

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 June 21, 2016

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, Juan Adams, Lynn Kelly, Anthony Lamantia and Alma I. Ruiz-Smith

Board Members absent:

None

Staff present:

Erin Masker, Recording Secretary

Staff absent:

Jerry Hanna, Solicitor

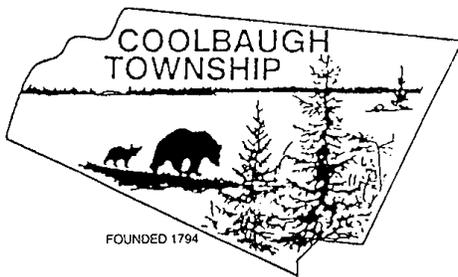
Mr. Weimer announced that this work session is being recorded to aid in the preparation of the notes.

1. Discussion Regarding the following: (20 Minutes)

- **Burn Ordinance**
- **Fire Lanes**
- **Authorization for Enforcement of Violations**

Discussion took place regarding the wording of the ordinance and grammar issues. Some of these issues need to be reviewed by Solicitor Hanna before any changes to the wording can take place. Mr. Weimer stated that his intent when revisiting this ordinance was not to charge for permitting, but to make the Township aware of burning so that it can be verified that the areas where burning are taking place are safe and without the possibility of a 16 mile fire or a Barrett fire occurring. Ms. Kelly stated that maybe a once a year registration for burning would be better wording than a permit which many affiliate with fees being paid. Mr. Lamantia stated that as the ordinance reads currently one would be required to have a permit to cook outside or to have a chiminea, which to him seems ridiculous. Mr. Lamantia stated that maybe the ordinance should include with the exception of cooking and chimineas. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that maybe we should all review for typos and make suggestions and updates. Mr. Weimer stated that we should think of an additional Township person to help with enforcing the ordinance, as the PMRPD are very busy at times and this would help alleviate some of these calls. Mr. Adams stated we are a government entity that cannot go out and monitor. Mr. Adams stated if the purpose of this is not to enforce it, why do we need more people authorized for enforcement, stating that you need someone with law enforcement background to enforce these ordinances. Mr. Lamantia stated that he disagrees and said that it is the same as enforcing the E-911 readdressing. Mr. Lamantia stated that you cannot put an ordinance into effect without enforcing it. Ms. Kelly stated that maybe Mr. Weimer could ask Monroe County how many calls for the burning ordinance issues are handled every year. Mr. Weimer stated that the review started with section 106 – Enforcement, stating the police department is busy and this would allow enforcement by others.

- Discussion: H. Smith stated that the part that worries him about the enforcement is that we spent \$7,000.00 on cameras and how many citations have been issued. We need to remember that we are paying 2.2 million dollars to the police commission and we tell them what to do, we are paying the bill they need



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to take responsibility. G. Tallmadge stated that if the fire company is called out they can write the information and give it to the police, same as parking in the fire lane. G. Tallmadge also stated that Tobyhanna Twp., makes businesses get a permit for burning tree stumps as well. B. Sandford stated that the police are serving five municipalities, how do they know what ordinances to enforce. T. Keane stated that there have been numerous times when there has been burning down the street in a burning ban and police have been called, and we have waited over thirty minutes for anyone to respond. D. Pope asked about people with outside burners for heat, Mr. Adams asked will these people need permits, being advised by Mr. Weimer that older ones are grandfathered in and that newer ones are not allowed. D. Pope also stated we are your PMRPC reps; tell us what you want us to do. J. Kowalsky asked if there is a warning procedure, stating there are many people that will not even realize that this is necessary same as the E-911 signs purchased from the wrong places and were not aware until receiving a letter from Mr. Keane making them aware of the issue. As soon as he and his neighbors received the letter they resolved the issue right away and thanked Mr. Keane for making them aware.

2. Other Business

Nothing was heard

3. Public Input

V. Massaro asked about the special meeting held on June 17, 2016 as he did not see the advertisement and was not aware of the meeting, asking for a status update of the Route 196 project. Ms. Kelly stated that it was advertised in the Pocono Record and that we are optimistic that after meeting with Ms. Maupin from PennDot that we will be able to get the project completed in time. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that APCP Property Manager was in attendance and Mr. Weimer stated Ms. Haas (APCP Board President) was also in attendance. Ms. Kelly stated that the meeting was coordinated after the last monthly Board meeting and therefore we were not able to let everyone know at the meeting. Mr. Weimer stated that it seemed like a positive outcome, we discussed the importance of time. Mr. Lamantia stated that we were under the assumption that the holdup was from either one side or the other when in fact there were issues with both sides.

The Work Session ended at 7:03 pm.