

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MAY 1, 2023

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 CHRISTOPHER SLUSSER, FINANCIAL CONSULTANT JENNIFER POLITO

CEREMONIAL SIGNING: MR. DAVE ROBERTS FROM THE GLICK FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY WAS IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE COMMISSIONERS TO SIGN THE COSTARS CONTRACT FOR GLICK TO BUILD A NEW SABER PUMPER TRUCK FOR NEWPORT TOWNSHIP AT THE COSTARS PRICE OF \$767,900. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE SIGNING WERE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP FIRE CHIEF JASON KOWALSKI AND NANTICOKE CITY FIRE CHIEF MARK BONCAL.

CITIZENS RECOGNITION: THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZED THE FOLLOWING CITIZENS AND PRESENTED A PLAQUE FOR THEIR SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY: BERNICE SHIPP AND GERALD MULLERY. JOHN YUDICHAK, ALLEN KROPIEWNICKI AND MICHAEL YALCH WERE ALSO HONORED BUT WERE NOT IN ATTENDANCE.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: RICHARD STEWART ASKED THE BOARD WHAT THE QUIET TIME IS IN THE TOWNSHIP AND QUESTIONED THE USE OF JAKE BRAKES ON E. KIRMAR AVE. AND THE ZONING OF THE OLD ALDEN HOSE HOUSE.

PALMIRA MILLER THANKED THE BOARD FOR THE USE OF THE MUNICIPAL GARAGE FOR THE MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION. MR. ZYLA THANKED HER AND MS. BEZDZIECKI FOR THEIR CONTINUED EFFORTS IN KEEPING THE LOCAL ROADWAYS CLEAR OF LITTER.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MR. ZYLA MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING FROM APRIL 4TH BE APPROVED. MR. ROKE 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 APRIL 28, 2023 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	(FNCB)	\$621,917.52
CONTINGENCY FUND	(PLGIT)	\$849,145.90
CAPITAL PURCHASE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$35,624.19
RECYCLING FUND	(PLGIT)	\$37,463.96
REFUSE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$164,221.26
REFUSE FUND	(FNCB)	\$30,012.78
LIQUID FUELS	(PLGIT)	\$116,259.92
VEHICLE LEASE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$16,792.55
RECREATION USE FUND	(FNCB)	\$4,934.38
WVSA STORM WATER FUND		\$26,809.78
TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF APRIL 28, 2023		\$1,903,182.24

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

APPROVAL OF NON-RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING APRIL 2023:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF NON-RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL TOTALING \$293,147.43. 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, ROKE, ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF RECURRING BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN MAY 2023:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN MAY TOTALING \$65,700.46. MS.ZALESKI MOVED THAT THE LIST BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. MR. ROKE 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 SLUSSER HAD NOTHING TO REPORT

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT REPORT:

JENNIFER POLITO REPORTED THAT THE INCOME FOR THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF THE YEAR WAS \$1,330,390.64 AND THE EXPENSES WERE \$903,398.68.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A. 1,420 REFUSE STICKERS HAVE BEEN SOLD AS OF APRIL 28TH . THE FEE WILL INCREASE TO \$420.00 ON MAY 1ST.
- B. GLEN LYON SIDEWALK PROJECT UPDATE: CONSTRUCTION WAS DELAYED AND IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN MAY 1ST .
- C. DEMOLITION UPDATE: DEMOLITION OF 81 WEST MAIN STREET AND 77 RIDGE STREET IS SCHEDULED FOR THE FIRST WEEK IN MAY.
- D. STREET PAVING UPDATE: VANDERMARK ROAD AND NEWPORT STREET WILL BE PAVED IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. PENN EASTERN IS WORKING ON SPECS FOR THE PAVING OF ADDITIONAL STREETS WITH THE \$200,000.00 REMAINING FROM THE COUNTY GRANT WE RECEIVED FOR THE VANDERMARK AND NEWPORT PROJECT.
- E. WE RECEIVED OUR AWARD LETTER FROM LUZERNE COUNTY INFORMING US OF OUR AWARD OF \$395,738.50 FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN GRANT PROGRAM.
- F. PENNEASTERN IS PREPARING SPECS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE DRAINAGE CULVERT ON PARK STREET, RAILROAD STREET, AND AN UNNAMED ALLEWAY PARALLEL TO RAILROAD STREET IN GLEN LYON. WE WILL BE APPLYING FOR FLOOD MITIGATION GRANT TO COVER THE COST OF THIS PROJECT WITH MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE WVSA
- G. NEWPORT TOWNSHIP WILL BE HOLDING TWO PAPER-SHREDDING EVENTS JUNE 17TH AND OCTOBER 21ST FROM 9AM UNTIL 12PM AND AN ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT ON JULY 1ST FROM 9AM UNTIL 11AM.
- H. COMCAST IS EXPERIENCING DELAYS WITH THE PERMITTING AT UGI. ONCE PERMITS ARE OBTAINED THEY WILL BEGIN TO RUN LINES AND CUSTOMERS WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE SERVICE.

NEW BUSINESS:

MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #4 OF 2023 A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE COUNTY, AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP MANAGER JOSEPH HILLAN, TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT MONEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,636.00 FOR CULVERT REPAIRS AND STORM DRAIN REPAIRS UNDER THE FLOOD MITIGATION PROGRAM. . MS.ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS. CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

MS.ZALESKI MOVED TO APPOINT BHW CONSTRUCTION CONSULTATION SERVICES INC. TO PROVIDE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP WITH PERMITTING, PLAN REVIEW, INSPECTION AND CODE

ENFORCEMENT SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PA UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE
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

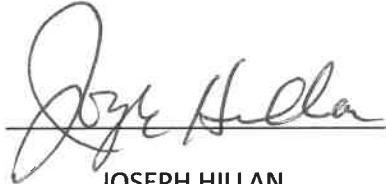
MR.VISHNEFSKI MOVED TO GRANT PERMISSION TO THE NANTICOKE AREA SOCCER
ASSOCIATION USE OF THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RECREATION PARK DURING THE 2023 SOCCER
SEASON MS.ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND
NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS. CZAPRACKI, VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:


MR VISHNEFSKI THANKED MR ROKE FOR ALL OF THE EXCELLENT WORK THAT HE HAS BEEN
DOING WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

ADJOURNMENT:

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR CZAPRACKI
ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:30 PM



JOSEPH HILLAN
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY



PAUL CZAPRACKI
- PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS