

TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
APRIL 15, 2024

The April 2024 Regular Business Meeting of the Tobyhanna Township Board of Supervisors was held on April 15, 2024, at the Tobyhanna Township Government Center Building located at 105 Government Center Way, Pocono Pines, PA 18350.

Present are Supervisors John Kerrick, Rachel Schickling, Joseph Colyer, Edward Tutrone and Ted Wolski. Also present are Solicitor, Harry Coleman, Esquire, and Manager Robert Bartal. Assistant Manager Crystal Butler was not present.

1. John Kerrick calls the meeting to order at 6:02PM; a quorum is present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
3. Announcements: Robert Bartal states that an executive session was held on April 15, 2024, from 5:00pm to 6:00pm for two legal matters and a personal matter.
4. Consider Minutes: Edward Tutrone states there were a couple of typos on the February 20, 2024, minutes: page 2 should be meter and not heater; pages 3 & 4 should be PMREMS and on the March 18, 2024, minutes: pages 3 & 4 should be PMREMS. Ted Wolski states that Pete Huf's name is spelled wrong. Rachel Schickling motions to include and approve the minutes; Joseph Colyer seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
5. Solicitors Report: Harry Coleman states there are a couple of additions to his report that have to do with enforcement issues:
 - Route 115, Blakeslee: Mr. Coleman states that a Development Agreement was entered into that called for certain obligations by the owners. The owners have failed in their obligations and a money judgment was secured. The conditions continue. An action has been filed in Monroe County to get them to cease & desist.
 - Sullivan Trail: Mr. Coleman has asked Monroe County Conservation District for a status report on the remediation efforts. Mr. Coleman will report to the Board once this has been received.
 - Suburban Propane: Mr. Coleman states that they have a building project on tap and are waiting for a document from AQUA indicating that their sewage can hook up. Once that is received Bill Burton can act on the building permit.
 - Property on Route 940: Mr. Coleman states that the conditions at the property are deplorable. A letter was sent to the property owner and if the property is not cleaned up, we are going to bring a District Justice action against them.
 - Tobyhanna For All: Mr. Coleman states that the discontinuance of this matter has been filed in the Court of Common Pleas.
 - Greenwood Acres: Mr. Coleman states that there is an issue with a junk car on a property. The Zoning Officer filed a complaint in District Court and the property

owner has been evading service. Mr. Coleman states that they have filed an action with Monroe County for an Order of Removal.

- Petrucci Land Use Appeal: Mr. Coleman states that this appeal has been fully briefed and Oral Argument is scheduled for April 16, 2024, before Judge Zulick. Mr. Coleman will advise as to the status of Oral Argument.

Ted Wolski asks how long they anticipate the Judge ruling on the Petrucci matter.

Joan Lippi asks if the Petrucci matter is the proposed development on Mackes Road.

John Dewitsky from Suburban Propane wanted to make sure they received the letter from AQUA.

6. Manager's Report:

- a. Penn Strategies Report: Robert Bartal states there is still no word on the awarding of the RACP Grant.
- b. Zoning and Septic Reports: Robert Bartal reviews the March 2023 and March 2024 zoning and septic reports.
- c. Telcos, Inc. – Notice of Contract Termination of Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract: Robert Bartal states that they have received word from Telcos, Inc. that they were terminating our contract with traffic signal maintenance effective May 31, 2024. Mr. Bartal states that he has reached out to Telcos, and they advised that their reason for termination is that we are the only client in this area. Mr. Bartal has asked Keystone Engineering to get three quotes from local firms that might be interested and hopes to have this on the May 20, 2024 agenda for the Board to select a new traffic signal maintenance contractor.
- d. Northeast Panthers Softball Team Request to Use Keiper Field: Robert Bartal states that the Northeast Panthers Softball Team has submitted a request for the use of Keiper Field. Mr. Bartal states that this request was approved last year. Jamie Evans from Northeast Panthers Softball Team is here and states that they will coordinate with little league and will work around their schedule. Mr. Coleman will review their insurance information.

7. Committee Reports:

- a. PMRPC: Joseph Colyer states that they are little over an hour WAGS(?) and Chief Wagner states this is nothing to be nervous about at this point. They have received all their patrol cars.
- b. PMREMS: Joseph Colyer states that they are short-staffed again and are working on getting more staff.
- c. TTBF: Peter Huf states they are averaging about one new member a month and their membership is progressing.

Mr. Huf states that he had asked the previous fire company to supply their 3-year run reports which are required by FEMA so they can participate in the grant writing program. Mr. Huf states that this has been denied. Mr. Huf states that he is working with FEMA

and the State Fire Commissioners Office to see if they can recreate and come up with a way around this.

Rachel Schickling asks if they gave a reason for this denial.

Edward Tutrone states that the Vice-President is present. Mr. Tutrone states that he doesn't believe it was a denial but confusion with the letter.

Joseph Crandall asks how many thousands of dollars have been lost because of this delay.

Jeff Rickert, Vice-President, TTVFC states that they were given a letter that requested two reports and they were unclear on the request. Mr. Rickert states if they provide a Right-To-Know and provide clarity as to what they are requesting, they will be happy to help them.

- d. PSVFC: No one is here.
- e. NID: There is no report.
- f. PM COG: There is no report.
- g. MCATO: There is no report.
- h. Library: John Ryan gives an update.
- i. DPW/Vehicle Report: James Rafferty states they have had no issues with any vehicles this month. Mr. Rafferty states that they have started cleaning the park, trimming the trees and raked all four ballfields. Mr. Rafferty states that they did the demo of the playground at Keiper Field.

8. Discussion Items:

- a. Discuss Microsoft 365 Backup Proposal: Rodney Smith discusses Microsoft 365 Backup Proposal. Joseph Colyer makes a motion to let Bob Bartal and staff work on verifying what emails are needed and what are not; Ted Wolski seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
- b. Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center Presentation: Kathy Orr, Director of Educational Programming for the Wildlife Center gives a presentation. Ms. Orr states that they are going out to all municipalities in Monroe County and asking for \$1,500.00 a year to help cover their overhead costs.

Ted Wolski asks how many members they have and if their financial reports are public.

Bob Christenson, Pocono Lake, states that he is a volunteer with Wildlife in Need.

9. Action Items:

- a. Consider Vacancies:
 - i. Planning Commission:

John Kerrick states that there are two vacancies.

Joseph Colyer makes a motion to appoint Michelle Bisbing to Planning Commission, Rachel Schickling seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

John Kerrick states that there is a gentleman that is an architect and he wanted to see if he would be interested in serving on the Zoning Hearing Board or Building Code of Appeals. Joan Lippi states that her husband is not here and states that he would be interested.

Joseph Colyer makes a motion to appoint Tom Eisler to the Planning Commission, Rachel Schickling seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

- b. Consider 2024 Paving Bid: Robert Bartal states that we received six bids and discusses the bids received. Rachel Schickling makes a motion to award the base bid only to Kobalt Construction; Joseph Colyer seconds. Vote: Ed Tutrone abstains as he has a business relationship with Kobalt; Ted Wolski – no; Joseph Colyer – yes; Rachel Schickling – yes; John Kerrick – yes; motion carries.
 - c. Consider Authorization to execute Locust Lake Village Holding Tanks Agreement: Harry Coleman discusses the Locust Lake Village Holding Tank Agreement. Rachel Schickling makes a motion to authorize execution of agreement; Joseph Colyer seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 - d. Consider Request from Thomas Crosby of American Legion Wilson-Fisher Post 413 regarding Memorial Day Parade: Rachel Schickling makes a motion to accept the request; Ted Wolski seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 - e. Consider Well Isolation Waiver for 5280 Pocono Crest Road: Rachel Schickling makes the motion; Joseph Colyer seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 - f. Consider Well Isolation Waiver for 1505 Evergreen Road: Edward Tutrone makes the motion; Joseph Colyer seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 - g. Consider Proposal from Pennoni for Engineering Services on I-380 Project – Scope Change 02 in the amount of \$103,000.00: Rachel Schickling makes a motion to consider proposal; Joseph Colyer seconds. John Kerrick states that Secretary Carrol will be coming on May 10th. Mr. Kerrick states that there are right-of-way issues with stormwater and some of the property owners which they should be able to work through. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
10. Treasurer’s Report: February Treasurer’s Report: Rachel Schickling makes a motion to approve the February Treasurer’s Report; Joseph Colyer seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 11. Consider April 15, 2024, Bill Pack: \$306,266.81: Rachel Schickling makes a motion to approve the April 15, 2024, Bill Pack in the amount of \$306,266.81; Ted Wolski seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

12. Board of Supervisors Report/Comment:

Rachel Schickling reads the report regarding Tobyhanna Township Bureau of Fire’s Certifications and Qualifications.

Edward Tutrone speaks to the Fire Ordinance and Mr. Huf’s comments that Tobyhanna Township Bureau of Fire is not in the Ordinance.

Harry Coleman speaks to these issues.

Ted Wolski asks how quickly the Ordinance can be tweaked.

Robert Bartal states as soon as the Board has it put on the agenda.

13. Public Comment:

Joe Crandal asks if the Short-Term Rental report can be added to the agenda.

Jospeh Vuono, 266 Aspen Road, asks the Board for their continued support in additional mitigation to the standing water issue.

14. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:19PM.

Minutes recorded by Bethanne Eisler


Bethanne Eisler, Township Secretary