

PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ORGANIZATION MEETING – JANUARY 2, 2024

The annual organization meeting of the Paradise Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 2, 2024, by Gonze.

Officials Present:

Reda Briglia

Peter Gonze

Michael Stein

John C. Prevoznik

Charles Unangst (Absent)

Tina Transue

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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. A public comment period will be held at the end of the regular agenda for any other business.”*

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.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Gonze was elected Temporary Chair.

Motion carried 3-0.

Gonze opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Board of Supervisors. Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Gonze was elected Chair of the Board of Supervisors.

Motion carried 3-0.

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Upon a motion by Gonze seconded by Stein, Briglia was elected Vice-Chair of the Board of Supervisors.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Tina Transue was appointed Township Secretary.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Ingrid DeWitt was appointed Assistant Township Secretary.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Tina Transue was appointed Township Treasurer.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Gonze, Reda Briglia was appointed Assistant Township Treasurer.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, it was approved to renew the Treasurer's Bond and the Assistant Treasurer's Bond each at \$4,000,000.00.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, the Treasurer and/or Assistant Treasurer is authorized to pay the payroll, payroll taxes, and invoices which become due (such as insurances, utilities, reimbursements, or any invoices with a discount) with said expenses to be confirmed at the subsequent regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Michael Mader was appointed Roadmaster.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Sewage Enforcement Officers certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection employed by Hanover Engineering were appointed Township Sewage Enforcement Officers per Hanover Engineering's fee schedule as submitted (See Exhibit 1).

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Hanover Engineering, with Charles Unangst as the main contact, was reappointed as Township Engineer per the attached fee schedule as submitted (See Exhibit 2).

Motion carried 3-0.

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Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, SFM Consulting was reappointed Township Zoning Officer per the contract on file with the Township.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc. was reappointed as the Building Code Official per Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc. per the attached fee schedule as submitted (See Exhibit 3).

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Attorney Prevostnik was reappointed as Township Solicitor at the rate of \$215.00 and paralegal at \$105.00 an hour.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein; Cramer, Swetz, & McManus, P.C., was reappointed as Township Planning Commission Solicitor at the rate of \$250.00 an hour.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia; Cramer, Swetz, & McManus, P.C., was reappointed as the Zoning Officer's Solicitor at the rate of \$250.00 an hour.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein; Cramer, Swetz, & McManus, P.C., was reappointed as the Board of Supervisors Alternate Solicitor at the rate of \$250.00 an hour.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein; Flamm Walton, P.C., with Attorney Thomas Heimbach as the primary attorney, was reappointed special counsel for personnel matters at the rate of \$275.00 an hour.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia; Durney, Worthington, and Madden, with Attorney Hillary Madden as the primary attorney, was reappointed as the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Linder Engineering was reappointed as Alternate Township Engineer at their current fee schedule as submitted. (See Exhibit 4)

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Carl Hogan, BBD, LLC was appointed to complete the 2023 Municipal Annual Audit and Financial Report (DCED-CLGS-30) at the rate of \$5,500.00.

Motion carried 3-0.

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Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Shawn Garber was reappointed to the Vacancy Board for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Cynthia Cook was reappointed as Paradise Township's representative to the Board of the Barrett Paradise Friendly Library for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Gonze, seconded by Stein, Michael Stein was reappointed as Paradise Township's representative to the Board of the Barrett Paradise Friendly Library for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Gonze, seconded by Stein, Reda Briglia was reappointed to the Pocono Area Recreation Commission for a 3-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Gonze, Steven Smith was reappointed to the Planning Commission for a 4-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Gonze, Edith Stevens was appointed to the Environmental Advisory Council for a 3-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Gonze, Stein was appointed as Chair of the Environmental Advisory Council for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Domenick DiPaolo, Shawn Garber, and Michael Wilk were reappointed to the Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Ian Robertson was reappointed to the Zoning Hearing Board for a 3-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Tina Transue was appointed as the representative to the Monroe County Tax Collection Committee (Act 32) for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Michael Mader was reappointed as the alternate representative to the Monroe County Tax Collection Committee (Act 32) for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

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Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Gonze was reappointed to the Pocono Mountain Regional Emergency Medical Services for a 1-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Gonze was reappointed to the Paradise Price Preserve Committee for a 1-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, Shawn Garber was reappointed to the Paradise Price Preserve Committee for a 1-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, Logan Evans was appointed as the designee for fireworks display inspector for a 1-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, PLGIT, NBT, and ESSA, were named as depositories for Township funds.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, the Supervisors' Work Sessions and Regular Meetings were scheduled for 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. respectively for the first and third Monday of each month with the following changes; February 19 (President's Day) meeting was rescheduled to February 21, and the September 2 (Labor Day) meeting was rescheduled to September 4. The meeting schedule is to be advertised in the Pocono Record.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, Gonze was designated as the representative to the Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company for a 1-year term.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, the Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company contract for 2024 was preapproved not to exceed \$40,000.00.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, the pro-rated amount for the Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company's workers' compensation was approved to be reimbursed to Mt. Pocono Borough.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, Michael Mader was reappointed as representative for the Pocono Mountains Council of Governments for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

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Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, Chad Nauman was appointed as the alternate representative for the Pocono Mountains Council of Governments for 2024.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Stein, seconded by Briglia, to pass Resolution 04-2024 to recommend to the Governor of Pennsylvania the appointment of Richard Gannon as the Emergency Management Coordinator with Co-Emergency Management responsibilities with the Borough of Mount Pocono, Monroe County, Pennsylvania. Resolution 04-2024 also authorizes a Memorandum of Understanding, if necessary, as to the functions of the office of Emergency Management Coordinator in a dual emergency. The recommendation of Richard Gannon as Emergency Management Coordinator with Co-Emergency Management responsibilities with the Borough of Mount Pocono is contingent upon Mount Pocono Borough also passing a resolution stating the same and entering into a Memorandum of Understanding, if necessary.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, to approve Tina Transue to attend the PSATS Convention as a delegate with Tina Transue as the voting member.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, Tina Transue was reappointed as the Official Contact Person of the Township for the PSATS CDL Drug and Alcohol Random Testing Program.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, non-unionized employees will receive paid holidays as per the union contract.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, it was approved to set the mileage rate at the IRS rate at the time of travel.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upon a motion by Briglia, seconded by Stein, the Organization Meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m. and the Regular Business Meeting was immediately convened.

Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Transue

Tina Transue
Secretary