The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 P.M. by the Chairman David Shutter. Following a prayer by Commissioner Cross and the Pledge of Allegiance, the Chairman asked the Secretary to call the roll as follows:

PRESENT:  Fisher, Boyle, Iozzo, Cross, Shutter, McElhone, Mizgorski
ALSO PRESENT:  Timothy Rogers, Manager; Harlan Stone, Solicitor; Judith Kording, Assistant Manager; Amanda Jennings, Finance Assistant

Mr. Rogers noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic a few members present at the meeting are calling in telephonically: Commissioners Fisher and Solicitor Stone.

The Chairman announced that an Executive Session was held on April 14, 2020 and this evening at 5:30 p.m. wherein the following topics were discussed: employee and personnel matters, contracts and policies, and an update on the actual and on-going litigation as well as potential litigations and identifiable complaints and agency business which if conducted in public would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of confidential information. Mr. Stone said the session was absolutely necessary and was in full compliance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act and Act 15 which covers public meetings under the Governors Declaration of Disaster Emergency.

Approval of Minutes
The first item of business was the possible approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners held Tuesday, April 14, 2020. Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mr. Cross that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 14, 2020 be approved as received by each Commissioner. The motion was carried.

Planning Commission:
Mr. Rogers stated the Planning Commission has nothing to report at this time.

Engineers Report – Mr. Matthew Sebastian
The next item of business was the Engineers Report. Mr. Sebastian stated with the challenges presented by the pandemic, stay at home orders, and the temporary shutdown of the construction industry, the Township has been working with outside contractors to have projects completed as soon as restrictions allow. None of the Townships current projects or in progress projects have been significantly impacted.

Sanitary and Storm Sewer
- Submitted a Letter of Interest for the upcoming round of ALCOSAN GROW grant funding. The letter was submitted for proposed lining work along Saxonburg Boulevard. This would build on Phase 1 of Saxonburg Blvd lining that has already received GROW grant funding. If a grant is awarded and the project is undertaken, the Phase 2 work will complete lining of all Shaler sanitary sewer from Route 8 to the municipal line.
o Worked with RedZone Robotics to set up our annual CCTV program. We expect to be televising sewers in May for our continued Operations & Maintenance requirements. The results of the CCTV work will aid in planning sanitary sewer repair projects.

- **Parks and Trails**
  o Submitted an application for the upcoming round of GEDTF grant funding for the Fawcett Field/Eagle Canyon Trail project. We have received $350,000 in grant funding for the project and are hoping to add to that to ease the financial burden on the Township.

- **Road Paving**
  o Met with Folino Construction to move the Perlick St & Craft Ave paving project forward. This project was awarded a Community Development Block Grant through the NHCOG in 2019. In the fall, the contractor requested to delay the project to the spring. We expect the paving to take less than a week and be completed in mid May.

In Addition, **Mr. Rogers** stated that two streets are beginning to get paved tomorrow, Craft and Perlick Avenue, under a CBDG grant that the Township got last year but the project was delayed due to time of year. We were advised from Younghood Paving, Inc. that the 2020 Road Paving Program will begin in July of this year and they will go straight through with the project. The Township only has two streets left to prepare; all others are ready for paving.

**Shaler Hampton EMS**

The next item of business was a report from **Mr. Eric Schmidt**, Director of Shaler Hampton EMS. Mr. Schmidt reported that their volume has gone down through March and April, an 8.2% decrease in calls and a 12% decrease in cases that wanted to go to the hospital. Patients have been very worried about going to hospitals, but the SHEMS staff has been explaining to them that hospitals are very prepared to take care of them whether they are COVID related or not. Mr. Schmidt reported that SHEMS provided mutual aid to other communities about 20 times and 15 times other communities came in to provide mutual aid to them, SHEMS wants to be providing mutual aid more than they receive it.

**Mr. Schmidt** reported on COVID-19 and the effects it has had on SHEMS and their staff. In this time of incredibly high stress it can be difficult to work in this field with the proper protection on, but the staff has come to work every day with no complaints, regardless of the constant changes and uncertainty during the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of people calling off has significantly gone done during this time as well. Mr. Schmidt commended the staff and their unbelievable effort they have put in during this time. He understands that this has been a significant financial issue for the community as it is for others and SHEMS is pursing every method they can to ensure they are as whole as they can be.

**Mr. Schmidt** reported on the subscription campaign being very successful with 3,700 households that have already subscribed.
New Business:

Public Discussion Regarding Pool Opening
The first item of business was the discussion regarding the Crawford Pool opening. Mr. Rogers has been involved with several conversations with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Managers of larger pools and they received some recommendations from the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society on how to proceed with the pool. Mr. Rogers stated that Crawford Pool is full and currently being filtered and the cover will be getting removed next week. He stated that it is very clear from the recommendations from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that pools cannot open until we enter the green phase. The Township at this time is unsure when we will enter the green phase. The Crawford Pool is prepared to open if and when we are able to do so. The Township will be required to zone the pool to maintain proper social distancing as well as limitations on the number of people that can get into the pool and hours the pool operates. Mr. Rogers stated that as of now, the earliest possibility of the pool opening will be July but that is not confirmed.

Public Discussion Regarding Organized Sports Teams
The next item of business was the discussion regarding organized sports teams. Mr. Rogers stated that the Township has two Little League organizations: Shaler Area Little League (SALL) and Bauerstown Baseball. Mr. Rogers stated that if they can play this summer and use the fields, they will be required for everyone to have their own equipment, nothing can be shared. The Township has drafted a release with Solicitor Stone for parents to sign to permit their kids to participate in baseball or softball activities. The recommendation from the Commonwealth is to keep participant attendance limited to 25 people, the teams typically have 12-13 people per team and 2 teams which would already be exceeding the limit of 25 people. The organizations are prepared to give up on having a tournament as they would in the past to help with social distancing and limit the amount of people.

Mr. Rogers stated that the other thing that will be affected is concession stands and it is the Township’s recommendation to not open the stands but if they do, they must be limited to the sale of sealed goods. This same rule will follow for the concession stand at the pool if the pool is able to open this summer.

Mr. Shutter stated that on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, while the Township of Shaler looks forward to providing summer activities including Crawford Pool, Community Events, July 4th fireworks and organized sports events for the 2020 season, the Township cannot guarantee any events, time or dates at this point in time. For any of these events to occur, Allegheny County must move into the green stage to deliver those services and events to the public. If Allegheny County proceeds to green and for these events to occur, we will be required to implement modifications to comply with the requirements of the green stage as defined by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We remain diligent in developing contingent plans should this be the case.

Receipts and Authorizations
The next item of business was the receipts for the month of April 2020. Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mr. Cross. That the receipts for the month of April 2020 be turned over to the proper authorities for deposit. The motion was carried.
The next item of business was the authorizations for the month of April 2020. Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mr. Cross that warrants be drawn for the month of April 2020. The motion was carried.

Resolutions

Resolution No. 14-2020 Right of Way Grant with Verizon on Wetzel Road
The next item of business was the possible approval of Resolution No. 14-2020 Right of Way Grant with Verizon on Wetzel Road.

Mr. Rogers stated that for over a year now the Wetzel Road design has been involved in the requiring of relocation of certain utilities which were completed last year. One of the remaining issues is Verizon has a main truck line that runs through the valley. Verizon has the need for what they call a “push pole”, which is a pole that leans onto a normal pole, which they need in this location due to the direction in which the lines go. The two parties could not come to an agreement on the first and second locations that were proposed. The parties have now come to an agreement on a location on a piece of property owned by the Township that will not impinge any utility and or walking trail. Mr. Rogers recommended that Resolution No. 14-2020 granting Verizon the right of way for the construction of the Wetzel Road Bridge be approved.

Mr. Rogers also brought to the Boards attention that they have encouraged the contract and the Commonwealth to proceed with the bridge as soon as the school closed, trying to avoid running into it and they were told that the design couldn’t be done. They are now expediting the bridge that is a 101-day construction day project that will be started soon.

Mr. Mizgorski moved, seconded by Mr. Cross that Resolution No. 14-2020 Right of Way Grant with Verizon on Wetzel Road be approved by voice vote. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Comments

Mr. Stone stated at last months meeting there was a motion regarding hiring the summer employees and listed among those to be hired was Commissioner Mizgorski’s son, Darin Mizgorski. Commissioner Mizgorski seconded the motion to approve the summer hiring and then also voted in favor of it, he later discovered his son was included on the list and brought that immediately to the attention to the Township Manager. Mr. Stone believes that Commissioner Mizgorski should acknowledge or disclose the nature of the conflict and rescind his vote form last month’s meeting and abstain any future discussion or voting on this particular matter as it pertains to his sons summer employment.

Mr. Mizgorski acknowledged the nature of the conflict of interest was the hiring of the summer help for the swimming pool. Mr. Mizgorski acknowledged his son being on the list and he seconded the motion. Mr. Mizgorski is rescinding his vote on that summer hire.

Mr. Stone stated that once the disclosure has been made and once the Commissioner has rescinded his prior vote, and decided to abstain from any future voting, the State Ethics Act also requires that the Township files a written memorandum of the disclosure statement. The Township has done this in the past when other Commissioners have been faced with voting
conflict and we will follow same procedure with respect to Commissioner Mizgorski. Mr. Stone will prepare the memorandum for Mr. Mizgorski’s signature and he will forward tomorrow to the Manager.

Mr. Rogers stated that all the applicants for the pool were hired for the job, so no one was denied a job.

Mr. Shutter stated that Mrs. Fisher made the motion at the prior meeting for the hiring’s for the summer employees, and at this time he is looking for a second to that motion.

Mrs. Fisher moved, seconded by Mr. Cross that the list of summer part-time employees for the Crawford Pool be hired.

Managers’ Report

Mr. Rogers acknowledged the Township’s employees who were placed on adjusted schedules. Police Officers were asked to go to a 12-hour shift to try and get more separation and to protect the Officers. The Officers returned to an 8-hour shift last week, and they will be moving to five 8-hour shifts next week. The road crew was on three 11-hour shifts and they were still able to keep up with the amount of work that needed to be done. The road crew will also be moving back to a five-day work week with 8-hour shifts with two different start times to maintain some separation with the employees.

Public Comments

Note: comments were submitted prior to the meeting via email or phone call.

Mr. Rogers stated the first question/concern submitted was regarding a paving issue from Barbara Krause. Mrs. Kraus asked why just the top of the Iola street is being paved when the second half is just as bad since they get a lot of traffic from people trying to avoid the light on Vilsack. The Township Engineer, Matthew Sebastian, explained the purpose of the paving on that specific section is because that is the most damaged part of the road and for budget reasons. This is the largest paving program in the history of the Township. Mr. Rogers stated if we do pave next year, we would attempt to consider paving the remaining parts of Iola Street.

Mr. Rogers stated the second question/concern that was submitted by Karen and Matt Urban who strongly encouraged the Township to open the Crawford Pool and allow organizations and youth sport to use the fields this summer. They believe that by doing so this will help the Township recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Rogers explained that under the requirements from the Commonwealth, the Township is unable to open the pool until we are in the green phase and he spoke with them today and they understood. Mr. Rogers stated that the Board of Commissioners has been very clear with the administrative staff and if and when all facilities open, the Township will proceed with everything as fast as possible, but until then, the Township will continue to prepare to open the Crawford Pool and fields regardless of them being able to open up or not. The Township must comply with the health department guidelines as well as what the Government states.
Mr. Shutter thanked the public for submitting their questions and concerns and as long as we are unable to have open public meetings, he encourages residents to send them in to the Township Management so that the Board of Commissioners can respond to them.

Mr. Rogers stated that he received a call yesterday regarding County Hauling and they are going back to normal schedule and normal business effective Monday, May 18, 2020. County Hauling will be picking up electronic waste and household hazardous waste but they are not currently on schedule with that due to the back log, you have to schedule your pickup time prior to, they are working diligently to catch up.

There being no further business, Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mrs. Fisher that the meeting be adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Timothy J. Rogers, Secretary