

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

ROLL CALL:

JEFFRY E. DENCE, CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFFREY M. BORASKI, VICE-CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
BRIAN M. GALLOWAY, SECRETARY	PRESENT
JOHN W. PALMER, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT
ERIN M. MULLEN, SUPERVISOR	ABSENT

The meeting commenced at 7:08 p.m. with roll call and pledge to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Mullen who was ill. Also present were Township Manager/Chief Code Enforcement Officer & Zoning Officer Matthew Takita, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher and Township Engineer Joe Jones.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN PRESIDING

Member Palmer moved to appoint Member Boraski as Temporary Chairman of the Board of Supervisors; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 1 CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENT

Member Boraski moved to appoint Member Dence as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 2 VICE-CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENT

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Member Boraski as Vice-Chairman; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 3 SECRETARY/TREASURER APPOINTMENT

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Member Galloway as Secretary/Treasurer; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 4 ASSISTANT SECRETARY/TREASURER APPOINTMENT

Member Galloway moved to appoint Township Manager Matthew Takita as the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 5 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON
FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM**

There was one person who came in late to the meeting and wished to speak for public comment.

Mr. Patrick Boyle thanked Member Palmer for being considerate to the taxpayers regarding the EIT. Mr. Boyle asked about implementing the EIT process and wants to find out what is going on. He works in New Jersey and feels like he is being penalized for working in New Jersey and wanted to know if that was taken into consideration. Chairman Dence said it was. The township did a study in 2014 to see how much money we are losing to other municipalities. The number wasn't as high as it now. A couple of months ago we did another study and found there was a significant amount of money going to other townships. The majority of Falls Township residents who are working are paying into those other townships. In Philadelphia there is a law that they get to keep everything they collect. The people who work in Philadelphia aren't paying into the general fund. Chairman Dence said the reason behind it is that there is an end to the future revenue of the landfill. Member Boraski said the people in Philadelphia are paying 4%. Mr. Boyle suggested raising property taxes and giving senior citizens a percentage off. Ms. Gallagher said there are some laws that allow that but the amount is minimal. Chairman Dence said if we raise the property taxes by one mill for five years, it would only bring in a fraction compared to what we will collect for EIT. The EIT is capped at 1%. Member Boraski said the 1% was the need of our township. Mr. Boyle said he did not realize the board was going to approve this in December or he would have been at the meeting. Mr. Boyle asked if the budget is being decreased. Manager Takita said we put back \$12M from last year's budget and reduced our expenditures by \$2M. Mr. Boyle asked for the township to post the study so everyone can see it. Manager Takita said they will publish educational materials on-line and he can set up a meeting with Mrs. Reukauf. Mr. Boyle said he is disappointed with the way this was handled. He thinks there should have been more interaction with the public. Member Boraski said this was also new to him in 2022 and he felt the same way as Mr. Boyle.

ITEM # 6 ESTABLISH MEETING DATES AND TIME FOR REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman Dence said this building will be going under construction in the next few months and will require us to have our meetings elsewhere. These meetings will probably take place in Middletown Township. Member Galloway moved to establish monthly Board of Supervisor meetings to the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 7 APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR AND SPECIAL COUNSEL – SET COMPENSATION FEES

Member Boraski moved to appoint Rudolph Clarke as Township Solicitor/General Counsel for 2023 at the rate set forth in their letter; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Bidlingmaier and Bidlingmaier as Conflict Counsel at the rate set forth in their letter; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Board of Supervisors – January 3, 2023

Chairman Dence moved to appoint moved to appoint the law firm of Obermayer for Labor and Employment Counsel for the township at the rate set forth in their letter; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Flager and Associates (Randall Flager) as Zoning and Land Development Attorney at the rate set forth in their letter; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint David Truelove Esq. (Hill Wallack) for Code Appeals Counsel at the rate set forth in their letter; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 8 APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ENGINEER AND TRAFFIC ENGINEER – SET COMPENSATION FEES

Member Galloway moved to appoint Jones Engineering and Associates as the Engineer of record at the rate set forth in their letter; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Member Boraski moved to appoint Remington and Vernick Engineers (Chris Fazio) as the Conflict and Traffic Engineer as well as Building Code Services at the rate set forth in their letter; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Member Galloway moved to appoint Katalinas Communications for the township's Public Relations matters at the rate set forth in their letter; Member Palmer seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 9 APPOINTMENT OF VACANCY BOARD CHAIRMAN

Member Palmer moved to appoint Arlene Goulding as the Vacancy Board Chairman; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 10 APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COUNCILS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

Member Galloway moved to appoint Erik Person and Jeannine Delwiche to the Environmental Advisory Council; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Member Galloway moved to appoint Suzanne Hannigan to the Police Pension Committee; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Chairman Dence moved to appoint Amanda Palmer to the Police Pension Committee; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Palmer who abstained. (3-0-1)

Member Galloway moved to approve Resolution # 2023-1, appointing John Haney to the TOFA Board; Chairman Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Palmer who voted no. (3-1)

Member Boraski said there are vacancies on other boards that need to be filled.

Board of Supervisors – January 3, 2023

ITEM # 11 APPOINTMENT OF DEPOSITORIES BY RESOLUTION

Member Galloway moved to approve Resolution # 2023-2 for the Appointment of Depositories; Chairman Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 12 RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF AUDITORS TO SET THE TREASURER'S BOND AT \$2,000,000

Member Boraski moved to accept the recommendation by the Board of Auditors to set the Treasurer's Bond at \$2,000,000; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 13 NOMINATE, DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE TO THE STATE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW – APRIL 23 THROUGH APRIL 26, 2023

There was no action on this agenda item.

ITEM # 14 EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session.

ITEM # 15 MANAGER COMMENT

There was no Manager comment this evening.

ITEM # 16 BOARD COMMENT


Member Palmer – no comment

Member Galloway wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Member Boraski – no comment.

Chairman Dence wished everyone a Happy and Safe New Year. He looks forward to 2023.

Member Galloway moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Boraski seconded the motion all board members were in favor. (4-0) The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Brian Galloway, Secretary