

TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
JUNE 17, 2024

The June 2024 Regular Business Meeting of the Tobyhanna Township Board of Supervisors was held on June 17, 2024, at the Tobyhanna Township Government Center Building located at 105 Government Center Way, Pocono Pines, PA 18350.

Present are Supervisors John Kerrick, Joseph Colyer, Rachel Schickling, Edward Tutrone and Ted Wolski. Also present are Solicitor, Harry Coleman, Esquire, Manager Robert Bartal and Assistant Manager Crystal Butler.

1. John Kerrick calls the meeting to order at 6:00PM; a quorum is present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
3. Announcements: John Kerrick states there was an executive session on May 20, 2024, from 5:15PM to 6:50 PM for legal and personnel matters. Mr. Kerrick states there was an executive session on June 10, 2024, from 6:15PM to 6:30PM for legal matters.
4. Consider Minutes: Joseph Colyer motions to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2024, Regular Business Meeting; Ed Tutrone seconds. Rachel Schickling abstains as she was not there. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
5. Solicitors Report: Harry Coleman states that he has two matters to bring to the attention of the Board. Mr. Coleman states that the Township has taken a proactive approach to two short-term rental properties that were advertised and operate without a short-term rental permit. He states that the Township flagged these properties, cited them at the Magistrate's Office and after receiving a judgment and posting of the properties, the rental activities continued. Mr. Coleman states that they filed a Motion for Injunction and secured an order prohibiting the rental of these properties. Mr. Coleman states that Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department was extremely helpful and feels that the short-term rental staff should be recognized for their vigilance and efforts.

Mr. Coleman states that the second matter concerns a citizen complaint that was filed on March 28, 2024, regarding alleged vehicle misuses by Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company. He states that the Township immediately reached out to Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company as to what occurred and requested a meeting. On May 30, 2024, a conference took place. Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company advised that they disciplined the driver of the vehicle along with 2 other members regarding the complaint of conduct. Mr. Coleman states that two vehicles have been titled from Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company to the Township as per the Fire Ordinance. Mr. Coleman states that the lines of communication have been approved between the Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company and the Township.

6. Manager's Report:
 - a. Penn Strategies Report: Robert Bartal states they are still awaiting word on the RACP Grant.

- b. Zoning and Septic Reports: Robert Bartal reviews the May 2023 and May 2024 zoning and septic reports.
- c. National Night Out – Tuesday, August 2, 2024, from 5:30PM to 7:00PM: Robert Bartal states that the National Night Out is August 6, 2024, and the Township will be participating. Mr. Bartal states that he has reached out to the emergency responders and has received confirmation from Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company and the Pennsylvania State Police.

7. Committee Reports:

- a. PMRPC: Joseph Colyer gives an update and states that they are in good shape.
- b. PMREMS: AJ Schrader states there were 637 calls last month and 107 were in Tobyhanna Township. Mr. Schrader states they are at 2919 calls for the year and 593 are in Tobyhanna Township.
- c. TTBF: Pete Huf states that they had put in a request with Tobyhanna Township Volunteer Fire Company for their run records and they have received the run reports to be able to write their grants. Mr. Huf states that they loaned a truck to the Tobyhanna Army Depot. Mr. Huf states that they will be participating in the National Night Out.
- d. PSVFC: No one is here.
- e. NID: Crystal Butler states that they held their second meeting of the year and we had to authorize a third meeting to allow auditors to complete their audit.
- f. PM COG: Crystal Butler states there is an upcoming meeting next week.
- g. MCATO: Crystal Butler states there is no information on a new meeting.
- h. Library: The report is in the packets. Rachel Schickling states that they do a lot in the community and hopes everyone will participate.
- i. DPW/Vehicle Report: James Rafferty gives his report. Mr. Rafferty thanks the Supervisors for the John Deere backhoe. Joe Crandall states that a few weeks ago a tree fell on White Oak Trail and within 15 minutes DPW showed up and removed the tree from the road.
- j. STR: Crystal Butler states that there are 761 active permits, 35 permits are waiting for final review and approval, 30 applications that the property owners are working through their tasks. Joan Lippi asks Harry Coleman to explain the Motion that was filed and how property owners can continue to defy the laws.

8. Discussion Items:

- a. Discuss Clymer Library's Request for Tourist Oriented Directional Signs (TODS): Crystal Butler states that they are going into a different direction and asks that this matter be tabled.

9. Action Items:

- a. Consider 2024 Bike4Chai Non-Profit Cycling Event Request for Use of Blanche Price Park Main Lodge on August 21, 2024, 7:00am to 9:30am: Crystal Butler discusses their

request. Joseph Colyer makes a motion to approve their request; Ted Wolski seconds.
Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

b. Consider Requests of Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company:

- i. \$21,747.60 for fire gear
- ii. \$32,400.00 to purchase a 2015 Chevy Tahoe and equipment.
- iii. \$25,170.50 to purchase a 20x4 Polaris R24T6E99AD

Edward Tutrone makes a motion to discuss; Ted Wolski seconds. John Kerrick asks why they are not using relief money for gear. A discussion was held. Ted Wolski makes a motion to table the four items until someone from Pocono Summit shows up to have a discussion: Rachel Schickling seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

- c. Consider confirmation of new Fire Police members to Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company: Edward Tutrone makes a motion to confirm Benjamin Drum and Melanie Michaels as new Fire Police members to Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company; Ted Wolski seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

10. Consider June 17, 2024, Bill Pack: \$305,456.50: Rachel Schickling makes a motion to approve the June 17, 2024, Bill Pack in the amount of \$305,456.50; Ted Wolski seconds.
Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

11. Board of Supervisors Report/Comment:

Edward Tutrone would like to change Mutual Aid back to Station 42 second to in the areas they are closer to. John Kerrick would like Mr. Tutrone and Mr. Colyer to work with Mr. Huf and go through the entire Township and come back next month with suggestions.

12. Public Comment:

Troy Counterman discusses misuse of the vehicle and asks why a criminal investigation was not done.

Kevin Korejko states he was here last month and still believes he should be grandfathered a short-term rental permit. Mr. Coleman states that he will keep them updated every two weeks and if there is a concern we will meet.

14. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:48PM

Minutes recorded by Bethanne Eisler


Bethanne Eisler, Township Secretary