodies do not have to go through this every time they renew.

Trustee Purchase asked Supervisor Aiello for clarification if he wants to discuss this with the trustees and then present it on the 20th. Supervisor Aiello stated he would, but it is at the will of the trustees. They can create a document and maybe ratify it on May 20th. He did talk to Representative Butler, so there is still time on that. Trustee Purchase asked if he has talked to the other legislatures as well. Supervisor Aiello stated he talked to the sponsor of the legislation, Tim Butler, but not to all of the others.

Trustee Berning stated he would have a conflict on May 20th. He has not had time to absorb all the information he sent. He asked questions regarding the EAV. Supervisor Aiello explained information from the email. The bullet points listed in the report should make it easier for everyone. Trustee Berning stated they do need to take a hard look at this. He has family that lived in the Enos Park area. This seems to be worse than he thought it might be.

Supervisor Aiello explained since their last discussion on this, they revealed things that are a little more troubling than they thought. These are times where they have to be very prudent and frugal with their dollars. If they are going to invest in a third party entity to create growth then they do need growth and they do need to look at this.

Supervisor Aiello asked if May 19th or 21st at Noon would work for the next meeting. All the trustees agreed to May 19, 2021 at Noon for the next meeting. Supervisor Aiello stated he thinks it will be important for them to take a hard look at this. A lot of hard work went into this. He thanked Mark Crawford for his work on this. They have identified areas that are weak and need to be strengthened. If they do not do anything, they will not have the growth they intended for this area. They are for economic development and growth. They will need feedback from the group. As a group, they can vote on it and put together some sort of a document. He will work with legal counsel on it as well so they have something to review and vote on May 19th.

Trustee Carlson stated there is an initiative by their Comptroller to address these types of issues. This TIF legislation addresses some of the questions. They could maybe spell it out a little more on the bullet points.

Trustee Berning stated if this thing is not working then maybe there is another road they should be taking. If they are doing their job, they need to make sure people understand what this is all about. This is about spending money wisely and making the city grow. He has been around long enough to know there were some unwise expenditures.

Trustee Purchase wanted to clarify she is all for this but can't give much input because she just received the email at 11:42. It may be a good idea for this body to take a look at what is going on currently to renew the TIF. Supervisor Aiello stated it has been clear over the years that TIF's cause some angst and taxing bodies have issues with it. He wants them to study this document and provide their input. This is their opportunity to help TIF districts fix their issues. This is a working document. They can work together to get something into the hands of the City of Springfield.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Aiello reported that they continue to help where they can with the homeless initiative. They are helping to provide lunches to the homeless at Helping Hands. Josh Sabo, who works for Heartland Continuum of Care, has insight on the homeless situation. They can put him on the Agenda in June.

Trustee Purchase asked what they provide and who takes it in. Supervisor Aiello stated they deliver it from various restaurants at about 11:30 a.m. Some of the restaurants include Café Moxo, Jungle Jims, and Boyd's. They get a headcount from Helping Hands. The count has went down to 25 people from 50 or 60. He will send something out this week on the Continuum of Care with their mission statement.

Trustee Berning stated they are going to Phase 4 on June 11th and by Phase 5 they could be back in the County Building for the meetings. Supervisor Aiello stated they would be working with the County Board office to conduct the meetings in the chambers.

Supervisor Aiello stated they are also taking a look at all clients and the workfare employees, and they have done field audits. They are looking to see if they are the best employers for their clients and are looking at some sort of job fair to promote availability of workfare jobs. Trustee Purchase asked how the situation is going with Miss D's Kitchen. She asked if they got someone over there. Supervisor Aiello stated he is not sure but will follow up on that.

Trustee Berning thanked Trustee Aiello Hewell for her service on the board. This will be her last meeting. Trustee Carlson, Trustee Purchase, and Supervisor Aiello also thanked her for her service on the board. Trustee Aiello Hewell thanked them all and expressed her appreciation for everything.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Trustee Aiello Hewell, seconded by Trustee Berning & Trustee Purchase, to adjourn the meeting to May 19, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. Upon a roll call vote, there were 5 Yeas – 0 Nays.

Don Gray
Town Clerk