

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3,2020

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. MICHAEL ROKE, MS. DEBORAH FORGACH - ZALESKI, AND MR. JOHN ZYLA. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE ATTORNEY JOHN SOLT (REPRESENTING SOLICITOR, ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER SLUSSER) AND TOWNSHIP MANAGER, JOSEPH HILLAN. ABSENT WAS COMMISSIONER JOHN VISHNEFSKI.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

THERE WERE NO CITIZENS COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MR ZYLA MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 6,2020 COMMISSIONERS' MEETING BE APPROVED. MR ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT WAS CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS. ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

MR HILLAN REPORTED CASH ON HAND AS OF JANUARY 31, 2020 AS FOLLOWS:

a. GENERAL FUND (FNCB)	\$141,561.26
b. CONTINGENCY FUND (PLGIT)	\$144,875.79
c. RECYCLING FUND(FNCB)	\$21,529.19
d. REFUSE FUND(PLGIT)	\$98,871.77
e. REFUSE FUND(FNCB)	\$12,886.42
f. LIQUID FUELS(PLGIT)	\$33,722.63
g. VEHICLE LEASE FUND	\$15,080.24
h. RECREATION USE FUND	\$6,754.56
i. WWSA STORM WATER FUND	\$27,333.57

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF JANUARY 31,2020: \$502,615.43

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

APPROVAL OF RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING JANUARY 2020:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING TH MONTH OF JANUARY TOTALLING \$106,128.06. 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. ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF NON RECURRING BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN FEBRUARY:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN FEBRUARY TOTALLING \$51,222.32. MS. ZALESKI 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 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 | (NO REPORT) |

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

ATTORNEY JOHN SOLT REPORTED ON THE REVISED HANDICAP AND BURNING ORDINANCES

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT REPORT:

JENNIFER POLITO REPORTED THAT THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE TOWNSHIP IS SOUND AND THAT ALL DEPARTMENTS ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO STAY IN OR UNDER THEIR BUDGETS

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

MR HILLAN PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING REPORT:

- A. WE RECEIVED A THANK YOU LETTER FROM MICHAEL DZIAK FOR THE PLAQUE THAT WAS PRESENTED TO HIM FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF EARTH CONSERVANCY. A COPY IS ENCLOSED IN YOUR FOLDER

- B. 701 REFUSE STICKERS WERE SOLD COMPARED TO 915 THIS TIME LAST YEAR

C. DEMOLITION UPDATES:

1. 1246 CENTER STREET (SUE HEINZ PROPERTY) BIDS WERE OPEN ON JANUARY 24TH AND WILL BE DISCUSSED UNDER NEW BUSINESS
2. 129-131 EAST MAIN STREET (CHARLIE HAYES PROPERTY) THE \$60,000.00 GRANT FOR DEMOLITION OF THE PROPERTY WAS DEPOSITED IN OUR ACCOUNT ON JANUARY 29TH. WE ARE NOW WAITING FOR THE DEED TO BE SIGNED BY MR. HAYES AND THE APPROVAL OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT OF THE TRANSFER
3. 161-162 BROWN ROW STILL WAITING FOR THE APPROVAL OF LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE SALE TO THE TOWNSHIP WHICH SHOULD BE ON THE AGENDA FOR THE FIRST COUNCIL MEETING IN FEBRUARY
4. 23-25 NEWPORT STREET WAS DEMOLISHED BY THE OWNER

D. RAILROAD ST DRAINAGE PROJECT PHASE 1, THE INSTALLATION OF ALL OF THE DRAIN PIPE IS COMPLETE AND PAVING WILL BE DONE IN THE SPRING

E. ON JANUARY 29TH. I ATTENDED A MEETING OF THE LOWER SOUTH VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS. IT WAS DECIDED TO ASSESS EACH MEMBER A \$600.00 ANNUAL FEE TO HELP DEFRAID THE COSTS OF INSURANCE FOR THE EQUIPMENT OWNED BY THE COG. IT WAS ALSO DECIDED TO DEFRAID THE MAINTENANCE COSTS OF THE EQUIPMENT, THE BILLS WOULD BE SPLIT BETWEEN MEMBERS DEPENDING ON USAGE.

NEW BUSINESS:

MS. ZALESKI MOVED TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH SMART RECYCLING OF DUNMORE FOR \$13,000.00 FOR THE DEMOLITION OF 1246 CENTER ST WANAMIE UPON FINAL APPROVAL FROM LUZERNE COUNTY. MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS. ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

MS. ZALESKI MOVED TO AUTHORIZE JOSEPH HILLAN TO EXECUTE THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND STANDARD OF CONDUCT CERTIFICATION WITH LUZERNE COUNTY FOR THE DEMOLITION OF 1246 CENTER ST WANAMIE. MR. ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAYE VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS. ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

MR. ZYLA MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO.1 OF 2020 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWPORT, COUNTY OF LUZERNE AND COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING ORDINANCE NO.6 OF 2004 ESTABLISHING AND REGULATING HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES WITHIN THE

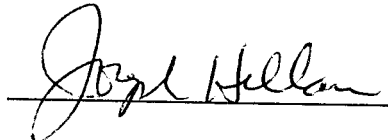
TOWNSHIP. MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI. MESSERS ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

MS. ZALESKI MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO.2 OF 2020 AN ORDINANCE OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP REGULATING THE CARRYING OUT OF BURNING WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP. MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS. ROKE ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE


MR. ZYLA MOVED TO APPOINT JOSEPH HILLAN AS THE RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER FOR NEWPORT TOWNSHIP. MR ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI.MESSERS ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

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



JOSEPH HILLAN
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY



PAUL CZAPRACKI
PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS