

December 9, 2020  
Clinton Township Board of Supervisors Meeting

Prior to the regular December meeting, starting at 6:30 pm, as advertised, there was a hearing on proposed SALDO changes. Following that, the regular December meeting of the Clinton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman James Zefran on December 10, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Clinton Township municipal building garage for purposes of social distancing. Chairman James Zefran, Vice Chair Brian Non, and Supervisor Russell Curtis were in attendance. Solicitor Jeffrey Treat was also in attendance.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**B. Hearing Check**

Mr. Mike Wood of *Woodland Design* outlined the proposed changes after stating that the telecommunications amendment 612 and the wind energy amendment 615 would be the prospective changes in the Clinton Township SALDO Ordinance. He explained that both the county and township had worked and reviewed the changes. There had been a workshop meeting, open to the Supervisors, the township planning commission and the public. The resulting documents were then submitted to the Wayne County Planning Department. Copies of the DRAFT were made available to the public by being posted at the township building and on the Website.

Chair Zefran opened the Telecommunications SALDO changes up for public comments. There were none. Zefran then closed the public hearing on the Telecommunication SALDO changes, stating that the vote would take place on Monday, January 4, 2020 at the regular monthly meeting following the Clinton Township reorganization meeting which will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Matt Curtis inquired about section 607 of the SALDO to which Mr. Wood responded. This was followed by an explanation of the wind energy amendment having had followed the same process as was outlined for the telecommunications amendment. Attorney Bugaj inquired as to why GlidePath was not contacted to have input on these SALDO amendments and talked to about them upfront in the spirit of good neighbors? Chair Zefran assured him that this was not done to circumvent GlidePath. Bugaj went on to list concerns with unenforceable aspects of the amendment due to broad language such as (615.2) "maximum extent possible". Addressing the issue of no advertising on the wind turbines, does that include if the manufacturer includes a small logo? Regarding the issue of design to "maximize important open spaces", he questioned what defined important open spaces? Likewise, what defines "rare species" referenced in the amendment? Mike Wood responded by saying that many of the things being cited would be discussed when an applicant comes before the Supervisory Board, and that he was welcome to present this in writing for the Township Supervisors to consider. Solicitor Treat affirmed that concerns should be put in writing and presented to the board. A discussion ensued and it was agreed that GlidePath representation would present concerns, in writing, to the Supervisors and Mr. Wood by Saturday, December 19, 2020. Attorney Bugaj clarified that supporting documentation may come after the 19<sup>th</sup> of December. Mr. Wood asked that they please support their comments with industry standards. Matt Curtis expressed concerns over noise caused possibly by the turbines or motors and stated that the noise within a half mile radiance could be very annoying.

Chair Zefran changed his previous proposal saying that the wind energy amendment hearing be postponed to the next meeting with the intent to vote on the it at the February meeting. Matt Curtis expressed concern that an exotic animal breeding facility could be brought into the township. Additionally, Curtis said that SALDO changes should be made to protect water sources. Solicitor Treat said that these issues should be brought up in the public comments section. Zefran said that he would allow it into the discussion. He (Zefran) said this brought the discussion back around to the fact that the township doesn't have zoning and that the Supervisors need to decide if they want to look into what zoning involves. Do we want to look at becoming educated in this area? Mr. Wood said that the Supervisors needed to read the information that he had sent to them regarding zoning. Attorney Bugaj reminded them that zoning needs to be township specific. Both Bugaj and Treat agreed that zoning is expensive, time-consuming, and a three-to-four-year process, and that there would need to be a zoning hearing board that would have to have their own solicitor. Attorney Treat said that these problems can be handled with

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ordinances, and not necessarily zoning. Chair Zefran said that the supervisors would read the information provided by Wood before the next meeting. Chair Zefran cautioned audience members that the supervisors were not proposing zoning, but were merely getting information. Chair Zefran made a motion to close the hearing, seconded by Vice Chair Non. All voted yes. The motion carried.

- C. Minutes of Regular Meeting November 11, 2020** – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis, to accept the minutes of the regular November 11, 2020 meeting. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- D. Minutes of Emergency Meeting November 13, 2020** – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis, to accept the minutes of the emergency November 13, 2020 meeting. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- E. Minutes of Emergency Meeting November 23, 2020** – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Zefran, to accept the minutes of the emergency November 23, 2020 meeting. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- F. Public Comment** – Matt Curtis thanked the Supervisors for updating the website with meeting minutes. He asked how often this would be done, as he expressed concern over what he considered to be errors in the minutes published on the website. Chair Zefran said that anyone that has a problem with the official minutes should present their concern in writing, citing the line, and what it should have been. Mr. Curtis said that the errors were in omissions, claiming that the public safety concerns he had brought up were not addressed, specifically tree trimming. Supervisor Curtis said that what he was referencing had indeed been done at the time that it was originally brought forth. Solicitor Treat reminded Mr. Curtis that the minutes are not intended to be a word-for-word account of the meeting, but a record of meeting topics, motions, etc. Chair Zefran stated that each month the minutes approved at the monthly minutes would be published on the website by the following Saturday.
- G. Correspondence** – There was no correspondence to be brought forward in discussion.
- H. Road Master Report**
  - a. Cost of doing ditches on Little Keen Rd.** – Vice Chair and Road Master Non said that he had spoken to Mike Henshaw and that the ditches on Little Keen Road would take about 8 hours, at \$95.00 per hour, using our three trucks. Chair Zefran noted that it would cost less than \$800.00 and said to do it.
  - b. Prospective new employee** – Dylan McArthur was present, stating that he was interested in doing snow plowing for the township. When asked where he had plowing experience, he said that he had worked for Pioneer. Chair Zefran said Vice Chair Non should call Pioneer and get a reference. Vice Chair Non clarified that the position had not been advertised, and that it was McArthur that had inquired if there was a need for a snow plow worker. He said that he, Non, would take McArthur out and see what he could do, call Pioneer for a reference, and if all checked out, McArthur would be taken on a thirty-day probation period.

Ron Poska said that the big truck was needing to have work done on it, that there was a catch when starting it, that the universal may be bad, but regardless, it needed preventative maintenance. Chair Zefran inquired about the trees on township property by the church which had not yet been removed, as was decided at the regular October 2020 meeting. Vice Chair Non said that Ed Millon was supposed to do it last week. Chair Zefran said that church representatives could be informed that it would get done ASAP.

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Supervisor Curtis gave a report on his findings on research regarding his desire to see the township have their own grader. He said that in 2019 the township had spent \$7,600 on rolling and \$33,000 on grading. A used grader, for \$50,000 would save the township money. Chair Zefran inquired about additional costs associated with the township having their own grader such as driver/operating costs, insurance, and repairs, as well as being cautious of the fact that a grader has only a certain amount of usage. Supervisor Curtis said it made jobs easier if you could do it yourself, and you could always put a plow on it. Chair Zefran asked how many times the township has had to hire a grader in the last three years, noting that the township already owns three trucks that can be used for plowing. The response was that Dick Ciccone did the grading and that they did a great job. Chair Zefran asked when was the last time that the township had owned a grader? Ron Poska answered the question saying that it had been 15 to 20 years. Township Engineer Weinberger said that \$50,000 is a pretty low price, even for a used grader and suggested that there may be wisdom to leasing a piece of equipment for a week or a month. Chair Zefran said that purchasing a grader was tabled at this point. Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis, to accept the Road Master's report. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**I. Open Issues**

- a. Budget 2021** – Chair Zefran said that the proposed 2021 Budget had been advertised and available for viewing. There were no tax increases. Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis to adopt the 2021 Budget as written. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**J. New Business** – No new business was presented

**K. Treasurer's Report Including Bills for Payment** – Secretary / Treasurer Droppa said that the bills were presented as written. Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Zefran to pay the bills as presented. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**L. Browndale Fire Department** – It was noted that Browndale Fire Chief Debevec had sent word that he would not be present as he was out dealing with snow.

**M. Old Business** – Chair Zefran gave an update on the project of making sure that all eligible Clinton Township citizens were paying the wage tax. He stated that there were approximately 150 people who may be required to pay the wage tax and were currently not doing so. The list had been submitted to Berkheimer (collector of the wage tax) which would be matched with those paying state income tax. This would be a process that would probably take time into summer of 2021.

**N. Public Comment** – Supervisor Curtis commented that he thought Josh should run all salt and that the antiskid is too large, and that Non should talk to Pykus and get smaller stuff. Ron Poska said that the supervisors should consider putting a land line here in the garage, using the same township phone number. He also wanted to change the light up by the salt shed so it shines in front of the door. Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis to change the light up by the salt shed. All voted yes. The motion carried. Vice Chair Non said that the year end meeting time must be decided and advertised. It was decided that the year-end meeting would be on Wednesday, December 30, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

**O. Adjournment** – Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. All voted yes. The motion carried.