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
September 1, 2015

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

Board Members present:
Lynn Kelly, Fred Pope, Juan Adams and Robert M. Zito
Board Members absent:
Bill Weimer
Staff present:
Jerry Hanna, Solicitor, Erin Masker, Recording Secretary
Staff absent:
None

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

1. **Belmont Avenue Bridge Repair/Replacement**

Mr. Scalamandre from Mount Pocono Boro spoke to the Board regarding Belmont Avenue that was closed by the agreement of the two Municipalities two years ago, stating that 10% of the road belongs to Mount Pocono and 90% of the road belongs to Coolbaugh Township. Mr. Scalamandre stated that it is very important to begin discussions about the reopening of the road and replacing the bridge in order to do so, stating that Belmont Avenue serves as an alternate route for Route 611 as in the case of the fire at Burkes Tavern when 611 was closed for 2 days. Mr. Scalamandre presented to the Board for their reference copies of the photographs showing the continued deterioration as well as letters from Mr. Woehrle, Acting Emergency Management Coordinator from Mount Pocono Boro, Rev. Peter Richert, Lutheran Church of Our Savior, as well as a list of commercial and residential supporters. Mr. Scalamandre also stated that it is important that talks begin before the bridge collapses and we have a bigger problem as it is important to take care of the water way that runs through which both Municipalities have a responsibility not to impede. Mr. Scalamandre discussed Coolbaugh Township taking the leadership role on the project for the grant purpose. Mr. Pope asked if Mount Pocono Boro would be interested in a 50/50 split of the cost if Coolbaugh was in agreement and was asked to take it back to his board. Ms. Kelly asked if Mr. Scalamandre was suggesting we use LSA money for the engineering fees and cost analysis which could be around $75,000.00, response being yes. Mr. Scalamandre stated that there is other money out there for the project and has the support of the Senators including Senator Parker which was in attendance at the meeting. Ms. Kelly said a possibility would be to form a committee of representatives from both Municipalities to discuss the project and alternatives available.

- **Discussion:** D. Pope asked Mr. Scalamandre how many of the businesses that he stated will benefit from the opening of Belmont Avenue are in Coolbaugh Township, being told none. D. Pope stated that there are other ways of fixing the issue with the waterway including possibly installing a culvert pipe which would in turn negate the need to open the road as there are other alternatives that would be more cost efficient.

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

2. **Other Business**
   None

3. **Public Input**
   - D. Pope also reminded the Board that there are other projects like the Hemlock Bridge that needs to be replaced stating that Mount Pocono has more to gain on the replacement than Coolbaugh Township.
   - K. Davis from Mount Pocono Boro stated that he doesn't believe that a 50/50 split is feasible for the Boro at this time as they are still working on the 5 points intersection and 196. Mr. Davis stated that he would encourage some dialogue to begin the process.

The Work Session ended at 6:30 pm.