

COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CENTER

5520 Municipal Drive , Tobyhanna, PA 18466
(570) 894-8490 • FAX (570) 894-8413

COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WORK SESSION NOTES

August 1, 2017

The work session was called to order by Chairman William Weimer at 6:00 pm in the meeting room of the Coolbaugh Township Municipal Office, 5520 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna, PA.

Board Members present:

William Weimer, Lynn Kelly, Juan Adams and Alma I. Ruiz-Smith

Board Members absent:

Anthony Lamantia

Staff present:

Jerry Hanna, Solicitor, Erin Masker, Recording Secretary, and Maureen Mills, Controller

Staff absent:

None

Mr. Weimer announced that this work session is being recorded to aid in the preparation of the notes.

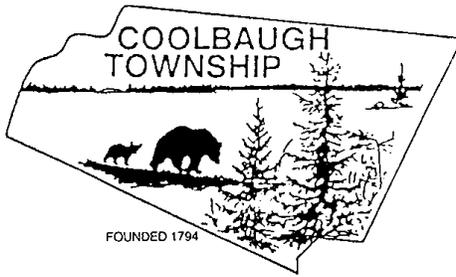
1. ACT 172- Tax Incentives for Municipal Volunteers of Fire Companies and Nonprofit Emergency Medical Services Agencies

Mr. Weimer stated that he spoke with Chestnuthill Township and stated that they are moving fast on this and are ready to pass the Ordinance. They are requiring that emergency responders make 30% of their calls including a training requirement. Mr. Weimer stated that we need people but want to make the requirement at a level to keep them and not drive them away. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that at the COG meeting she attended Coolbaugh and Middle Smithfield Townships were the only ones moving on the ACT 172, others have not even had discussion on it at this point. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that the incentive cannot exceed 20% of the municipal tax amount which is not a significant amount. Mr. Adams stated that the average municipal tax is \$500.00 and at 20% would only be a \$100.00 incentive, stating that we need to pass it and let the chief of the fire company and a Supervisor come up with what is a fair requirement to receive the incentive. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that we need to come up with the plan/formula for the calculation before passing it. Mr. Adams asked Chairman Weimer if there is a form that can be created to be handed out to all the Chiefs to be able to account for those that meet the criteria, being advised that he will work on one. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that it needs to be fair for everyone, as allowing someone that never shows up to receive the same credit as someone that always shows up is not fair and will not encourage retention of the membership.

- **Discussion:** H. Smith stated that there has to be accountability for receiving the incentive and clarified with Jerry that they have to own a home and reside in the home in Coolbaugh Township in order to receive the incentive, with Mr. Hanna agreeing. Ms. Kelly stated that there are two avenues for the incentive which would be through the real property tax and through the Earned Income Tax. Mr. Hanna stated that the Earned Income Tax amount has to be a flat dollar amount. Mr. Weimer stated that he is in favor of both in order to sweeten the pot. Ms. Ruiz-Smith asked Mr. Weimer if he would recuse himself from the vote when the time comes since he is the Chief and he stated yes and that he also will not be submitting for the incentive.

2. FMLA- Union 12 Month Period (Calendar Year)

Mr. Weimer stated that they received an email from the union stating that they want the FMLA for the union members to be on a 12 month calendar year. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated we already made a decision on the FMLA



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and we need to stick to it. Mr. Weimer stated that he would like a response to go back to the union and let them know that we already decided that FMLA would be based on the employee anniversary date and that if they want to renegotiate it, we can discuss that when the contract is up. Mr. Weimer explained what FMLA is to everyone in attendance.

3. Other Business

- Mr. Weimer stated that the gentleman that was here at a previous meeting that lives behind Ray Price requested that we look at the situation at his property and stated that it will require more than just the installation of a box. Mr. Weimer stated that he will present a quote to the Board to resolve the situation as soon as he receives it.
- Ms. Ruiz-Smith requested that DPW put up some speed limit signs on Lexington Avenue (2) 25mph signs).
- Mr. Weimer also stated that he will take a look at another road situation brought to him by Ms. Ruiz-Smith.

4. Public Input

- C. Colgan stated that the underpass on Lakeside Drive was tagged with graffiti again and requested that DPW repaint it as they have in the past. D. pope stated that the Railroad should fix it.
- M. Fairservice thanked DPW for the good work that they did with the hot patch.

The Work Session ended at 6:18 pm and the Board of Supervisors went into Executive Session until 6:57pm Re: Legal.