

**COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**WORK SESSION NOTES**  
**November 19, 2019**

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, Clare Colgan, Lynn Kelly and Alma I. Ruiz-Smith

**Board Members absent:**

Anthony Lamantia

**Staff present:**

Patrick Armstrong, Solicitor, Erin Masker, Township Secretary, Maureen Mills, Business Manager/ Controller, Tomas Keane, Director of Codes & Zoning and Thomas Rohan, Code Enforcement Officer

**Staff absent:**

None

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

**1. WWTP Quarterly Update**

Dave Kavitski and Ken Fulford were in attendance to discuss the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Mr. Kavitski reviewed the status of the plant stating that we are meeting all requirements according to the NPDES permit. He stated that the school has a leak and that there is a plumber coming that will be installing steel pipes to fix the issue. Mr. Kavitski reviewed the sampling reports and addressed those that were in yellow which would be considered in violation according to the Township Ordinance. He also addressed the comments that were sent to him from the safety committee on items that needed to be resolved, with most being completed at this point except for the roof overhang and the signage for certain areas with regard to chemicals and items stored in parts of the plant which he will be ordering signage to resolve. Lastly Mr. Kavitski reviewed the draft letter that he provided to send to DEP to address the concerns of the township with regard to the Act 537 plan. Ken Fulford discussed the quotes that were presented for parts and repairs that are needed at the plant. The top items on his list for repair are the proposals from Vincent Placente Electrical Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$8,900.00 for the purchase of the new flow forward pump, the repair to mixer #2 in the amount of \$7,275.00, and the proposal from Environmental Service Corp. in the amount of \$5,425.00 for the Storm Surge Jetting. The last priorities would be the proposal from Hydro-Dyne in the amount of \$5899.41 for the screen and items as listed on the quote dated October 22, 2019 and the proposal from North End Electric in the amount of \$3,164.00 for the rebuild of the spare pump. Mr. Fulford stated that the tank would need to be pumped and cleaned for the installation of the #2 mixer which would be an additional cost. Ms. Mills stated that the cost for the sludge pumping last time was \$9,200.00 through Biros. The Board agreed to address these items at the regular meeting.

- **Discussion:** Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that all of the items need to be fixed to be in compliance with DEP asking what the time frame is that we have to make the repairs being advised that the pump rebuild is not necessary at this time but the other items that were discussed as top priority need to be addressed as soon as possible. Ms. Mills stated that all items presented were budgeted for in 2020 except for the last quote that came in from North End Electric in the amount of \$3164.00. Discussions took place about the budget for 2020 with regard to the sewer plant items. D. Pope asked why they are buying parts from Europe stating we should be buying American.

## 2. Discussion on Proposed Ordinances:

- **Parking**
- **Signs**
- **Cell Tower**
- **Litter**

Solicitor Armstrong stated that the proposed parking, sign and cell tower ordinance were passed on from the Planning Commission stating one is for the zoning ordinance and one for the SALDO in the packet.

- **Discussion:** Ms. Ruiz-Smith requested that page numbers be added to the ordinances requesting clarification on what a residential home occupation is which is listed in the parking chart. Ms. Ruiz-Smith asked for clarification on whose name would go on a freestanding sign for a business as listed in Article 6, 2.A, being advised that it would be up to the property owner. Mr. Weimer stated that every time a business has to go before the ZHB for a variance we ask them to come up with a proposal for not only now but future planning, which is being presented. Ms. Kelly asked if this proposal will alleviate the ZHB hearings for signs, being advised by Mr. Keane that it would as we have doubled the size of the signs allowed which would resolve all the signs that have come before the ZHB to this point and have allowed wall signage for each business in a building. Mr. Keane stated that there is always the possibility that a business may have corporate requirements that do not fall under our ordinance, but most should. Ms. Kelly asked if Aldi's could put up another sign if they wanted to being advised by Mr. Keane that they could and stated that the directional signs allowed on the properties with the proposed ordinance will allow for the business name to be on them which is not allowed in the current ordinance. Ms. Kelly spoke on political signs that are listed in Article 5 - E subsection 2 stating that political speech and political signs have constitutional protections. Ms. Kelly asked about the process of being able to remove a sign immediately as opposed to following the Notice of Violation process depending on whether the sign is located on private property or Township Right of Way. Solicitor Armstrong stated that section E, subsection 2 is referencing private property outside the Township Right of Way, and that section E, subsection 3 that you are referencing is only for signs erected in the Public Right of Way. Signs on private property do not follow that subsection. Solicitor Armstrong stated that section 1 is just referencing that the sign is interfering with the clear site distance. He stated that many of the cases that are in question are due to municipalities restricting not only sign location and size but also content on the sign, which this ordinance is not doing regulating. Discussion ensued on the sign ordinance with regard to the political signs. Mr. Keane stated that enforcement is in accordance to the MPC. Due to the time constraints of the Work Session we will forward the litter and cell tower ordinance to a future work session.

## 3. Other Business

Nothing was heard.

## 4. Public Input

Nothing was heard.

Work Session ended at 6:54 pm.