

Workshop Meeting Activity**December 11, 2017**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>MOTION</u>	<u>SECOND</u>
Approve the Legislative Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2017	Comm. Darragh	VP Jones
Remove the main motion from the table (which is: Refer a proposed amendment of the text of the Aleppo Township Zoning Ordinance to the Township Planning Commission and County, which adds a definition for a Children's Home and amends the definitions of a Continuing Care Retirement Community and Life Care Facility/Senior Living Community as specified in the letter dated October 19, 2017) and bring it up for a vote in 30 days	Pres. Doeblner	VP Jones
Remove the main motion from the table (which is to extend the time period to review the second option) and bring it up for a vote in 30 days	Comm. Duplaga	Pres. Doeblner
Adopt the draft resolution titled "A Resolution Prohibiting the Location of a Category 4 Licensed Casino Facility within the Township of Aleppo" Duplaga	Pres. Doeblner	Comm.
Table the motion for one week	Pres. Doeblner	VP Jones
Defer the conversation regarding the Social Media Policy for one month	Pres. Doeblner	VP Jones
Invite the Township's Code Enforcement Officer to the February 2018 Workshop meeting Williams	Pres. Doeblner	Comm.
Instruct the Aleppo Township Manager to write a letter to the Sewickley Borough Manager thanking them for their efforts and inform him that if they are prepared to commit to being out of there in 6 months, we will not ask them to obtain the necessary storage permit	VP Jones	Pres. Doeblner
Remove the topic of proposed purchases of bingo lots off of the agenda indefinitely Williams	Pres. Doeblner	Comm.

Make Aleppo Township email addresses for the Commissioners and post them on the website

Comm. Duplaga

VP Jones

Table this motion for one week
Williams

Pres. Doeblen

Comm.

Adjournment

TOWNSHIP OF ALEPPO**WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES****December 11, 2017****CALL TO ORDER:**

President Matthew Doebler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Those in attendance were Vice-President George Jones, Commissioner Arthur Williams, Commissioner Daniel Darragh, Commissioner Michelle Duplaga, Solicitor Christopher Lovato and Manager Gwen Patterson. Secretary Kimberly Koskey was not in attendance.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Darragh made a motion to approve the Legislative Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2017. Vice President Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:**DISCUSSION OF EMAIL RECEIVED FROM MASONIC VILLAGE'S ATTORNEY RELATIVE TO ITS APPLICATION CONCERNING A CHILDREN'S HOME:**

President Doebler explained there are two motions on the table as requested by Masonic Village for Ordinance changes to facilitate building a Children's Home. He also explained these motions are on the table indefinitely pending further information from Masonic Village. President Doebler stated he received an email dated December 4, 2017 from Donald Graham representing Masonic Village explaining that they are prepared to answer questions from the Board and public regarding information on the Children's Home.

Mr. Donald Graham presented some answers to questions that were asked at the last meeting. The first question was the definition of a Children's Home and specifically with reference to use of the word program in the definition. He submitted a modification to the definition that was originally proposed. He also explained the modification makes it absolutely clear that these children are placed voluntarily by their legal guardian and they are specifically not placed there by the court system, they are not part of any drug or alcohol rehabilitation program or other adjudication that would place them there. Mr. Joseph Murphy addressed several of the questions that were discussed at the last meeting. One issue was the impact on Redgate Road. He stated the original presentation was a concept, he listened to the concerns of the residents on Redgate Road from the last meeting, and Masonic Village presented a drawing with more Villas and moving the Children's Home further in on the Campus to be surrounded by Masonic homes and away from Redgate Road. He also explained these children are coming from situations where there is a single parent, grandparents, and sometimes great-grandparents, not court adjudicated children, not at-risk children. Mr. Murphy addressed the question of need in this area and are there any other programs like this in the area. He explained they spoke to Allegheny County

Children and Youth Services where they were told there is one program available in the area called Girl's Hope of Pittsburgh. He also explained this program is very similar to the Masonic Village program, bringing children in to the program and giving them the similar opportunities. He stated the children currently in the Masonic Program do a phenomenal job educationally. He also stated they work diligently with the parents. The program is licensed by the State, and the children are allowed to go home every other weekend. Mr. Murphy addressed one of the questions why the children are not just sent to the Masonic Children's home in Eastern PA, and explained this would be difficult for the children to be 4 hours away from home to travel every other weekend as well as they want to give children in Western PA the same opportunities. Another question Mr. Murphy addressed was who will pay for this Program, and he again explained this Program is all mission, funded completely by Masonic Village where no money is received by State or Federal funding. He explained the Program offers intergenerational interaction which benefits both the children and the residents at Masonic Village. Another question Mr. Murphy addressed was the possible financial burden on Quaker Valley School District. He explained Masonic Village met with the Superintendent of Quaker Valley School District to discuss the program. Dr. Ondek was given the contact information for the Superintendent of the Elizabethtown Area School District to discuss the effects on the school with children from the Masonic Village Program and found positive reviews where these children are doing exceptionally well. He explained Quaker Valley would receive funds from the home School Districts of these children. He stated Masonic Village is a tax-exempt non-profit organization but they have participated in a PILOT Program with Quaker Valley School District, the County and the Township since 2004. He stated in 2017 Masonic Village paid Quaker Valley School District \$426,666.00 supporting the School District. He also stated Masonic Village paid Aleppo Township approximately \$230,000.00. He also explained that with the PILOT program from 2004-2017 Masonic Village has paid over \$5 million dollars to the Quaker Valley School District.

Residents Brian Daniels and Dave VonKaenel questioned the new proposed placement of the Children's Home. Mr. Murphy explained the new placement along with the idea that Redgate Road would not be used as an entrance and exit, only as an emergency entrance.

Residents Terry Causey and Kathy VonKaenel expressed their concerns regarding the number of children and whether more Children's Homes will be built. Mr. Murphy reassured the residents that these children are not a danger to the community, they are not delinquent children and there will not be additional costs for the School District. Resident Brian Daniels questioned the future use of the Yankello structure. Mr. Murphy believes the structure will be removed.

Vince Kerr of School Street in Glenfield Borough and residents Margaret Shields and Don Black expressed their concerns regarding speeding vehicles from employees and vendors of Masonic Village. Mr. Eric Gross from Masonic Village reassured the residents that Masonic Village has spoke to employees, Ohio Township Police and residents to watch their speed. Resident Chris Grimm questioned the expected traffic from this Children's Home. Mr. Murphy explained when the plan is finished they will have the traffic information. Several residents including Cathy Davidson, Caroline Brenner, Don Bedits, Sandy Moore and Kathleen Hinzman stated their concerns regarding this Children's Home.

President Doebler stated the motions on the table. The first motion is to refer a proposed amendment of the text of the Aleppo Township Zoning Ordinance to the Township Planning Commission and County, which adds a definition for a Children's Home and amends the definitions of a Continuing Care Retirement Community and Life Care Facility/Senior Living Community as specified in the letter dated October 19, 2017. The second motion is to extend the time-period to review the second option.

President Doebler made a motion to remove the main motion from the table and bring it up for a vote in 30 days. Vice President Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Duplaga made a motion remove the main motion from the table to extend the time period to review the second option and bring it up for a vote in 30 days. President Doebler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

President Doebler explained these motions to remove the main motions from the table and bring them up for a vote in 30 days will be voted on at Monday's Legislative meeting.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING:

President Doebler announced that Aleppo Township has a new plan to recycle Christmas Trees through a program at North Park where they turn the trees into mulch. He also stated that the pick-up date will be January 8, 2018. The residents are to place the trees at the curbside where the Township Public Works Department will pick them up.

HOLIDAY COOKIES AND COFFEE:

President Doebler announced that the Township would be serving cookies and coffee after the Monday night Legislative meeting in celebration of the Holiday Season.

2018 BUDGET AND ORDINANCE:

Manager Patterson explained the Budget Ordinance has been advertised and is prepared to be adopted at next week's meeting.

2018 MILLAGE ORDINANCE:

Manager Patterson explained the millage tax rate has to be set every year by Ordinance. The proposed Budget does not call for a tax increase so the Ordinance keeps the millage at 3.5 mills. It has been advertised and is prepared to be adopted at next week's meeting.

