

**PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

Call to Order

Chair Gonze called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Gonze led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Comment Statement

Gonze read the public comment statement "*Ladies and gentlemen, before the Board of Supervisors votes on any matter, the Board will allow for public comment on that particular item. If you wish to be heard at that time, please raise your hand, and you will be recognized*".

Gonze stated that the meeting is being recorded for the limited purpose of preparing the official minutes.

Special Note

Gonze announced that to meet the requirements established by the Office of Open Records for virtual meetings, this meeting is being audio and video recorded via Zoom from the initial announcement of the meeting until its end. The meeting Zoom link was posted on the Township's website where the public may join the Zoom meeting, interact, and ask questions in real time.

Roll Call

Officials Present:

Peter Gonze – Chair

Reda Briglia – Vice Chair

Michael Stein – Supervisor

John C. Prevoznik – Solicitor

Charles Unangst – Engineer

Tina Transue – Secretary

Executive Session

Solicitor Prevoznik stated that an Executive Session was held on February 2, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. Supervisor Briglia, Supervisor Stein, and Solicitor Prevoznik were present. Attorney Errin McCaulley, of McNees Wallace & Nurick, also joined the Executive Session

PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES-FEBRUARY 5, 2024

to discuss the legal standards of the M & M Realty Partners, LLC septic appeal decision and the request of Attorney Martin Siegel for a continuance of the M & M Realty Partners, LLC Septic Appeal Hearing. The Executive Session ended at 3:15 p.m. No decisions were made.

Solicitor Prevoznik stated that an Executive Session was held today at 5:12 p.m. All three Supervisors and Solicitor Prevoznik were present. Executive Secretary Tina Transue joined the Executive Session at 5:32 p.m. and left at 5:42 p.m. A personnel issue was discussed. After Transue left, the legal requirements for providing utility services in Paradise Township were discussed. The Executive Session ended at 5:45 p.m. No decisions were made.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve the January 15, 2024, Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 3-0.

Unfinished Business

Emergency Operations Plan/Motion to Approve – Transue stated that the Emergency Operations Plan has been updated and is ready for signature to be sent to the Monroe County Emergency Management Office. Gonze stated that Transue, Gonze, and the Road Crew met with Samantha Elliott from the Emergency Management Office to review and update the plan.

Resolution 05-2024 – Emergency Operations Plan/Approve – The Board discussed Resolution 05-2024 which authorizes the execution and implementation of the Emergency Operations Plan.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve Resolution 05-2024 to authorize the execution and implementation of the Emergency Operations Plan as attached.

Motion carried 3-0.

Devils Hole Culvert Damage Assessment and Remediation Options/Any Action – Mr. Unangst stated that Jason Smith met with contractors to assess the damage from the latest storms to the Devils Hole Road Culvert. Mr. Smith will gather cost estimates for the repairs and report said costs to the Board. Mr. Unangst stated that the repairs should be done as soon as possible to avoid damage to Devils Hole Road.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve proceeding with the emergency repairs to the Devils Hole Road Culvert as soon as a cost estimate is received.

Motion carried 3-0.

Hazard Mitigation Plan and Review Mitigation Projects/Any Action – Gonze stated that he also reviewed the Hazard Mitigation Plan with Samantha Elliott from the Monroe County Emergency Management Office. Gonze stated that there are three sections of the Hazard Mitigation Plan to be filed with Monroe County. Gonze stated that one of the sections has

PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES-FEBRUARY 5, 2024

been completed and electronically filed, however, he would need help from Mr. Unangst and Zoning Officer Shawn McGlynn to complete the other two sections. Gonze stated that as part of the Mitigation Plan, the Township could list projects or areas that could potentially turn into hazardous emergencies. If the Township lists these projects in the Mitigation Plan there is a potential for funding through grants to fund necessary repairs. The Board discussed areas or projects that could be listed on the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

New Business

Open Space Trail Maps – Louise Troutman/Any Action – Louise Troutman was present to discuss with the Board the revamping of the Township's Open Space Trail Maps. Ms. Troutman will be working with New Mind Design from East Stroudsburg University to create new trail maps.

Road Maintenance/Snow Plowing/Any Action – The Board discussed with Roadmaster Mader several issues with the condition of Township roads in the latest snowstorms.

Overtime for DeWitt to Cover February 21, 2024, Meeting/Approve – Transue stated that she is scheduled for Jury Duty on the day of the next Board meeting so DeWitt may need to attend the meeting in her place.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve overtime for Ingrid DeWitt to attend the February 21, 2024, Board meeting if Transue cannot attend.

Motion carried 3-0.

Cintron Property Holding Tank Agreement/Any Action – Solicitor Prevoznik stated that the agreement was not ready yet and asked Transue to put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Advertising for Spring Clean-Up/Approve – The Board reviewed the ad for Spring Clean-Up bids to be advertised in the *Pocono Record*.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve advertising for Spring Clean-Up bids in the *Pocono Record* to be advertised on February 26, 2024, and March 4, 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

Correspondence/Miscellaneous

DeWitt Letter of Resignation/Accept – Briglia stated that the Board received a letter of resignation from Administrative Secretary Ingrid DeWitt.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to accept DeWitt's letter of resignation with regrets.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to add to the agenda the advertising for the Administrative Secretary position due to the late notice of DeWitt's resignation and the immediate need to advertise and hire a replacement.

Motion carried 3-0.

PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES-FEBRUARY 5, 2024

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to advertise in the *Pocono Record* the Administrative Secretary position. Transue will also post the open position at the Township Building as required by the Union CBA.

Motion carried 3-0.

Reports

Roadmaster – Mader summarized his report for the Board.

Solicitor – Solicitor Prevoznik stated that he had a meeting via Zoom with Steve Dellinger, Shawn McGlynn, and Supervisor Gonze regarding updating ordinances and the Master Development and Resort Overlay district. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that the Township received a copy of a letter sent to David Horton from the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (BCRA) from Attorney Donald Karpowich regarding a formal request to expand the water and sewer area up the Route 611 corridor. Solicitor Prevoznik also stated that he spoke to Attorney Karpowich to discuss the request to change the zoning district for the Hawthorne properties that were proposed to be the shopping center along Route 611. Mr. Karpowich agreed that JSPA Realty, LP would not revisit their request for rezoning until the court has returned a ruling on the appeal of JSPA Realty, LP's Conditional Use Decision rendered by the Board of Supervisors.

Engineer – Mr. Unangst stated that Unique Properties is scheduled to appear before the Planning Commission to discuss a sketch plan.

EAC – Stein stated that the EAC was working with New Mind Design from East Stroudsburg University on designing new trail maps and brochures.

PARC – Briglia stated that PARC has been waiting on a quote from Linder Engineering for the costs to design and oversee a grant for the next phase of Seven Pines Park. Briglia stated that she just received the quote and PARC does not believe there will be enough time to apply for a grant this year.

Other Business/Public Comment

Briglia asked if the letter to PennDOT regarding Route 191 and Route 940 traffic calming was sent out. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that it was not sent as it was being revised before being sent. Briglia also asked if Jim Milot from Hanover Engineering was able to review the last traffic count for the Route 191 and Route 940 intersection to determine whether a traffic light was warranted. Mr. Unangst said Mr. Milot has not come to a determination yet.

Executive Session

Motion: Stein moved and Briglia seconded to recess the regular meeting and go into an Executive Session at 6:53 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES-FEBRUARY 5, 2024

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to reconvene the regular meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

Solicitor Prevoznik stated that an Executive Session was held and all three Supervisors were present. Louise Troutman from Pocono Heritage Land Trust (PHLT) was also present. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that two property acquisitions were discussed. The Executive Session started at 7:00 p.m. and ended at 7:15 p.m. No decisions were made.

Adjournment

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Transue

Tina Transue
Secretary