

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 1 ,2021

AT 5:50 PM CHAIRMAN PAUL CZAPRACKI CALLED THE LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE HEARING(LERTA) TO ORDER AND STARTED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. ATTORNEY BRIAN STAHL REPRESENTING NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PRESENTED ADVANTAGES THAT THE TOWNSHIP WOULD BENEFIT FROM WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BLISS PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP. THE REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX, EARNED INCOME TAX, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TAX WERE SOME BENEFITS THAT ATTORNEY STAHL MENTIONED. ALSO PRESENT AT THE HEARING VIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS WAS BRENT MILES OF NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT. HE SPOKE ABOUT THE CREATION OF 500 TO 1000 JOBS THAT COULD BE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROJECT.

ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER SLUSSER ASKED IF ANY MEMBER ONTHE BOARD OR ANY RESIDENTS HAD ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED (LERTA). THERE WERE NO QUESTIONS AND CHAIRMAN CZAPRACKI ADJOURNED THE HEARING.

MEETING OF MARCH 1 ,2021

PRESIDENT PAUL CZAPRACKI, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:10 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. JOHN ZYLA, MS. DEBORAH FORGACH - ZALESKI, MR. MICHAEL ROKE, MR JOHN VISHNEFSKI AND MR. PAUL CZAPRACKI. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE TOWNSHIP MANAGER, JOSEPH HILLAN, ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER SLUSSER, FINANCIAL CONSULTANT JENNIFER POLITO,

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. MR. ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO.1 OF 2020 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWPORT, ESTABLISHING A LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE ("LERTA") PROGRAM WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWPORT LOCATED ON APPROXIMATELY 83.303 ACRES OF LAND BEING A PORTION OF THE EARTH CONSERVANCY- BLISS I, BLISS II AND BLISS III SITES IN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, HANOVER TOWNSHIP AND NANTICOKE CITY, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. MR. ZYLA

- SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI.MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI." NAYS" NONE
- B. MS. ZALESKI MOVED TO APPROVE A COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP AND NORTHPOINT BLISS 1, LLC. MR. VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES" AYES" MS. ZALESKI.MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI." NAYS" NONE
- C. MR. ZYLA MOVED TO APPROVE AN ESCROW AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP AND NORTHPOINT BLISS 1, LLC. MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI." NAYS" NONE
- D. MR. ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO.2 OF 2021, A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, A MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF LUZERNE, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA APPROVING THE 2021 LUZERNE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN. MR. ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI." NAYS" NONE
- E. MR. ZYLA MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING INCREASES IN HOURLY RATES FOR THE FULL TIME DPW WORKERS RETROACTIVE FROM FEBRUARY 6 2021: JORDAN SAGER \$1.50, RICHARD GUZIAK \$1.25, MICHAEL PAUSKA \$1. 00 MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI." NAYS" NONE
- F. MR. ROKE MOVED TO HIRE, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, JOSEPH SAN MARCO AS A FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER WITH THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT.MS.ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI." NAYS" NONE
- G. JOSEPH SAN MARCO WAS SWORN IN AS A FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER BY POLICE COMMISSIONER JOHN ZYLA

CITIZENS COMMENTS: MS. PALMIRA MILLER THANKED THE TOWNSHIP DPW FOR THEIR CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH THE MONTHLY FOOD BANK THAT IS HELD AT THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RECREATION PARK. SHE WAS EXTREMELY THANKFUL FOR THE MOST RECENT FOOD DRIVE WITH THE SNOW REMOVAL FROM THE PARK.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MR. ZYLA MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 1,2021 COMMISSIONERS MEETING BE APPROVED. MR. VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT WAS CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

MR HILLAN REPORTED CASH ON HAND AS OF FEBRUARY 26, 2021 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	(FNCB)	\$183,562.68
CONTINGENCY FUND	(PLGIT)	\$145,611.07
RECYCLING FUND	(PLGIT)	\$5,317.20
REFUSE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$217.35
REFUSE FUND	(FNCB)	\$283,120.19
LIQUID FUELS	(PLGIT)	\$37,464.28
VEHICLE LEASE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$13,531.65
RECREATION USE FUND	(FNCB)	\$6,754.56
WVSA STORM WATER FUND		\$19,697.71
TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF FEBRUARY 26 ,2021		\$695,276.69

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

APPROVAL OF NON RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING FEBRUARY 2021:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF NON RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY TOTALING \$112,748.95 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, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI. "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF RECURRING BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN MARCH 2021:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN FEBRUARY TOTALING \$49,500.79. 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, CZAPRACKI. "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 SLUSSER HAD NOTHING TO REPORT

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT REPORT:

JENNIFER POLITO REPORTED THAT ALL OF THE REQUIRED DCED REPORTING HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY THE TOWNSHIP AND THAT OUR LIQUID FUELS FUND ALLOCATION FOR 2021 WAS DEPOSITED ON MARCH 1st. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE EARNED INCOME TAX WAS BEING COLLECTED AT A HIGHER RATE THAN ANTICIPATED FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

A. 1,400 REFUSE STICKERS HAVE BEEN SOLD COMPARED TO 1,399 THIS TIME LAST YEAR

B. TEXT MY GOV IS UP AND RUNNING. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF INFORMING RESIDENTS OF THIS NEW PROGRAM. DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEB-SITE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP.ORG

C. GLEN LYON SIDEWALK PROJECT UPDATE: WE ARE STILL WAITING TO HEAR FROM PENN DOT ON OUR REPLY TO THEIR QUESTION ON OBTAINING PERMITS FOR ALL OF THE SIDE STREETS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT AND ABOUT THE EIGHT INCH CURB REVEAL THAT THEY ARE REQUIRING.

D. NEWPORT TOWNSHIP HAS BEEN AWARDED AN ACT 101 SECTION 902 MUNICIPAL RECYCLING GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,430.00. THIS WILL OFFSET THE PRICE OF THE RECYCLING CONTAINERS THAT WERE PURCHASED IN 2019 FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$2,925.00

E. NORTH POINT BLISS 1, LLC WHO IS GOING TO DEVELOP APPROXIMATELY 83.29 ACRE SITE IN THE ALDEN SECTION OF OUR TOWNSHIP HAS AGREED TO SET UP AN ESCROW ACCOUNT FOR THE PERMIT FEES AND ALSO SET UP A COMMUNITY AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP THESE ISSUES WILL BE ADDRESSED IN THE NEW BUSINESS SECTION OF THE MEETING

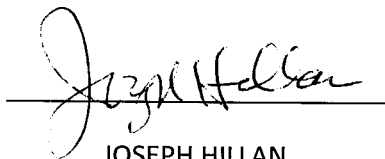
F. LCTA WILL BE INSTALLING A BUS SHELTER AT THE CORNER OF DEPOT ST AND WEST MAIN STREET IN GLEN LYON. THAT IS IN FRONT OF KEN POLLOCK APARTMENTS. INSTALLATION IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

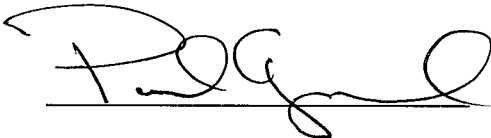
MR. ZYLA AND MR CZAPRACKI COMMENDED MR. JOHN ELMY FOR HIS CONTINUOUS TIME THAT HE VOLUNTEERS AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE HELPING WITH VARIOUS PROJECTS.

ADJOURNMENT:

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR CZAPRACKI ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:35 PM



JOSEPH HILLAN
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY



PAUL CZAPRACKI
PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS