

# MINUTES

## NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JUNE 6, 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 WERE IN ATTENDANCE: MR.PAUL CZAPRACKI, MR. JOHN ZYLA, MS. DEBORAH FORGACH - ZALESKI, MR. MICHAEL ROKE AND MR JOHN VISHNEFSKI ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE TOWNSHIP MANAGER, JOSEPH HILLAN, ATTORNEY JOHN SOLT, FINANCIAL CONSULTANT JENNIFER POLITO

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:** MS.PALMIRA MILLER INFORMED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE RESIDENTS THAT THE MONTHLY CEO FOOD DISTRIBUTION WOULD BE HELD ON JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup> AT THE RECREATION PARK IN WANAMIE BEGINNING AT 11:00AM. MS.MILLER ALSO STATED THAT ALL RESIDENTS THAT WERE REGISTERED FOR THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION MUST RE-REGISTER. REGISTRATION DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup> AND JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> AT 10:00-12:00 AND 4:00-6:00. MS MILLER THANKED AMY SARAKA FOR ORGANIZING THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** MR. ROKE MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING FROM MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> BE APPROVED. MR.ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS. CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, "NAYS" NONE

### REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

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

GENERAL FUND	(FNCB)	\$553,117.65
CONTINGENCY FUND	(PLGIT)	\$145,648.47
CONTINGENCY FUND	(FNCB)	\$250,162.70
RECYCLING FUND	( FNCB)	\$34,961.94.
REFUSE FUND	(FNCB)	\$253,798.74
LIQUID FUELS	(PLGIT)	\$100,763.97
VEHICLE LEASE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$8,908.11
RECREATION USE FUND	(FNCB)	\$4,934.38
WVSA STORM WATER FUND		\$33,228.56
<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF MAY 31, 2022</b>		<b>\$1,385,524.02</b>

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

**APPROVAL OF NON-RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING MAY 2022:**

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF NON-RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF MAY TOTALING \$184,072.95. MR.VISHNEFSKI 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. CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

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

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN JUNE TOTALING \$129,824.79. MR.ROKE 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, CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, ROKE. "NAYS" NONE

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

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

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

ATTORNEY SOLT HAD NOTHING TO REPORT

**FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT REPORT:**

JENNIFER POLITO REPORTED THAT THE INCOME FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THE YEAR WAS \$894,480.33 AND THE EXPENSES WERE \$773,558.77. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE AUDITORS SHOULD BEGIN WORKING ON THE 2021 AUDIT IN THE LAST WEEK OF JULY.

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:**

- A. 1,677 REFUSE STICKERS HAVE BEEN SOLD OUT OF 1,694. 17 RESIDENTS HAVE NOT PAID THEIR 2022 REFUSE AND RECYCLING FEE. CITATIONS HAVE BEEN FILED AT THE MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE AND WE ARE WAITING FOR THE HEARINGS TO BE SCHEDULED.

2022 IS THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR THAT WE ARE AT A 99% COLLECTION RATE

B. GLEN LYON SIDEWALK PROJECT UPDATE: THE PROJECT IS PROCEEDING AND IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE SUMMER MONTHS

C. DEMOLITION UPDATE: GROUP #3 IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. BIDS WILL BE OPEN FOR GROUP #4, WHICH CONSISTS OF 128 WEST MAIN STREET AND 1050 EAST MAIN STREET IN WANAMIE AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON FRIDAY JUNE 10 AT 2:00 PM

D. ON TUESDAY JUNE 7, AT 7:00PM, I WILL BE ATTENDING TWO HEARINGS FOR VARIANCES AND SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS FROM THE LUZERNE COUNTY HEARING BOARD FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES

1.ALEXANDER MCNITT,MPM,118 S.MARKET STREET , NANTICOKE ,PA, A USE VARIANCE FOR PHASE I :CONVERT A FORMER SCHOOLTO LUXURY LOFTS & APARTMENTSUNITS(NOT TO EXCEED 33 )AND A SPECIAL EXCEPTION FOR PHASE 2:PLACE STORAGE UNITS (NOT TO EXCEED 200) WITH A PROPOSED OFFICE SPACE/STRUCTURE IN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP,LOCATED IN A GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

2. NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA SMSA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS, BENJAMIN SHAW, REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST, REQUEST A USE VARIANCE TO PLACE A COMMUNICATION TOWER AND THE FOLLOWING VARIANCES. SECTION 512 FOUNDATION OF TOWER SETBACK FROM SOUTHEASTERN PROPERTY LINE REQUIRED 158 FT. REQUESTED 72 FT. ,FOUNDATION OF TOWER SETBACK FROM EXISTING STRUCTURE. REQUIRED 158 FEET. REQUESTED 62 FEET., AT 351 WEST KIRMAR AVE, NEWPORT TOWNSHIP,LOCATED IN A (R-2)TWO FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

MS.ZALESKI MOVED TO APPROVE A FIVE YEAR LEASE AND A PARTIAL RELEASE AND WAIVER OF RESTRICTION AGREEMENT WITH NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA SMSA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS TO INSTALL A CELL TOWER ON PROPERTY OWNED BY NEWPORT TOWNSHIP LOCATED AT 351 WEST KIRMAR AVE. NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA. MR.VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS, CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO PURCHASE A 2004 SPARTAN RESCUE PUMPER FROM THE MONESSEN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT HOUSE COMPANY#2 FOR \$80,000.00. MR.VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS, CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ZYLA TO APPROVE THE 2022 LUZERNE COUNTY RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN MS.ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS, CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, ROKE. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO HIRE GABRIEL JOSEFOWICZ AS A PART TIME SUMMER EMPLOYEE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AT THE PART TIME RATE OF \$13.00 PER HOUR. MS.ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS, CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, ROKE. "NAYS" NONE

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

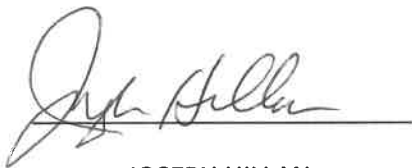
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THANKED COMMISSIONER ROKE FOR HIS EFFORTS IN PURCHASING THE USED FIRE ENGINE FROM THE MONESSEN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY.

ON FRIDAY JUNE 3, THE TOWNSHIP ACCEPTED DELIVERY OF AN F250 FORD PICK UP TRUCK FOR THE DPW, WHICH WILL BE A GREAT ASSET TO THE DEPARTMENT BOTH IN THE SUMMER MONTHS AND WITH SNOW REMOVAL. THE TOWNSHIP ALSO ACCEPTED DELIVERY OF A 2022 POLICE FORD INTERCEPTOR SUV, WHICH WAS SECURED THROUGH FUNDING FROM THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY...

PHOTOS WERE TAKEN WITH BOTH VEHICLES PRIOR TO THE START OF THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

**ADJOURNMENT:**

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR CZAPRACKI ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:22 PM



JOSEPH HILLAN  
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY

*vice chm.* 

PAUL CZAPRACKI  
- PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS