

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JULY 6, 2021

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

CITIZENS COMMENTS: MR. PETER WANCHISEN THANKED THE EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE OUTSTANDING JOB THAT THEY DID DURING THE EXTREME HEAT CONDITIONS CUTTING AND CLEARING THE BRUSH ALONGSIDE OF THE ROADWAY IN THE RIDGVIEW SECTION OF THE TOWNSHIP. HE ALSO COMPLIMENTED THEM ON WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE EMPLOYEES OF THE SEWER AUTHORITY WITH THE REPAIR OF A MANHOLE IN THE AREA.

MS. SUSAN JONES ADDRESSED THE BOARD CONCERNING THE USE OF ILLEGAL FIREWORKS IN THE SHEATOWN AREA. THE BOARD ASSURED HER THAT THEY WOULD DO WHATEVER POSSIBLE TO HELP WITH HER CONCERNS. THE BOARD STRESSED TO MS. JONES ABOUT WRITING A LETTER TO HER STATE LEGISLATURES ABOUT FUNDING THE MANDATE OF LEGALIZING FIREWORKS. MR ZYLA REQUESTED THAT MR. HILLAN DO THE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE TOWNSHIP.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MR. ZYLA MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING FROM JUNE 7TH BE APPROVED. MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT WAS CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI, "NAYS" NONE

REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

MR HILLAN REPORTED CASH ON HAND AS OF JUNE 30, 2021 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	(FNCB)	\$454,883.68
CONTINGENCY FUND	(PLGIT)	\$145,616.28
RECYCLING FUND	(PLGIT)	\$3,626.29
RECYCLING FUND	(FNCB)	\$43,287.96

REFUSE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$15.79
REFUSE FUND	(FNCFB)	\$181,502.56
LIQUID FUELS	(PLGIT)	\$129,744.05
VEHICLE LEASE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$15,532.04
RECREATION USE FUND	(FNCFB)	\$3,934.38
WVSA STORM WATER FUND		\$24,566.05
TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF JUNE 30 2021		\$1,002,713.43

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

APPROVAL OF NON RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING JUNE 2021:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF NON RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE TOTALING \$151,551.72. 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" MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA AND CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF RECURRING BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN JULY 2021:

MR HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN JULY TOTALING \$15,901.16. MR. ZYLA MOVED THAT THE LIST BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, ROKE AND CZAPRACK. "NAYS" NONE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- a. STREET DEPARTMENT MR HILLAN
- b. POLICE DEPARTMENT MR ZYLA
- c. CODE ENFORCEMENT MR.HILLAN
- 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 TOWNSHIP TAX COLLECTION AND INCOME FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR ARE ON SCHEDULE AND THE TOWNSHIP IS IN GOOD FINANCIAL CONDITION. THE AUDITOR SHOULD BEGIN WORKING ON THE 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS IN LATE JULY OR EARLY AUGUST.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A. 1,684 REFUSE STICKERS WERE SOLD AS OF JULY 1. THERE ARE 13 PROPERTY OWNERS HEARINGS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 13TH AT THE MAGISTRATE FOR FAILURE TO PAY THE 2021 REFUSE FEE.
- B. GLEN LYON SIDEWALK PROJECT UPDATE: THE TOWNSHIP HAS SECURED A HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT OBLIGATION BOND. PENN EASTERN ENGINEEERS IS WAITING FOR THE APPROVAL FROM PENN DOT ON A FEW MORE SIDE STREET PERMITS WHICH IS EXPECTED SHORTLY AND THEN THE PROJECT WILL FINALLY BE ABLE TO BE ADVERTISED FOR BIDS.
- C. BLIGHT REMEDIATION GRANT UPDATE: WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR THE CONTRACT FROM DCED WITH THE PROJECT DETAILS
- D. NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS MOVING FORWARD. CLOSING ON THE LAND SALE WITH EARTH CONSERVANCY IS EXPECTED IN EARLY JULY WITH CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN AUGUST.
- E. DOLLAR GENERAL UPDATE: WAITING FOR APPROVALS FROM DEP TO PROCEED WITH CONSTRUCTION
- F. K M SMITH APARTMENTS PROJECT IS PROGRESSING AT A STEADY PACE. IF EVERYTHING STAYS ON SCHEDULE APARTMENTS SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY EARLY FALL.
- G. NEWPORT TOWNSHIP RECEIVED ITS FIRST DISTRIBUTION (\$279,623.80) FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ON JUNE 30TH. WE WILL BE FOLLOWING THE GUIDELINES SET BY THE US DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY ON HOW THE FUNDS CAN BE UTILIZED.

NEW BUSINESS:

MR ROKE. MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$6,779.75 FROM THE REFUSE ACCOUNT AND \$14,435.50 FROM THE RECYCLING ACCOUNT TO THE GENERAL ACCOUNT TO COVER EXPENSES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2021.MR. VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT WAS CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI, "NAYS" NONE

MR. VISHNEFSKI MOVED TO APPROVE A \$.50 AN HOUR INCREASE IN WAGES FOR THE FULL TIME DPW EMPLOYEES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021.MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT WAS CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI, "NAYS" NONE

MR. ZYLA MOVED TO GRANT PERMISSION TO THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP WOMEN'S ACTIVITY GROUP TO UTILIZE THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL GARAGE AND FACILITIES FOR THEIR TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 31ST FROM 11AM UNTIL 400PM.MR. ROKE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT WAS CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI, "NAYS" NONE

MR. VISHNEFSKI MOVED TO HIRE MATTHEW STASHAK AS PART TIME SUMMER HELP TO CUT GRASS AT RECREATION PARK AND ALSO. TO HELP THE DPW EMPLOYEES WHEN NEEDED AT THE RATE OF \$10.00 PER HOUR EFFECTIVE JUNE 23 2021.MR ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT WAS CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI, "NAYS" NONE

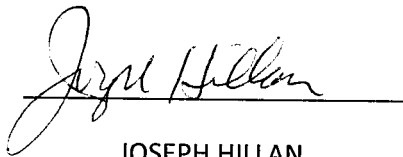
COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

MR. ZYLA COMMENDED THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR THEIR TREMENDOUS RESPONSE TO THE HOME TOWN HERO BANNER PROJECT SPONSORED BY NEWPORT UNITED.


MR. CZAPRACKI ALSO COMMENDED THE POLICE, FIRE, DPW, AND ADMINISTATIVE EMPLOYESS FOR THE EXCELLENT WORK THAT THEY DO FOR THE TOWNSHIP.

ADJOURNMENT:

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR CZAPRACKI ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:41 PM



JOSEPH HILLAN
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY



PAUL CZAPRCKI
PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS