

COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
September 7, 2021

The work session was called to order by Vice Chairman Anthony Lamantia at 6:00pm in the Coolbaugh Township Municipal Center located at 5520 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna.

Board Members present:

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

Board Members absent:

William Weimer

Staff present:

Patrick Armstrong, Solicitor, Erin Masker, Township Secretary, Meredith Thompson, Business Manager and Tomas Keane, Director of Codes and Zoning

Staff absent:

None

1. Coolbaugh Township Community Business Alliance Proposal

Ms. Thompson stated that she and Ms. Masker have worked on this proposal to present to the Board of Supervisors to create a community business alliance to create a relationship between the township, the community and the area businesses. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Masker stated that they believe that it is very important to have a working relationship with businesses in the community and would like to be the face of the township and be able to allocate time to go out and meet with area business owners to discuss this proposal. Along with meeting with area business owners, the proposal includes working with area representatives, agencies and community organizations, having Featured Friday events where a business would be promoted through advertising a special deal or discount on Township social media, holding a Second Saturday in the Park event(s) throughout the year where businesses will be invited to participate by selling their items, food or goods and working with the Pocono Mountain Economic Development Corporation to promote properties that are available for development. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Masker discussed their ideas with the Board stating that they are essentially looking for the go ahead to move forward with their planned timeline of events, stating that eventually this will become a committee project working with other township organizations and residents but for now while doing the ground work it would just be just herself and Ms. Thompson.

- **Discussion:** Ms. Ruiz-Smith commended Ms. Thompson and Ms. Masker for moving forward with this initiative, stating that she has discussed the importance of this for the past 5 ½ years. She stated that she would suggest that they attend the women in business luncheons to network. Ms. Kelly thanked them stating that there is great potential for the township. Ms. Colgan stated that she thinks it will be good for the community stating that her only concern would be holding an event in September since that is when Touch a Truck is held. Ms. Thompson stated that we are flexible with the dates on the events and that the first year we may only have one in May depending on the interest and success. Mr. Lamantia stated that this is a good idea and will be a good boost for the township asking Solicitor Armstrong if there is any formal action required for Ms. Thompson and Ms. Masker to move forward, being advised that there is not at this time. Ms. Ruiz-Smith suggested reaching out to the Realtors Assn as well.

2. Other Business

- Ms. Colgan stated that Parks and Recreation received a draft master plan for the park from Township Engineer, Russell Kresge and Eric Snyder of Keystone Consulting Engineering. She stated that they are currently reviewing it and will present it to the Board once it is ready.

3. Public Comment

Nothing was heard

Work Session ended at 6:14pm