

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2017

PRESIDENT PAUL CZAPRACKI CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00pm AND STARTED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE TO THE FLAG.

ROLE CALL:

THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE: MR. CZAPRACKI, MR. ZYLA, MR. VISHNEFSKI AND MR. ROKE. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WAS SOLICITOR ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER SLUSSER AND TOWNSHIP MANAGER PETER WANCHISEN.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

1. DAVID FINOGLE, 99 W. MAIN ST., GLEN LYON COMMENTED ON THE POOR CONDITION AND APPEARANCE OF THE MAIN STREETS IN THE TOWNSHIP AND QUESTIONED WHETHER THE COMMISSIONERS WERE AWARE OF GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR IMPROVEMENTS. A DISCUSSION ABOUT WHAT PLANS ARE IN PLACE TO TAP INTO POSSIBLE GRANTS.
2. FRANK CHEST, GLEN LYON, AGAIN DEMANDED THAT IMPROVEMENTS BE MADE TO A PIECE OF LAND THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED TO NOT BE A DEDICATED TOWNSHIP ROAD. TOWNSHIP PRESIDENT, PAUL CZAPRACKI, WILL WRITE A FORMAL LETTER REITERATING THE TOWNSHIP'S POSITION ON THIS MATTER.
3. HEIDI JARECKI COMPLIMENTED THE TOWNSHIP'S STREET DEPARTMENT FOR THE WORK DONE TO IMPROVE THE CONDITION OF AN ALLEY ALONG THE POST OFFICE. SHE VOICED HER CONCERN DURING THE FEBRUARY 6, 2017 COMMISSIONERS MEETING AND WORK WAS STARTED VERY SOON AFTER THAT. ALL OF THE COMMISSIONERS THANKED HEIDI FOR THE KIND WORDS.
4. PALMIRA MILLER PROVIDED AN UPDATE ON THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM AND THANKED ALL VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HELP. SHE ALSO ANNOUNCED AND EXPANSION TO INCLUDE A NEW PROGRAM CALLED SENIORS FOOD BOX. WHILE AT THE PODIUM SHE SOLICITED CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT FOR THE UPCOMING "KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL" CLEAN UP. PALMIRA CONCLUDED BY HIGHLIGHTING AN INITIATIVE THAT PLANTED 7,500 TREES IN PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 6, 2017 COMMISSIONERS MEETING WAS MADE BY MR. ZYLA AND SECONDED BY MR VISHNEFSKI. ALL COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTED YES AND THE MOTION PASSED.

REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

MR WANCHISEN REPORTED THE CASH ON HAND AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2017 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	\$140,726.47
PAYROLL FUND	\$1,268.41
RECYCLE FUND	\$29,544.65
REFUSE FUND	\$240,068.54
UDAG	\$22,144.21
PLGIT (liquid fuels)	\$473.18
FIRE DEPT CONTROLLED	<u>\$18,295.51</u>
TOTAL	\$452,520.97

A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORT OF CASH ON HAND WAS MADE BY MR. VISHNEFSKI AND SECONDED BY MR. ROKE. ALL COMMISSIONERS PRESENT VOTED YES AND THE MOTION PASSED.

APPROVAL OF RECURRING BILLS:

A LIST OF RECURRING BILLS TOTALLING \$64,565.00 THAT WERE PAID DURING FEBRUARY, 2017 WAS PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR APPROVAL. MR. VISHNEFSKI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT. MR. ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTED YES, AND THE MOTION PASSED.

APPROVAL OF NON REOCCURRING BILLS TO BE PAID IN MARCH, 2017:

A LIST OF NONREOCCURRING BILLS TOTALLING \$72,622.76 WAS PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR APPROVAL. MR. VISHNEFSKI MOVED THAT THE BILLS BE PAID AND HIS MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. ROKE. ALL COMMISSIONERS PRESENT VOTED YES AND THE MOTION PASSED.

THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENT REPORTS WERE PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSIONERS RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSIGHT:

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| 1. STREET DEPARTMENT | MR. CZAPRACKI |
| 2. POLICE DEPARTMENT | MR. ZYLA |
| 3. CODE ENFORCEMENT | MR. HILLAN (ADMIN/OPERATIONS DIRECTOR) |
| 4. FIRE DEPARTMENT | MR. ROKE |
| 5. PARKS & RECREATION | MR. VISHNEFSKI (VERBAL REPORT) |

COPIES OF THE WRITTEN REPORTS ARE INCORPORATED IN THESE MINUTES AND WILL BE A PERMANENT PART THEREOF.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER SLUSSER PROVIDED A COPY OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 2017-01, WHICH WOULD ADOPT THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE. MR. VISHNEFSKI MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE WHICH WAS SECONDED BY MR. ROKE. ALL COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTED YES, AND THE MOTION PASSED.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

MR. WANCHISEN REPORTED THE FOLLOWING:

1. NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RECEIVED \$146,511.37 FROM PENNDOT AS THE 2017 DISTRIBUTION OF LIQUID FUELS MONEY.
2. PETER WANCHISEN WILL ATTEND A MEETING ON MARCH 8, 2017 WHICH WILL FOCUS ON NEW REGULATION REGARDING STORM WATER MANAGEMENT. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES ARE COMING SOON AND THE TOWNSHIP WILL BE EXPECTED TO COMPLY. TOWNSHIP ENGINEER TIM HOLDEN WILL ALSO ATTEND.
3. THE 2017 INSTALLMENT OF THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER IS NOW BEING CREATED. DELIVERY IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE EARLY TO MID APRIL.
4. TWO TOWNSHIP VEHICLES WERE SOLD ON MUNCIBID. 1) 2003 SUZUKI (SALVAGE BID \$500) AND 2) 2013 FORD TAURUS POLICE CRUISER (COLLISION DAMAGED) \$7,000 (\$3,400 INSURANCE CLAIM AND \$3,600 SALE PRICE)
5. REFUSE STICKER SALES TOTALED 1,359 AS OF THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS FEBRUARY 28, 2017. THAT IS 53 STICKERS MORE THAN AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 250 RESIDENTS WHO HAVE YET TO PAY THE FEE, WHICH HAS INCREASED TO \$250 AS OF MARCH 1, 2017.
6. INSTALLATION OF THE GENERATOR DONATED BY THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY HAS BEEN PUT ON HOLD IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT IT DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO POWER ALL FUNCTIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING. OTHER ALTERNATIVES WILL BE PURSUED.
7. A NEW POLICE INITIATIVE HAS KICKED OFF WHEREBY ABANDON / UNINSPECTED VEHICLES WILL BE TICKETED.
8. FORMAL STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION FOR BERNADINE MACIJCZAK'S DONATION OF CABINETS AND A DESK TO THE TOWNSHIP'S DPW GARAGE.
9. NEWPORT TOWNSHIP HAS STARTED AN INITIATIVE TO DETERMINE THE BENEFITS AND COSTS OF CONVERTING STREET LIGHTING TO MODERN L.E.D. TECHNOLOGY. ESTIMATES ARE THAT AS MUCH AS 65% REDUCTION IN ELECTRICAL COST WOULD BE POSSIBLE.
10. RECEIVED A LETTER OF GRATITUDE FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE CORRECTIONS OFFICERS ASSOCIATION THANKING ALL NEWPORT TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS FOR

THEIR HELP IN THE SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO KEEP SCI RETREAT OPEN. COPY OF THE LETTER IS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES.

11. SENATOR JOHN YUDICHAK WILL PERSONALLY ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF REOPENING AN OLD SECONDARY ACCESS ROAD TO SCI RETREAT THEREBY ELIMINATING THE PROBLEMS AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH BRIDGE REPAIR OVER THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER. OTHER THAN THE PRISON, NEWPORT TOWNSHIP WOULD BENEFIT BY HAVING A ROADWAY THAT WOULD OPEN A LARGE AREA TO FUTURE LAND DEVELOPMENT.
12. PETER WANCHISEN REQUESTED A MOTION TO BE APPOINTED CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR THE POLICE PENSION FUND, THE FIREMENS PENSION FUND, AND THE NON-UNIFORM PENSION FUND. THAT MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. ZYLA AND IT WAS SECONDED BY MR. VISHNEFSKI. ALL COMMISSIONERS PRESENT VOTED YES, AND THE MOTION PASSED.
13. THE COMMISSIONERS WERE INFORMED THAT A GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE NEW DPW POLE BARN IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 23, 2017.. TIME TO BE DETERMINED. UPDATES TO FOLLOW.

NEW BUSINESS:

THERE BEING NO NEW BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR. CZAPRACKI ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 7:14 PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter F. Wanchisen", written over a horizontal line.

PETER F. WANCHISEN

TOWNSHIP MANAGER / SECRETARY