

SPECIAL MEETING HELD DECEMBER 3, 2024 6:00PM

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF TATE TOWNSHIP MET IN SPECIAL SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: TRUSTEE WILSON, TRUSTEE STEIMLE, TRUSTEE DURBIN. FISCAL OFFICER KATHY BRANNOCK WAS ALSO PRESENT.

AFTER THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, PRAYER WAS LED BY JOHN WILSON.

VISITORS: BETTY ARMACOST KATE MARTIN ED STANLEY

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS THE USE OF ARPA FUNDS.

TRUSTEE STEIMLE EXPLAINED THAT THE REMAINING ARPA FUNDS MUST BE OBLIGATED BY THE END OF THIS YEAR AND USED BY THE END OF 2025. THE TRUSTEES WANT TO USE THE FUNDS FOR THE BEST BENEFIT FOR THE TOWNSHIP. THEY ARE LOOKING AT ROAD IMPROVEMENTS. ANOTHER ACCEPTABLE IDENTIFIED PURPOSE IS UPDATING THE ZONING CODE. IT HAS BEEN TWENTY YEARS SINCE IT WAS LAST UPDATED. TRUSTEE DURBIN STATED THAT UPDATING THE CODE AND HAVING A LAND USE PLAN IS NECESSARY TO GET SEWERS ON STATE ROUTE 125. THE LAND USE PLAN WAS DRAWN UP IN 1997 AND NEEDS TO BE UPDATED. TRUSTEE STEIMLE HAS SPOKEN TO LIZ FIELDS WITH MCBRIDE DALE CLARION. SHE IS EXPERIENCED AS A PLANNER IN PUBLIC SECTOR. TRUSTEE STEIMLE EXPLAINED THE TOWNSHIP'S NEED TO HER. SHE ASKED HER FOR AN ESTIMATED COST TO DO AN INITIAL EVALUATION OF THE ZONING CODE AND LAND USE PLAN AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH A RANGE OF OPTIONS. THE PLANNING COMMISSION WOULD BE WORKING WITH THE CONSULTANT BUT THE TRUSTEES MUST APPROVE THE FUNDING. THE GOAL IS TO HAVE A RANGE OF OPTIONS TO CONSIDER, AND TRUSTEE STEIMLE HAS ASKED FOR THE OPTIONS BY DECEMBER 10. HOWEVER, THAT IS A VERY QUICK TURNAROUND TIME, AND SO IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO HAVE A SPECIAL MEETING. THE ANTICIPATED COST FOR THE INITIAL EVALUATION IS BETWEEN \$2,000 AND \$5,000. TRUSTEE STEIMLE RECOMMENDED ALLOCATING UP TO \$5,000 TOWARD THE COST OF THE EVALUATION AND ANYTHING NOT EXPENDED OF THAT AMOUNT CAN EITHER BE USED IN THE ZONING CODE UPDATE (IF IT IS DECIDED THAT BE DONE) OR IT CAN BE USED TOWARD ROADS.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE TOWNSHIP'S CURRENT BUDGET DOES NOT ALLOW FOR THE COST OF THE ZONING CODE UPDATE, AND SO IF THE BOARD WANTS THE ZONING CODE UPDATE, THE ONLY AVENUE IS TO USE SOME PORTION OF THE ARPA FUNDS.

TRUSTEE WILSON STATED THAT BEFORE THE COUNTY WILL UPGRADE THE SEWER, THIS NEEDS TO BE DONE. TRUSTEE STEIMLE STATED THAT IT MAY NEED TO BE DONE IN STEPS DEPENDING ON TOTAL COST. SHE NOTED THAT, CURRENTLY, THERE IS A BILL IN THE HOUSE FOR GRANTS FOR UPDATING ZONING. SO THIS IS SOMETHING TO WATCH, BUT THERE IS NO WAY TO KNOW WHETHER THE BILL WILL PASS OR HOW MUCH FUNDING THE TOWNSHIP MAY RECEIVE. TRUSTEE WILSON COMMENTED THAT THE ZONING CODE MAY NOT NEED A TOTAL REWRITE. TRUSTEE DURBIN STATED THAT THERE WAS A GRANT LAST YEAR FOR ZONING THAT WE MISSED OUT ON.

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KATE MARTIN ASKED IF THE PROFESSIONAL COMPANY WOULD BE MAKING THE CHANGES. TRUSTEE STEIMLE RESPONDED YES. SHE ALSO STATED THAT THE BEST WAY TO DO A ZONING CODE UPDATE IS TO HAVE A LAND USE PLAN. TRUSTEE WILSON STATED THAT BETTY ARMACOST WAS A MEMBER OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE THAT DREW UP THE LAND USE PLAN IN 1997.

RESOLUTION BY TRUSTEE WILSON FOR THE TOWNSHIP TO USE THE STANDARD ALLOWANCE AND ITS PRESUMPTION OF REVENUE LOSS DUE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND TO USE THE AMOUNT AUTHORIZED HEREIN TO FUND GOVERNMENT SERVICES. THE PROJECT IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND SHALL BE PAID FOR FROM THE ARPA FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF/AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000. THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN SERVES THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ACT BY PROVIDING SERVICES TRADITIONALLY PROVIDED BY A GOVERNMENT, NAMELY, LAND USE REGULATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT. ACCORDINGLY, THE PROJECT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE TOWNSHIP AND IS DEEMED A PRIORITY FOR THE COMMUNITY. NO OBLIGATIONS PAID UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THIS RESOLUTION WERE INCURRED PRIOR TO MARCH 3, 2021. 2ND BY TRUSTEE STEIMLE. ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE STEIMLE, YES, TRUSTEE WILSON, YES, TRUSTEE DURBIN, YES.

MOTION BY DURBIN TO ADJOURN, 2ND BY STEIMLE.