

COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 19, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman William Weimer at 6:58 pm.

Board Members present:

William Weimer, Anthony Lamantia, Alma I. Ruiz-Smith, Clare Colgan and Lynn Kelly

Board Members absent:

None

Staff present:

Patrick Armstrong, Solicitor, Erin Masker, Township Secretary and Meredith Thompson, Business Manager

Announcements:

Mr. Weimer announced the following:

- We are streaming live via Zoom Video Communication App to allow the public to participate in our meeting due to the Coronavirus and the safety measures that are in place currently. He stated that comments will be accepted via email to emasker@coolbaughtwp.org and in the chat box on Zoom.
- Public Input will be considered at the beginning of the meeting for non-agenda items. The public will be given an opportunity to speak on each agenda matter.
- The meeting is being recorded to aid in the preparation of the minutes, please remember to state your name and community or city you reside in before speaking.

1. Public input

D. Myers asked if there will be a meeting for the Short Term Rental ordinance, being advised by Mr. Weimer that there were multiple work sessions held and that it will be on the June 16, 2020 work session for a final review and to authorize it to be advertised for a public hearing. Mr. Weimer suggested that Ms. Myers attend the work session. Solicitor Armstrong will email the revised version of the ordinance to the board for review.

2. Approval of minutes / notes:

- May 7, 2020- Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Ruiz-Smith made a motion second by Mr. Lamantia to approve the May 7, 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented.

- **Discussion:** None
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

3. Monthly reports

Mr. Weimer read all of the monthly reports that were submitted.

- Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department- Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that Women's Resources is being inundated with calls for domestic abuse since the start of the pandemic. She asked that everyone be aware of your neighbors and their children and if something seems unusual, to please call 911 for help. J. Hofbauer stated that the PMRPD is sending out words of encouragement to the seniors of the class of 2020 on social media and asked that families share these with their children.
- Pocono Mountain Regional EMS- Ms. Ruiz-Smith asked D. Doremus if they are currently working with an architect on their project since being awarded grant money, being advised that due to the pandemic, everything is on hold. Ms. Doremus stated that their call volume is down by approximately

150 calls last month and that there are people that are afraid to go to the hospital and are dying at home. J. Hofbauer stated that it is National EMS week and she would like to applaud our frontline professionals of Pocono Mountain Regional EMS for doing a great job now and throughout the year. D. Doremus stated that the PMREMS applied for the Payroll Protection Plan and were awarded a federal loan which will help them for the next two months. She stated that they have not received any state or local assistance. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that PMREMS can submit a request to the township for a letter of support. Stating that this may help, as the service that is provided to the Township by PMREMS is essential.

- Coolbaugh Township VFD- Mr. Weimer commended the CTVFC for their call response numbers which are now at an average of 8.9 responders per call which was at approximately 4 this time last year. Mr. Lamantia asked how the work on the property is going, being advised that they are working with a surveyor on the pin locations, MCCD on the sediment plan and a contractor on building a temporary road into the property. He stated that they are also working with the DPW Foreman on obtaining demolition permits and cleaning up the property. Mr. Weimer anticipates the grand opening of the new fire station on October 19, 2023 with the support of the township. He stated that 2023 is also the 75th anniversary for the fire company. Mr. Weimer stated that driver training on the two new rescue trucks is almost complete and that the trucks will be put into service in June with the two older trucks being placed up for sale.
- Gouldsboro VFD, Thornhurst Fire & Rescue Ambulance and Tobyhanna Township VFD reports were each read by Mr. Weimer.

4. Coolbaugh Township Volunteer Fire Company Request for Release of Tax Funds in the Amount of \$150,000.00 for the annual payment on the Sutphen Rescue Trucks

Ms. Kelly made a motion second by Ms. Ruiz-Smith to approve the Coolbaugh Township Volunteer Fire Company Request for Release of Tax Funds in the Amount of \$150,000.00 for the annual payment on the Sutphen Rescue Trucks.

- **Discussion:** S. Fairbanks stated that Coolbaugh Township has a very low response rate to the 2020 census, stating that Monroe County loses \$2000 in federal funding for every individual not counted. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated the Ms. Masker sends out social media posts and Savvy Citizen alerts reminding everyone to complete the census, encouraging this to continue to spread the word.
- **Vote:** 4-0-1, motion passes. (Mr. Weimer abstained)

5. Coolbaugh Township Volunteer Fire Company Request for the Release of their Annual Stipend in the Amount of \$150,000.00 to Supplement the 2020 Budget for Operating Expenses

Ms. Ruiz-Smith made a motion second by Mr. Lamantia to approve the Coolbaugh Township Volunteer Fire Company Request for the Release of their Annual Stipend in the Amount of \$150,000.00 to supplement the 2020 Budget for Operating Expenses

- **Discussion:** Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that this money is coming from the tax income.
- **Vote:** 4-0-1, motion passes.

6. Cancellation of Township Bulk Drop Off scheduled for June 5, 2020 and June 6, 2020 and authorize the advertisement of rescheduled dates: June 18-20, 2020 and June 25-27, 2020

Mr. Weimer made a motion second by Ms. Colgan to authorize the cancellation of Township Bulk Drop Off scheduled for June 5, 2020 and June 6, 2020 and authorize the advertisement of rescheduled dates: June 18-20, 2020 and June 25-27, 2020

- **Discussion:** Mr. Weimer stated that DPW will not be unloading any vehicles at the drop off and that everyone will have to show proof of residency when they arrive to the person behind the plastic

shield. Ms. Ruiz-Smith requested that the PMRPD have an officer available. Mr. Lamantia stated that he will contact Chief Wagner and make the request. Mr. Weimer stated that anyone that does not follow the rules will be escorted off the property. Ms. Ruiz-Smith asked Mr. Lamantia if APCP held a cleanup as there are garbage bags and a mattress on Route 196 by K gate and was advised that they have not. Mr. Weimer stated that he has already spoken to Mr. Keane about that issue and he was checking into it. Mr. Weimer stated that the cleanup has been extended to Thursday-Saturday for both weeks at the end of June and that there will be six DPW workers on each day.

- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes

7. Current obligations

• General Fund	\$	70,013.22
• Sewer Fund	\$	<u>7,436.77</u>
Total Disbursements	\$	77,449.99

Ms. Ruiz-Smith made a motion second by Ms. Colgan to pay our current obligations in the amount of \$77,449.99.

- **Discussion:** None
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

8. Solicitor Armstrong Comments/Updates

Solicitor Armstrong requested a brief executive session following the meeting for legal.

9. Other business

Ms. Colgan stated that the Parks and Recreation Commission have canceled the movies in the park for 2020.

Ms. Ruiz-Smith asked how the staff is doing during this pandemic and asked if there have been any concerns or mistreatment from the residents, being advised by Ms. Thompson that everyone has adjusted well and are keeping the lines of communication open. She stated that there are more calls coming in as people want to be able to utilize the recycling center, but no abusive commentary. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that she appreciated the work that the staff is doing.

Mr. Weimer made a motion second by Ms. Colgan to change Mr. Thomas Rohan's title to now include Zoning Officer.

- **Discussion:** Ms. Ruiz-Smith congratulated Mr. Rohan.
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

10. Executive Sessions

- After: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 from 7:34pm-7:48pm Re: Legal

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Ruiz-Smith second by Ms. Colgan to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING: Monday, June 1, 2020 (due to the election) and will be held via the Zoom Video Communication App. Login information is available online at www.coolbaughtwp.org under public notices.

- Work Session/ Business Meeting – 6:00pm

Submitted by: _____
Erin Masker, Recording Secretary

Witnessed by: _____
William Weimer, Chairman

Date: _____