

# MINUTES

## NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AUGUST 1, 2022

PRESIDENT PAUL CZAPRACKI, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00 PM AND STARTED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

### ROLL CALL:

THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS ATTENDED MR. JOHN ZYLA, MR JOHN VISHNEFSKI, MR. PAUL CZAPRACKI AND MR.MICHAEL ROKE. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE TOWNSHIP MANAGER, JOSEPH HILLAN, ATTORNEY JEFF ROCKMAN, AND FINANCIAL CONSULTANT JENNIFER POLITO. MS .DEBORAH FORGACH ZALESKI ATTENDED TELEPHONICALLY

### CITIZENS COMMENTS:

PALMIRA MILLER INFORMED THE BOARD THAT THE MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY AUGUST 13<sup>th</sup> .MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE PROGRAM

CHARLOTTE SANTRY COMMENTED ON THE PLANTING OF TREES OR DIFFERENT ORNAMENTAL FLOWERS IN THE TREE LAWNS ALONG THE NEW SIDEWALKS THAT ARE BEING INSTALLED IN GLEN LYON.THE BOARD INFORMED HER THAT THEY WOULD BE ADDRESSING THIS ISSUE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MR. ROKE MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING FROM JULY 5<sup>TH</sup> BE APPROVED. MR. ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT WAS CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MESSERS. ZYLA, CZAPRACKI, ROKE "NAYS" NONE MS.ZALESKI AND MR.VISHNEFSKI ABSTAINED.

### REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

MR HILLAN REPORTED CASH ON HAND AS OF JULY 31, 2022 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	(FNCB)	\$260,594.75
CONTINGENCY FUND	(PLGIT)	\$501,300.34
RECYCLING FUND	(FNCB)	\$19,483.22
REFUSE FUND	(FNCB)	\$197,455.19
LIQUID FUELS	(PLGIT)	\$67,058.57
VEHICLE LEASE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$8,917.81

RECREATION USE FUND (FNCR)	\$4,934.38
WVSA STORM WATER FUND	\$33,228.56
<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF JULY 31, 2022</b>	<b>\$1,092,972.82</b>

MR.ROKE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS. MS. ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, ROKE AND CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

**APPROVAL OF NON RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING JULY 2022:**

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF NON RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF JULY TOTALING \$302,899.02. MR. ROKE MOVED THAT THE LIST BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. MR. ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, ROKE AND CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

**APPROVAL OF RECURRING BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN AUGUST 2022:**

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN AUGUST TOTALING \$17,068.06. MR.VISHNEFSKI MOVED THAT THE LIST BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. MS.ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA ROKE AND CZAPRACK. "NAYS" NONE

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

a. STREET DEPARTMENT	MR CZAPRACKI
b. POLICE DEPARTMENT	MR ZYLA
c. CODE ENFORCEMENT	MR.HILLAN
d. FIRE DEPARTMENT	MR.ROKE
e. PARKS & RECREATION	MR.VISHNEFSKI

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

ATTORNEY ROCKMAN HAD NOTHING TO REPORT

**FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT REPORT:**

JENNIFER POLITO REPORTED THAT THE EXPENSES YEAR TO DATE WERE \$1,892,368.14 AND INCOME WAS \$1,693,421.43. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE AUDITOR WILL BEGIN THE 2021 AUDIT TOMORROW AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup> AND SHE WILL HAVE A REPORT FOR THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:**

A. FIVE HEARINGS FOR FAILURE TO PAY THE 2022 REFUSE AND RECYCLING FEE WERE HELD AT MAGISTRATE WHITTAKER'S ON JULY 19<sup>th</sup> . ALL RESIDENTS WERE FOUND GUILTY AND ORDERED TO PAY THEIR 2022 REFUSE AND RECYCLING FEE. TEN HEARINGS WERE RESCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup>

- B. GLEN LYON SIDEWALK PROJECT UPDATE: THE PROJECT IS PROGRESSING AND IS GOING TO CONTINUE INTO THE FALL MONTHS.
- C. BLIGHT REMEDIATION GRANT UPDATE: PENN EASTERN ENGINEERS ARE PREPARING THE BID SPECS FOR GROUP 5, WHICH WILL CONSIST OF 5-6, 7-8 COLLEGE HILL IN WANAMIE AND REAR 61 COAL AND REAR 30 APPLE STREETS IN GLEN LYON.
- D. K M SMITH TOWNHOUSE PROJECT UPDATE: SITE WORK HAS BEGUN WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF 54 TOWNHOUSES EXPECTED TO BEGIN EITHER LATER THIS YEAR OR IN EARLY 2023.
- E. PAVING UPDATE: THE PAVING, OF THE FOLLOWING STREETS, HAS BEEN COMPLETED WITH THE USE OF THE PRISON CLOSURE GRANT FUNDS: HEMLOCK, PRINCE, EDWARD, OLD NEWPORT, MARCELLA AND MARIE DRIVE. THE PAVING, OF THE FOLLOWING STREETS, HAS BEEN COMPLETED WITH THE USE OF OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS: BURNETT, FRANKLIN, DEPOT, STRALKA LANE AND 600 FEET OF WATER STREET.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP AND THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP FIRE APPARATUS DRIVERS .THE CONTRACT WILL BE EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2022 TO DECEMBER 31, 2024.MR.ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA ROKE AND CZAPRACK "NAYS" NONE

MR.VISHNEFSKI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF BRIAN STASHAK FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS WITH REGRET EFFECTIVE AUGUST 5 2022. MS.ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA ROKE AND CZAPRACK "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #2 OF 2022 AN ORDINANCE OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF LUZERNE, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH OTHER PARTIES OF LUZERNE COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FORMING, ESTABLISHING, AND JOINIG A LAND BANK TO BE KNOWN AS THE LOWER SOUTH VALLEY LAND BANK. MR.ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA ROKE AND CZAPRACK. "NAYS" NONE

MR. ZYLA MOVED TO APPOINT RONALD JONES TO THE LOWER SOUTH VALLEY LAND BANK BOARD OF DIRECTORS. MR. JONES MEETS THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LAND BANKS LAW TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE BOARD MEMBER WHO IS A RESIDENT OF THE LAND BANK

JURISDICTION, IS NOT A PUBLIC OFFICER OR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE, AND MAINTAINS MEMBERSHIP WITH A RECOGNIZED CIVIC ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE LAND BANK JURISDICTION. MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA ROKE AND CZAPRACK. "NAYS" NONE

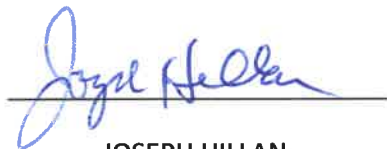
**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

MR. CZAPRACKI COMMENTED THAT IS GOOD TO SEE ALL OF THE PAVING, AND CONSTRUCTION WORK THAT IS TAKING PLACE IN THE TOWNSHIP.

MR. ROKE COMMENTED ON THE CO-OPERATION AND THE TIME THAT WAS PUT INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE CONTRACT THAT WAS APPROVED BETWEEN THE FIRE APPARATUS DRIVERS UNION AND THE TOWNSHIP.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR CZAPRACKI ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:32 PM



JOSEPH HILLAN  
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY



PAUL CZAPRCKI  
PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS