

Harrison Township
Regular Meeting
March 28, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Harrison Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairman Gary Meanor.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call – Gary Meanor, Chuck Dizard, Eric Bengel, Jim Erb and Jamie Nee responded to roll call. Township Solicitor Emily Mueller was also present.

Remarks from Visitors

Bill Godfrey spoke on behalf of Natrona Comes Together. He announced the 2022 Easter Egg Hunt, reminded the Township to winterize the water lines, and asked if the Township would consider renting a port-a-john for the summer activities.

Trisha Ritchie spoke on behalf of Building Blocks of Natrona, announcing that they would like to start the food program, beginning June 6th through June 29th, Monday through Friday, times to be determined.

Mr. Dizard moved to approve the Bills Payable for March 2022 in the amount of \$42,228.30 from the General Fund, and \$19,223.60 from the Bond Account. Seconded by Dr. Bengel. Motion carried.

Mr. Dizard moved to approve the Paid bills to be Ratified for February 2022 in the amount of \$79,003.99. Seconded by Mrs. Nee. Motion carried.

Ch. Meanor announced that the Board of Commissioners have held Executive Sessions to address personnel issues.

Presentation by Courtney Mahronich Vita, Director of Trail Development, Friends of the Riverfront. She spoke regarding the trail and the Kayak launch in Natrona.

Mr. Dizard moved to adopt Resolution No. 1895 – Request a Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program grant of \$71,153.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Natrona Riverfront Phase 2 Trail Head. Seconded by Mrs. Nee. Motion carried.

Mr. Dizard moved to adopt Resolution No. 1896 – Request a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant to undertake the project “Natrona Riverfront Phase 2 Trail Head. Seconded by Mrs. Nee. Motion carried.

Dr. Bengel moved to approve the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement between Harrison Township and AFSCME Local 238 for the Public Works Employees effective January 1, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Erb. Motion carried.

Mr. Dizard made a motion to request the Engineer to file an application for funds from Act 152 of Allegheny County Economic Development for Demolition Projects. Seconded by Mrs. Nee. Motion carried.

Dr. Bengel made a motion to award the 2022 Road Paving Program to the low bidder, A. Liberoni, Inc. for the base bid in the amount of \$439,050.96 and the alternate bid in the amount of \$42,872.75 (the alternate bid to be paid by the Water Authority) as approved by the Engineer. Seconded by Mr. Dizard. Motion carried.

Mr. Erb moved to appoint John Pallone to the position of Township Manager, at an annual salary of \$80,000, subject to the execution of an employment contract with the Township. Seconded by Mr. Dizard. Motion carried.

Mr. Dizard moved to adopt Resolution No. 1897 – to appoint John Pallone to the positions of Chief Administrative Officer of the Police Pension Plan and the Nonuniformed Pension Plan, and to remove Richard Hill, Jr. from the position. Seconded by Dr. Bengel. Motion carried.

Dr. Bengel moved to appoint John Pallone as the Right to Know Officer and remove Richard Hill, Jr. as the Right to Know Officer. Seconded by Mr. Erb. Motion carried.

Ch. Meanor said I want to recognize Chief Klein and several of the Officers. There's been a lot of crime in our neighborhoods. A lot of this stuff gets criticized and goes unrecognized. We're very fortunate to have the Police Department that we have, they don't get the recognition that they deserve, and I want to thank Chief Klein and all of the Officers involved, Sgt. Chris Cottone, Sgt. Justin Bouch. Sgt. Brian Turack, Detective Joe Signorella, Patrolmen Dan Olszewski, Matt Ellinger, Colten Stebler, Doug Helgert and Neal Mackowski.

Dr. Bengel echoed these comments, and stated that we have a very good police force.

A resident stated that she also feels that we have a good police department.

Mr. Erb made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Dr. Bengel. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST:


Township Secretary

TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON

Chairman, Board of Commissioners