CASINO PROHIBITION RESOLUTION:

Solicitor Lovato explained municipalities can opt out of Category 4 casinos by December 31, 2017. His recommendation to the Board is to opt out because it can withdraw but cannot add after the deadline.

President Doebler made a motion to adopt the draft resolution titled "A Resolution Prohibiting the Location of a Category 4 Licensed Casino Facility within the Township of Aleppo". Commissioner Duplaga seconded.

President Doebler made a motion to table the motion for one week. Vice President Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY:

President Doebler made a motion to defer the conversation regarding the Social Media Policy for one month. Vice President Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CODE ENFORCEMENT IMPROVEMENT

President Doebler stated that he would like to discuss the Township's Code Enforcement issues with the Code Enforcement Officer. Commissioner Darragh suggested having him come to a Workshop Meeting to discuss Code Enforcement throughout the Township.

President Doebler made a motion to invite the Township's Code Enforcement Officer to the February 2018 Workshop meeting. Commissioner Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CLEANUP ON SEWICKLEY LOT ON GLEN MITCHELL ROAD:

President Doebler discussed the issue on Glen Mitchell Road regarding the lot owned by Sewickley Borough. President Doebler stated that he and Solicitor Stone inspected the property and there has been some improvement, but not enough. Vice President Jones requested that Manager Patterson send a letter to Sewickley Borough thanking them for the effort to date and to please remove the last debris that was discussed.

Vice President Jones made a motion to instruct the Aleppo Township Manager to write a letter to the Sewickley Borough Manager thanking them for their efforts and inform them that if they are prepared to commit to being out of there in 6 months, we will not ask them to obtain the necessary storage permit. President Doebler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF BINGO LOTS:

President Doebler made a motion to remove the topic of proposed purchases of bingo lots off of the agenda indefinitely. Commissioner Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

VACANCIES/TERM RENEWALS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Manager Patterson explained that at the end of the year a lot of the terms are expiring and several positions need to be reappointed on January 2, 2018 at the reorganization meeting. This has been

advertised and letters have been sent to the individuals who have terms expiring requesting their position on being reconsidered to retain their seat. She also explained Magistrate Bob Ford will be attending to swear in the newly re-elected Commissioners. She also announced the residency certification forms have to be turned in to the Township Office before December 31, 2017.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMISSIONER PHOTOGRAPHS:

President Doebler explained that he and Manager Patterson have been working on the new Aleppo Township Website. He also explained that he would like to include formal photographs on the new website. He would like to take the pictures at the February Workshop Meeting.

DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONER CONTACT INFORMATION:

President Doebler explained the current website does not have contact information for the Board of Commissioners. He questioned if the Board would want personal contact information available on the website. He stated the Commissioners could have a Township specific email address. Vice President Jones questioned if a resident contacted each Commissioner individually would that be in violation of the Sunshine Act. Solicitor Lovato explained the resident could be invited to a meeting to discuss the issue. Solicitor Lovato also explained that a policy could be developed regarding this issue. Vice President Jones explained the Commissioners have to be very careful how to respond to questions individually. Manager Patterson explained the Township emails are available for the residents to resolve issues. She also explained there is an email available for the residents that comes directly to her.

Commissioner Duplaga made a motion to make Aleppo Township email addresses for the Commissioners and post them on the website. Vice President Jones seconded.

President Doebler made a motion to table this for one week. Commissioner Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REVISED SEWER INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT ORDINANCE:

Manager Patterson explained any amendments to this agreement must be adopted by Ordinance. The agreement has not been signed by Sewickley Borough yet. This can be prepared for action when the final schedule is received. Manager Patterson will put it on the agenda when the signed agreement is received.

SEWER RATE ORDINANCE:

President Doebler stated this will be on the agenda along with the Sewer Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Ordinance.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION REMINDER:

President Doebler announced trash and recycling pickup will be one day later due to Christmas being on a Monday.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Resident Kathy VonKaenel asked what Bingo Lots are. President Doebler explained what they are and that they were discussed at previous meetings. They will be removed from the agenda unless an inquiry is received. Mrs. VonKaenel thanked the Board for listening to the interests of the residents. Resident Chris Grimm commented that he felt the YouTube video, the tree collection and the pictures on the website are great ideas.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Koskey
Township Secretary