

Minutes of Emergency May 27, 2020 Meeting

As a result of the COVID-19 virus, the Rush Township Municipal Building has been closed to members of the public. The purpose of the closure is to decrease the risk of exposure to the virus of essential Rush Township employees who work out of the Municipal Building. On May 27, 2020 the Board of Supervisors were made aware of the intention of the Schuylkill County Election Bureau to use the Municipal Building as a polling location for the June 2, 2020 primary election. When Township officials made County officials aware of the closure of the Municipal Building, the County officials decided to petition the Court of Common Pleas to sanction the shifting of the polling location from the Municipal Building to the Hometown Fire Company building. The County officials involved wanted to indicate the consent of the Board of Supervisors to the relief sought in the petition. The need to file the petition immediately, so as to give the public appropriate notice of the change of the polling location prior to election day, precluded advertising a special meeting. Section 5741(D) of Act 15 of 2020 authorizes a municipal governing body to call a meeting under exigent circumstances, without advance notice to the public, to address any issue related to the COVID-19 emergency provided the minutes of that meeting are posted within 20 days.

On May 27, 2020 the Board of Supervisors convened an emergency meeting pursuant to Section 5741(D) of Act 15 of 2020 and voted to authorize the Solicitor to inform the County Solicitor that Rush Township was unopposed to the County's petition to seek judicial sanction to move the polling location for the June 2, 2020 election from the Rush Township Municipal Building to the Hometown Fire Company building. Supervisors Gilbert and Leibensperger voted in the affirmative. Supervisor Motroni was not present.