

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NOVEMBER 6, 2024

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. MICHAEL ROKE MR.JOHN VISHNEFSKI AND MS. DEBORAH FORGACH -ZALESKI. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE TOWNSHIP MANAGER JOSEPH HILLAN, AND ATTORNEY CHRIS SLUSSER .MR.PAUL CZAPRACKI WAS ABSENT.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: MR.DAVID FINOGLE INFORMED THE BOARD THAT TRUCKS WITH UNCOVERED LOADS TRAVELING ON WEST MAIN STREET NEAR THE APPLE STREET INTERSECTION ARE LOSING ROCKS ALONG THE ROADWAY.MR.ZYLA INFORMED MR.FINOGLE TO CONTACT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT WHEN THIS HAPPENS AGAIN.

MR.RICH STEWART ADDRESSED THE BOARD ABOUT BURNING AND NOISE COMPLAINTS ON WEST KIRMAR AVE IN ALDEN. MR.ZYLA INFORMED MR.STEWART THAT HE WOULD SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH MR.HILLAN, AND CHIEF BLANK TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES.

MISS PALMYRA MILLER STATED THAT THE MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9TH.VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AND CAN REPORT TO THE MUNICIPAL GARAGE AT 9:00 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MS.ZALESKI MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING FROM NOVEMBER 4TH BE APPROVED. MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA "NAYS" NONE MR.ROKE ABSTAINED

REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

MR HILLAN REPORTED CASH ON HAND AS OF OCTOBER 31 2024 IS AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	(FNCB)	\$106,368.39
CAPITAL PURCHASE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$28,725.50
CONTINGENCY FUND	(PLGIT)	\$706,132.83
RECYCLING FUND	(PLGIT)	\$19,895.20
REFUSE FUND	(FNCB)	\$30,801.90
REFUSE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$93,268.53
LIQUID FUELS	(PLGIT)	\$55,524.91

RECREATION USE FUND (FNCB) \$100.00

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF OCTOBER 31 2024 \$1,040,818.01

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, AND ZYLA "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF NON RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING OCTOBER 2024:

- MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF NON RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER TOTALING \$173,926.95. 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, AND ZYLA "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF RECURRING BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN NOVEMBER 2024:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN NOVEMBER TOTALING \$60,008.28. 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 VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| a. STREET DEPARTMENT | MR HILLAN |
| 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: NO REPORT

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A. *2025 PROPOSED BUDGETS PRESENTATION: THE 2025 BUDGETS TOTAL \$2,539,146.00 .THE 2025 TAX RATE IS 4.00 MILLS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES, THE 2025 TAX RATE FOR FIRE PROTECTION IS .50 . THE PROPOSED BUDGETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ONLINE ON THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE AND AT THE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING UNTIL DECEMBER 2, 2024.THERE ARE NO TAX INCREASES FOR 2025.*
- B. *THE GLEN LYON PAVING PROJECT WAS COMPLETED ON MONDAY OCTOBER 28TH.*
- C. *THE DEMOLITION OF 48 NEWPORT STREET AND THE GARAGE AT 69-71 WEST MAIN STREET IN GLEN LYON WAS COMPLETED ON OCTOBER 18TH.*
- D. *ON OCTOBER 23RD, NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE ALEC RYNCAVAGE THAT WE WERE AWARDED A \$261,000.00 STATEWIDE*

LSA GRANT TO FINISH THE INSTALLATION OF SIDEWALKS ALONG EAST AND WEST MAIN STREET IN GLEN LYON.

- E. ENGINEERING WORK IS STARTING ON THE 2024 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. THE PROJECT WILL BE PUT OUT FOR BID IN EARLY 2025 . THE PROJECT AT THIS TIME CONSISTS OF ADA COMPLIANT RAMPS ON ORCHARD STREET AND THE PAVING OF FAIRFIELD STREET IN GLEN LYON.*
- F. ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7TH (TOMORROW EVENING) AT 5:00 PM LCTA WILL HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING HERE AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING TO DISCUSS ROUTE CHANGES AND MICROTRANSIT.*

NEW BUSINESS

MR.ROKE MOVED TO TERMINATE THE EMPLOYMENT OF DPW EMPLOYEE # 02 EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2024. MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO HIRE JOAN BULLOCK AS A PART TIME CROSSING GUARD. MR. VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA "NAYS" NONE

MS.ZALESKI MOVED TO ADVERTISE FOR SALE THE 2015 F750 ON MUNICIBID. MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #13 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA TO ADOPT PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FOR THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS TERM OF EXISTENCE FOR TWO YEARS. MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPOINT DAWSON JENKINS TO A FIVE YEAR TERM ON THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY. MR. VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA "NAYS" NONE

MS.ZALESKI MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 14 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE TOWNSHIP'S INTENTION TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NECESSARY TO PURSUE THE PREPARATION AND ENTRY INTO AN ASSET PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE SALE OF THE SEWAGE COLLECTION AND

CONVEYANCE SYSTEM AND ANCILLARY FACILITIES PRESENTLY OWNED BY THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY TO THE WYOMING VALLEY SEWER AUTHORITY. MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 15 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, LUZERNE COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPOINTING JOSEPH HILLAN AS A MEMBER OF THE LOWER SOUTH VALLEY LAND BANK BOARD OF DIRECTORS. . MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

MR.VISHNEFSKI MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #.16 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP MANAGER JOSEPH HILLAN TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A STATEWIDE LOCAL SHARE ASSESSMENT GRANT OF \$149,919.00 FROM THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY TO BE USED FOR THE INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF STRALKA LANE AND RAILROAD STREET IN GLEN LYON, NEWPORT TOWNSHIP. MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #.17 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP MANAGER JOSEPH HILLAN TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A STATEWIDE LOCAL SHARE ASSESSMENT GRANT OF \$803,926.20 FROM THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY TO BE USED FOR THE PAVING OF TWO STREETS IN THE WHITNEY POINT SECTION OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP. . MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA. "NAYS" NONE

MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #.18 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP MANAGER JOSEPH HILLAN TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A STATEWIDE LOCAL SHARE ASSESSMENT GRANT OF \$73,205.00 FROM THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE REPLACEMENT OF CONCRETE SIDEWALKS BETWEEN WEST ENTERPRISE STREET AND WATER STREET IN GLEN LYON. MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA "NAYS" NONE


MR.ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #.19 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP MANAGER JOSEPH HILLAN TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A STATEWIDE LOCAL SHARE ASSESSMENT GRANT OF \$696,009.10 FROM THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY TO BE USED FOR THE PAVING OF FIVE STREETS IN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP. MR. VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, AND ZYLA "NAYS" NONE

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

MR.ZYLA ANNOUNCED THAT NEWPORT UNITED WILL BE MEETING TOMORROW NIGHT NOVEMBER 7TH AT 6:00PM AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

ADJOURNMENT:

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR ZYLA ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:31 PM


JOSEPH HILLAN
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY


JOHN ZYLA
VICE PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

