

COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 4, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman William Weimer at 6:44pm in the meeting room of the Pocono Mountain Public Library located at 5500 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna, PA.

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, Meredith Thompson, Business Manager and Tomas Keane, Director of Codes and Zoning

Announcements:

Mr. Weimer announced the following:

- In order to insure the public safety and to comply with the CDC social distancing guidelines during the COVID-19 crisis, this meeting is being held at the Pocono Mountain Public Library.
- 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. Pope asked if the fire company is building a new firehouse and asked where the money is coming from, being advised by Mr. Weimer that they are and that the money is coming from tax funds, stating that they received a great deal on the land they purchased and it is in a good location. Mr. Weimer expressed the need for a centrally located substation stating that most of the volunteers are from that location and that it is based on the needs and growth of the Township. Mr. Weimer stated that this is part of long term planning as volunteerism is dying and this will help prepare the Township for when a paid department is necessary, as it will be in the future. He stated that it makes him sad to say it, but it is the reality. He stated that waiting to build the new station at the last minute would end up coming in a time of crisis and that the steps that are being taken now are simply planning for the inevitable.
- P. Williams asked if there is any plan for demolition of Churnock's building, being advised that Mr. Weimer has been trying to get a truck plaza to come into the Township stating that location would be a great fit for a hotel for the truck drivers. Nothing is planned at this time as the building is not in any violation and is secured.

2. Approval of minutes / notes:

- July 21, 2020- Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Lamantia made a motion second by Ms. Ruiz-Smith to approve the July 21, 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented.

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

3. **Authorization to Hire Darren Dixon as the Township Controller with a Start Date of September 8, 2020 at the Starting Salary of \$58,500.00**

Mr. Weimer made a motion second by Ms. Colgan to hire Darren Dixon as the Township Controller with a Start Date of September 8, 2020 at the Starting Salary of \$58,500.00.

- **Discussion:** Mr. Weimer stated that he is happy with the choice of the Board to hire Mr. Dixon stating that he can't wait for him to start. He will be a great addition to the Township staff.
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

4. **Current obligations**

• General Fund	\$	348,645.31
• Sewer Fund	\$	<u>1,827.19</u>
Total Disbursements	\$	350,472.50

Ms. Ruiz-Smith made a motion second by Ms. Colgan to pay our current obligations in the amount of \$350,472.50.

- **Discussion:** Ms. Ruiz-Smith asked for clarification on the description on check #6702. D. Pope asked for clarification on check #6674.
- **Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

5. **Solicitor Armstrong Comments/Updates**

Solicitor Armstrong requested an executive session following the meeting regarding Real Estate and Litigation.

6. **Other business**

- Complete the 2020 census by visiting 2020census.gov and Pa.gov/Census
- Coolbaugh Township Bulk Drop Off will be held on Friday, August 7, 2020 and Saturday, August 8, 2020 from 7:30am-3:00pm at the Township Recycling Center located at 549 Laurel Drive, Tobyhanna. Proof of Residency is required. Masks will be required and residents must unload their own items.
- Mr. Weimer stated that due to the heavy rain he asks that everyone be careful traveling and avoid standing or running water in the roads. He stated that DPW was out cleaning out drains before and during the storm in problem areas.
- Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that the residents in Pocono Summit Lake Estates are very pleased with the cleanout work that DPW did in the community.
- Ms. Ruiz-Smith would like to meet with Jeanine Hofbauer from the Journal to take a picture at the newly repaired Summit Avenue Railroad Crossing.
- D. Pope asked when the pavement at the railroad crossing on Church Street will be fixed.

Executive Session

- After: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 from 7:08pm to 7:33pm Re: Legal and Real Estate

Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, August 18, 2020, outside of the Coolbaugh Township Municipal Center.

- Public Hearing/ Business Meeting – 6:00pm

Submitted by: _____
Erin Masker, Recording Secretary

Witnessed by: _____
William Weimer, Chairman

Date: _____