

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JULY 1, 2024

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

CITIZENS COMMENTS: JOSEPH HOLOCHEK PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL TO THE BOARD FOR HIS EAGE SCOUT PROJECT:

Joseph Holocheck - Eagle Scout Project Newport Township Park bench proposal

This project was chosen to benefit the community of Newport Township and those within the community that are unable to navigate the walking trail without taking a rest.

Project proposal:

- Installation of park benches along walking trail in the Wanamie Recreation Park.
- Two (2) benches will be installed. One bench on either side of the walking trail. If funding permits, an additional bench may be installed at the far end of the trail.
- Benches, supplies, labor, and project management will be provided at no cost to Newport Township. All labor will involve members of Troop 418 and family members.
- Funds will be acquired through fundraising efforts by myself, Joseph Holocheck. Any available funding that has not been used for the park bench project will be provided to the recreation committee for future endeavors.

Please consider approving this proposal for the betterment of Newport Township and Residents. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joseph Holocheck, Life Scout
Troop 418

MS.PALMIRA MILLER INFORMED THE BOARD THAT BEGINNING IN JULY THE CEO FOOD DRIVE WILL BE FOR NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. ZYLA MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING FROM JUNE 3RD BE APPROVED. 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

REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

MR HILLAN REPORTED CASH ON HAND AS OF JUNE 30, 2024 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	FNCB)	\$196,268.35
CONTINGENCY FUND	(PLGIT)	\$775,415.10
CAPITAL PURCHASE ACCT	(PLGIT)	\$37,778.53
RECYCLING FUND	(PLGIT)	\$49,068.52
REFUSE FUND	(FNCB)	\$32,526.85
REFUSE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$270,117.55
LIQUID FUELS	(PLGIT)	\$96,963.65
RECREATION USE FUND	(FNCB)	\$2,321.87
TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF JUNE 30, 2024		\$1,460,470.42

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.VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF NON-RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING JUNE 2024:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF NON-RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE TOTALING \$378,445.45. 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 JULY 2024:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN JULY TOTALING \$64,943.01. MR. ROKE MOVED THAT THE LIST BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. 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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| 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 IS REPORT:

ATTORNEY SLUSSER HAD NOTHING TO REPORT

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT REPORT:

MS. JENNIFER POLITO REPORTED THAT THE TOWNSHIP INCOME YEAR TO DATE IS \$1,395,913.02 AND THE EXPENSES ARE \$1,389,942.51. MS.POLITO ALSO REPORTED THAT THE AUDITOR HAS STARTED THE 2023 AUDIT.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

A.FORTY-NINE CERTIFIED LETTERS WERE MAILED ON FRIDAY JUNE 14TH TO RESIDENTS WHO DID NOT PAY THE 2024 REFUSE AND RECYCLING FEE. IF PAYMENT IS NOT RECEIVED BY JUNE 28TH, CITATIONS WILL BE FILED WITH MAGISTRATE WHITTAKER.

B. THE ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT THAT WAS CONDUCTED ON SATURDAY MAY 20th WAS A SUCCESS; ONE TRUCK WAS FILLED WITH DIFFERENT ELECTRONIC ITEMS. THE PAPER SHREDDING WILL BE HELD SEPTEMBER 14TH FROM 9 AM UNTIL NOON.

C. PENN EASTERN IS WORKING ON COST ESTIMATES FOR THE REBUILDING OF JAMES AND MARK STREETS AS WELL AS THE REPAVING OF VISTA, AND OVERLOOK DRIVE IN RIDGEVIEW TO SUBMIT FOR A DCED MULTI MODEL GRANT. THIS GRANT REQUIRES A 30% MATCH.

NEW BUSINESS:

MS ZALESKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT OF JOSEPH HOLOCHECK AT THE WANAMIE RECREATION PARK. ON THE QUESTION MR ZYLA COMMENDED JOSEPH ON HIS EXCELLENT PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD. 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

MR ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$7,848.75 FROM THE REFUSE ACCOUNT AND \$14,687.25 FROM THE RECYCLING ACCOUNT TO THE GENERAL ACCOUNT TO COVER EXPENSES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2024. MR. ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS.ZALESKI MESSERS.VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, AND CZAPRACKI. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 19 OF 2023 ACCEPTING THE DEDICATION OF PRIVATELY-OWNED REAL PROPERTY FROM MARCELLA SEDOR KELLY AS EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MARCELLA G. SEDOR FOR USE AS PUBLIC ROADS. 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

MR.ZYLA MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #6 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE COUNTY, AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP MANAGER JOSEPH HILLAN TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT FOR GRANT MONEY FOR \$766,678.99 FOR THE PAVING OF JAMES AND MARK STREET, VISTA DRIVE AND OVERLOOK DRIVE UNDER THE DCED MULTI MODEL TRANSPORTATION FUND. MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS.ZALESKI MESSERS.VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, AND CZAPRACKI. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO HIRE BRIAN MANDECK AS A PART TIME FIRE APPARATUS DRIVER. 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

MR.VISHNEFSKI MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO.7 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWPORT, LUZERNE COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA NAMING ONE ROADWAY (REC PARK DRIVE IN WANAMIE) 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

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

MR .ROKE COMMENTED THAT THE NEW FIRE ENGINE IS NEARING COMPLETION AND THAT HE AND A FEW MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ARE GOING TO FLORIDA NEXT WEEK FOR AN

INSPECTION OF THE UNIT. MR.ROKE ALSO STATED THAT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL GREATLY BENEFIT FROM THE HIRING OF THE EXPERIENCED BRIAN MANDECK.

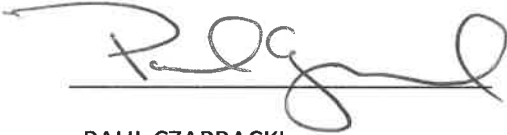
ADJOURNMENT:

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR CZAPRACKI ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:26 PM



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Joseph Hillan', written over a horizontal line.

JOSEPH HILLAN
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Paul Czapracki', written over a horizontal line.

PAUL CZAPRACKI
PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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