

AGENDA

**Tobyhanna Township
Economic Development Authority
August 1, 2018
6:00 PM**

1. Call Meeting to Order: Anne Lamberton, Chair
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider the Minutes of: June 6, 2018, Regular Meeting
4. Old Business
5. New Business
 - a. BUILD Grant Application Status - Jason Fitzgerald
6. Public Comment
7. Adjournment

THE TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2018

The August 2018 Regular Business Meeting of the Tobyhanna Township Economic Development Authority was held on August 1, 2018, at the Tobyhanna Township Government Center Building, 105 Government Center Way, Pocono Pines, Pennsylvania, 18350.

Present are Anne Lamberton, John Holahan, III, Robert (Bob) Bossuyt, Edwin (Win) Miller, William (Bill) Van Gilder, Solicitor John Dean, and Township Manager John Jablowski Jr.

1. Chair Anne Lamberton calls the meeting to order at 6:00PM. It is determined that a quorum is present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
3. John Holahan motions to accept the meeting minutes for the June 6, 2018 Regular Business Meeting, Win Miller seconds. Vote: all in favor; minutes accepted.
4. Solicitor's Report – none.
5. Old Business – none.
6. New Business
 - a. BUILD Grant Application Status – Jason Fitzgerald. Jason Fitzgerald states he provided an overview for everything he's working on. Concerning approved grants, the township received \$550,000 from PennDOT for the Bike & Hike Trail. John Jablowski states the staff met with PennDOT and HRG to develop a plan, and the money must be spent by June 2020. The earliest a bid could go out for the project would be spring of 2019.

Jason Fitzgerald states concerning submitted grants, the staff submitted a \$19.5 million Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant. He doesn't anticipate all of the money at once, but is trying for a high allocation. Announcements are in August or September. There is a possibility of another round this year, and there will definitely be another round in January of 2019. If the township wins a round, the township can apply again for the same project with an altered funding strategy. He hopes to lobby to increase the allocation for direct job creation. This requires a 100% match by a private developer.

Jason Fitzgerald states the staff submitted a \$25 million grant for the Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity Initiative (BUILD). Half of awards must go to projects in underserved areas, which is defined as rural. He's been told the federal government is looking for big projects. There may be a press on the federal and state level to restore earmark funding, which became unpopular around 2006,

which would now be labeled as legislatively authorized initiatives. John Jablowski states from Pocono Mountain West High School to SR 314, there are over \$50 million of public improvements concerning water, sewer, ramp relocation, and updates for the proposed Pocono Springs. Jason Fitzgerald states he may need public advocacy assistance in the future; Congressman Cartwright's assistance with a former grant was paramount to acquiring funding.

7. Economic Development Authority Report/Comment

- a. John Holahan states on June 6, the Authority changed the resolution to remove Kalahari. Has there been any follow up on when Kalahari will be ready to join? John Jablowski states Steve Pine sent a memo with 7-8 concerns, which he will forward to the Authority. The main concern was that if Kalahari is the only one in the PIL area, people can guess Kalahari's gross sales. John Holahan asks if the Authority can get records of sales tax. John Jablowski replies the State said no. John Holahan asks for a list of taxable items to be circulated. John Jablowski states once there are more users, this won't be a problem. John Holahan suggests returning a portion of the levy back to the users as a way to defer additional accounting costs. John Jablowski states Kalahari is also concerned about the relationship with future boards.

Bill Van Gilder asks if the rate is flexible. John Jablowski replies yes, it can be changed. Other developers have expressed interest in the area, and don't seem opposed to the idea of a levy. John Holahan states the levy would cover soft costs.

John Jablowski states that once the Authority receives the memo, two members could meet with representatives from Kalahari. Anne Lamberton excuses herself from those discussions.

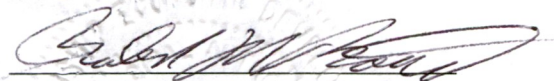
- b. John Holahan asks about errors and omissions insurance. John Dean replies the Authority is covered under the township's policy as an additional ensured.

8. Public Comment – none.

9. John Holahan motions to adjourn, Bill Van Gilder seconds: meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

Minutes recorded by Julia Heilakka

Respectfully submitted:



Robert Bossuyt, Secretary