

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AUGUST 7, 2023

VICE PRESIDENT JOHN ZYLA, 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 JOHN VISHNEFSKI, MR.MICHAEL ROKE AND MS.DEBORAH FORGACH ZALESKI. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE TOWNSHIP MANAGER, JOSEPH HILLAN, ATTORNEY CHRIS SLUSSER, AND FINANCIAL CONSULTANT JENNIFER POLITO. MR.PAUL CZAPRACKI WAS ABSENT.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

PALMIRA MILLER INFORMED THE BOARD THAT THE MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY AUGUST 12TH AT THE MUNICIPAL GARAGE BEGINNING AT 11AM.

MS.KRISSY BLANK PRESENTED PICTURES TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF 87,91 AND 93 EAST MAIN STREET GLEN LYON SHOWING WORK THAT WAS DONE AT THE PROPERTIES OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS THAT DID NOT HAVE ANY BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED ON FILE AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE.

MS .MARIANNE CAPECE THANKED THE BOARD FOR ABATING THE HIGH GRASS AND WEEDS ISSUE AT 135 EAST MAIN STREET AND INQUIRED IF PENN DOT COMPLETED THEIR FINAL INSPECTION OF THE SIDEWALK PROJECT.

MR.PAUL SHIPTOSKI THANKED THE BOARD FOR ALL OF THEIR GREAT WORK IN THE GLEN LYON AREA WITH THE SIDEWALK PROJECT AND THE DEMOLITION OF THE BLIGHTED PROPERTIES. MR.SHIPTOSKI ALSO INFORMED THE BOARD THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILLITY THAT THE OLD CHOPAKS BAR WAS SOLD TO SOMEONE FROM NEW YORK WITH THE INTENT TO OPEN A BYOB STRIP CLUB. THE BOARD INFORMED HIM THAT THEY WOULD GO ON RECORD AGAINST SUCH AN ESTABLISHMENT AND WILL BE CONFERING WITH THE SOLICITOR..

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

FIRE DEPARTMENT WHO RECENTLY COMPLETED PUMPER DRIVER OPERATOR BOARD CERT TRAINING

SOLICITOR IS REPORT:

ATTORNEY SLUSSER HAD NOTHING TO REPORT

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT REPORT:

JENNIFER POLITO REPORTED THAT THE INCOME YEAR TO DATE IS \$2,465,981.02 AND EXPENSES ARE \$1,701,475.97. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE AUDIT FOR 2022 WAS COMPLETE A COPY OF THE FINANCIALS WAS IN THE COMMISSIONERS PACKET FOR REVIEW.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A. REFUSE COLLECTION UPDATE: 26 HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 29TH AT MAGISTRATE WHITTAKERS FOR RESIDENTS WHO HAVE NOT PAID THEIR 2023 REFUSE AND RECYCLING FEE...
- B. DEMOLITION UPDATE: 101 NEWPORT STREET , 100 RAILROAD STREET AND REAR 4 WEST ENTERPRISE STREET WILL BE ADVERTISED FOR BIDS FOR DEMOLITION AND WILL BE AWARDED AT THE SEPTEMBER COMMISSIONERS MEETING
- C. PAVING UPDATE: WE ARE EXPECTING APPROVAL FROM LUZERNE COUNTY IN MID AUGUST ON THE STREETS THAT WE SUBMITTED FOR PAVING USING THE REMAINDER OF THE FUNDS FROM THE NEWPORT STREET /VANDERMARK ROAD GRANT.
- D. GLEN LYON SIDEWALK UPDATE: THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE. THE CONTRACTOR IS WORKING ON THE PUNCH LIST THAT WAS COMPILED DURING A RECENT WALKING INSPECTION OF THE PROJECT
- E. CELL TOWER UPDATES: THE WANAMIE TOWER IS OPERATIONAL AND CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN ON THE GLEN LYON TOWER.
- F. ON AUGUST 1ST THE LUZERNE COUNTY ZONING HEARING BOARD GRANTED OUR REQUEST FOR A USE VARIANCE TO PLACE AN ILLUMINATED MESSAGE BOARD SIGN IN FRONT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.
- G. THE LOWER SOUTH VALLEY LAND BANK WILL BE ACQUIRING FOUR PROPERTIES AT THE AUGUST LUZERNE COUNTY JUDICIAL SALE 1 - 48 NEWPORT STREET 2 - 69-71 WEST MAIN STREET 3 - 5 ARCH STREET 4 - 128 WEST MAIN STREET

NEW BUSINESS

MR.ROKE MOVED TO AWARD CONTRACT #1 BASE BID FROM THE LUZERNE COUNTY ARPPA FUNDED IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$107,447.95 FOR GENERAL CONSTRUCTION AT THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RECREATION PARK RESTROOM/STORAGE FACILITIES AND PAVILIONS TO H&P CONSTRUCTION OF KULPMONT PENNSYLVANIA PENDING THE APPROVAL OF THE TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR AND TOWNSHIP ENGINEER.MS. ZALESKI

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

MR.ROKE MOVED TO AWARD CONTRACT #2 FROM THE LUZERNE COUNTY ARPPA FUNDED IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,275.00 FOR PLUMBING AT THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RECREATION PARK RESTROOM/STORAGE FACILITIES AND PAVILIONS TO LINCO OF HUNLOCK CREEK PENNSYLVANIA PENDING THE APPROVAL OF THE TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR AND TOWNSHIP ENGINEER. MR.VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA AND ROKE "NAYS" NONE

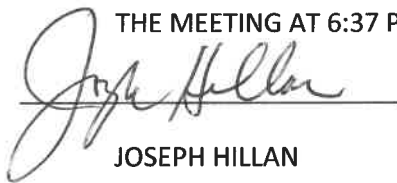
MS. ZALESKI MOVED TO AWARD CONTRACT #3 FROM THE LUZERNE COUNTY ARPPA FUNDED IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,420 FOR ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION AT THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RECREATION PARK RESTROOM/STORAGE FACILITIES AND PAVILIONS TO VISHNEFSKI ELECTRICAL OF NANTICOKE PENNSYLVANIA PENDING THE APPROVAL OF THE TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR AND TOWNSHIP ENGINEER. MR.ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS ZYLA AND ROKE. "NAYS" NONE MR.VISHNEFSKI ABSTAINED.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

MR ZYLA STATED THAT IT WAS GREAT TO SEE SUCH A LARGE CROWD AND TO SEE SO MANY CHILDREN ENJOYING THE FESTIVITIES AT THE NIGHT OUT, WHICH WAS HELD ON AUGUST 1ST. MR.ZYLA ALSO THANKED ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CRIME WATCH ORGANIZATION FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO THE CRIME WATCH ORGANIZATION AND KRISSY BLANK FOR GETTING ALL OF THE DONATIONS FOR THE BASKET RAFFLE.

ADJOURNMENT:

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR ZYLA ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:37 PM


JOSEPH HILLAN
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY


JOHN ZYLA
VICE PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS