

TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2023

The February Regular Business Meeting of the Tobyhanna Township Board of Supervisors (“Board”) was held on February 21, 2023, at the Tobyhanna Township Government Center located at 105 Government Center Way, Pocono Pines, PA 18350.

John Kerrick, David Carbone, Brendon Carroll, Rachel Schickling, and Joseph Colyer are present. Also present is Harry Coleman, Solicitor, Robert Bartal, Manager, and Autumn Canfield, Assistant Manager.

1. John Kerrick calls the meeting to order at 6:00PM, a quorum is present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
3. Announcements: Robert Bartal and John Kerrick state an executive session was held on February 21, 2023, from 5:15PM to 6:00PM for legal. John Kerrick looks for a motion to consider the minutes of December 5, 2022, Regular Business Meeting and the December 19, 2022, Regular Business Meeting. Rachel Schickling makes the motion to approve the minutes, Brendon Carroll seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries
4. Solicitor’s Report:
 - a. Consider Special Counsel for Fire Department Matters: Harry Coleman reviews the solicitor’s report and updates on the committee for fire department related matters. He recommends to the Board a special counsel for fire department related matters be considered. He states he asked Kim Houser to send a retainer letter and CV for consideration by the Board at the recommendation of the committee to provide counsel. Harry Coleman states David Carbone will review further in the Committee Reports Section.
5. Manager’s Report:
 - a. Monthly Report from Penn Strategies: Robert Bartal reviews the monthly Penn Strategies Report provided to the Board. He also states two meetings were held to strategize for grants for 2023.
 - b. January Zoning and Septic Report: Robert Bartal reviews the January 2022 and January 2023 zoning and septic report.
 - c. (Not an Item) Robert Bartal provides an update that on February 17, 2023, Mike Peterson from SEPOA came in to execute the easement agreement for the mailbox area. He also reviews the plan for the lighting and submission of the easement agreement to Jim Tressler for recording.
6. Committee Reports:
 - a. PMRPC: Brendon Carroll states for the month of January the township was under 15 hours but still over for the contract hours for the year and reviews criminal arrest and traffic numbers.
 - b. PMREMS: Joseph Colyer states he was not at the last meeting and will update next time.
 - c. Fire Committee: David Carbone reviews the update and recommendations from the Fire Committee and makes a motion to hire Kim Houser as special counsel to assist with moving forward with fire department and regional aspect of Pocono Mountain Regional Fire Department, Joseph Colyer seconds. Vicki Mebus asks about costs. David Carbone states the retainer is \$5,000.00 for the special counsel and it’s for fire department matters and to assist in moving forward with a regional aspect. Vicki Mebus states she doesn’t want a regional fire department and the problems started with the fire ordinance. Dave

Carbone and Rachel Schickling discuss the MOU process with the fire commission and look into regionalization. Vicki Mebus states she wants the fire department back. David Carbone asks her if she has read the fire ordinance. Vicki Mebus says no. Crystal Butler directs her to the location of ordinance online. John Mezzasalma asks about the response time for his fire. David Carbone reviews the response time for PSVFC and discusses regional response of multiple companies. John Mezzasalma asks about the fire company being out of service. David Carbone states the fire company took themselves out of service and explains recent court proceedings. John Mezzasalma asks about the new company. David Carbone reviews the plan for the new volunteer fire company and explains that regionalization can take years. Mrs. Mezzasalma adds to her husband's comments about concerns for families. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

David Carbone continues with his report making a motion for Harry Coleman to incorporate the name Tobyhanna Township Bureau of Fire Station 44 and file for 501c3 and tax ID, Brendon Carroll seconds. Vote: all in favor; all in favor; motion carries. Joseph Colyer states he would like to release the applications for the new fire department and that he has been doing research on fire equipment and apparatus. He motions to authorize Robert Barta to execute agreements and lease for equipment as they come in, David Carbone second. Ed Tutrone asks about costs. Joseph Colyer states there is not an exact cost yet. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

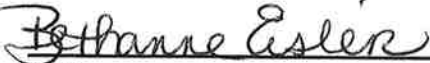
- d. PSVFC: Crystal Butler states the report has been provided in their binder.
 - e. NIDA: Crystal Butler states the reorganizational meeting will be coming up on the second Monday of March.
 - f. PMCOG: Crystal Butler states the meeting is next Monday where they will be opening up the salt bids for 2024.
 - g. Library: No report.
 - h. DPW/Vehicle Report: Corey Burd reviews the DPW Repair stating there were no major repairs and reviews the minor repairs.
7. Discussion Items: None.
8. Action Items:
- a. Consider Resolution 2023-006 Financial Institutions: Crystal Butler states the resolution is to show the removal of PNC as a financial institution. Brendon Carroll reads the remaining institution and motions to approve the resolution, Rachel Schickling seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 - b. Consider AFP # 6 for Pioneer Construction for the I-380 Project: Brendon Carroll motions to authorize the payment in the amount of \$54,297.96, David Carbone seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 - c. Consider Request from PMBA for Use of Blanche Price Park Field: Robert Barta reviews the request stating the association spawns from the local little league doing additional games and reviews the documentation provided by the association. David Carbone motions to approve the request, Brendon Carroll and Rachel Schickling seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 - d. Consider Pioneer Construction Quote for GPS Synchronization of Signals: John Kerrick reviews the needed signalization for the two signal lights for the I-380 Project stating there have been problems with

the school buses. Brendon Carroll motions to accept the quote in the amount of \$9,450.00, Rachel Schickling seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

9. Treasurer's Report: Brendon Carroll reviews the January Treasurer's Report. David Carbone motions to approve the report, Joseph Colyer seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
10. Consider February 21, 2023, Bill Pack: Brendon Carroll motions to approve the bill pack in the amount of \$1,000,560.47, Joseph Colyer seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
11. Board of Supervisors Report/Comment:
 - a. Rachel Schickling asks if Planning Commission can look into warehouse definition. John Kerrick states he would like to appoint the subcommittee to review the Zoning and SALDO ordinances. He appoints Chuck Hannig and Emeline Diener.
12. Public Comment:
 - a. Heino Fetty thanks all involved for new signage on the new Stillwater Drive.
 - b. Joe Crandall also asks if distribution center definition be considered as well. He continues stating he the STR ordinance to change for capacity to not include children 2 and under. He also asks about virtual meetings.
 - c. Ed Tutrone asks about recent correspondence with TTVFC lawyer and the Solicitor and if the Board is willing to sit down with the fire Company. Harry Coleman states if TTVFC's lawyer has a proposal to sit down he will bring that to the Board, but he has not heard back. John Kerrick states an agenda of what TTVFC wants to meet about should be sent to the Solicitor. Ed Tutrone asks about the incorporation of Pocono Mountain Regional Fire Department and the startup of the new fire company. Harry Coleman states he solely preserved the name for possible future regionalization and the committee is continuing to research it. Ed Tutrone asks if all ties have been cut with TTVFC. Harry Coleman states there is still active litigation and when TTVFC took itself out of service it lost its legal status of being a recognized fire company for the township. Discussion was held on the fire companies.
 - d. Autumn Canfield states Friday is her last day and thanks everyone for everything over the years.
 - e. Vicki Mebus asks about speeding signs. David Carbone states he has spoken to the chief about her speeding concerns.

13. Adjournment: The meeting adjourns at 6:55PM

Minutes recorded by Crystal Butler


Bethanne Eisler
Township Secretary