

**PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Konrath led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Comment Statement

Konrath 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*".

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

Roll Call

Officials Present:

Gary Konrath – Chair

Peter Gonze – Vice Chair

Reda Briglia – Supervisor

John C. Prevoznik – Solicitor

Charles Unangst – Engineer

Tina Transue – Secretary

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Briglia moved and seconded by Gonze to approve the October 18, 2021 Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 3-0.

Citizen of the Year

Gary Konrath/Present Award – Gonze presented Konrath with the Citizen of the Year award. Gonze thanked Konrath for his years of service as the Chair of the Board of Supervisors as well as a member of the Barrett Paradise Library Board, the Environmental Advisory Council and also the Park and Recreation Board. Gonze also commended Konrath for his work to develop more than fifteen miles of trails on Paradise Township's Open Space properties.

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Unfinished Business

PA DEP Response Letter (PMSD Oil Spill)/Discuss – The Board briefly discussed the PA DEP letter dated October 25, 2021 in response to a letter sent to PA DEP dated October 4, 2021 addressing the Board's concerns over lack of communication between PA DEP and the Board during the Pocono Mountain School District's oil spill. Mr. Kevin Transue, Paradise Township EMC, stated that PA DEP has been sending him updates on the clean-up efforts for the PMSD oil spill.

New Business

Barrett Paradise Library Fundraiser/Donation – Konrath stated that the Barrett Paradise Library sent a letter to the Township requesting a donation for their annual Basket Raffle. Last year Paradise Township donated 5 restaurant gift cards from Township restaurants in the amount of \$25.00 each for a Dine Around Paradise Basket. The library fundraising board stated that the Dine Around Paradise Basket was very popular last year so the Board discussed doing the same this year.

Motion: Briglia moved and seconded by Gonze to approve a donation to the Barrett Paradise Library in the amount of \$125.00 to be split into 5 gift cards, each in the amount of \$25.00 from Paradise Township restaurants for their Annual Basket Raffle.

Motion carried 3-0.

UGI Letter (Road Closure)/Ratify – Konrath stated that he was contacted by UGI Utilities requesting approval to use Paradise Township roads as part of a detour around a road closure on SR 1011. The road will be closed from the intersection of SR 1011 and SR 0314 to the intersection of Burton Road. The detour would use SR 0611, Woodland Road, and Bowman Road to go around the road closure. The road closure would begin on Monday, November 22, 2021, at 6:00 a.m., until Friday, January 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion: Briglia moved and seconded by Gonze to ratify the letter signed by Konrath authorizing UGI Utilities to use SR 0611, Woodland Road, and Bowman Road to detour around the road closure on SR 1011 from the intersection of SR 0314 to Burton Road. The road closure would begin on Monday, November 22, 2021, at 6:00 a.m., until Friday, January 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

2022 Budget/Approve Advertising – Konrath stated the Paradise Township Proposed 2022 Budget was completed and the advertising to adopt the budget should be placed in the *Pocono Record*. Briglia stated that the ad would be run on November 8, 2021 for final budget approval at the December 6, 2021 regular Board of Supervisors meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Motion: Briglia moved and seconded by Gonze to advertise the proposed 2022 Budget on November 8, 2021 for final approval and adoption at the December 6, 2021 regular Board of Supervisors meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

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PMREMS/Millage Increase Discussion – Gonze explained that the Pocono Mountain Regional EMS has been able to operate financially in the black due to the support that it receives from the local municipalities; however, it is not receiving enough revenue to set aside capital to buy new ambulances and equipment. Gonze stated that the Board discussed at the budget work session about possibly adding a small millage increase to the local taxes dedicated to Capital Equipment for PMREMS. Briglia stated that \$30,000.00 was set aside this year to donate to PMREMS dedicated to Capital Equipment out of the General Fund. The Board discussed that the millage increase would be about the same or less than the millage rate dedicated to the Library. Gonze stated that PMREMS is approaching each of the townships that it services to ask for the millage increase to support the Capital Equipment funding.

Seven Pines Park Completion/Update – Briglia gave a brief summary of her meeting with Christine Dettore, from DCNR, at Seven Pines Park. Tina Transue, Brick Linder, and Julius Kollar were also present at the meeting. Briglia reported that Ms. Dettore was pleased with the outcome of the project.

PARC Budget/Approve – Briglia submitted the PARC budget for approval.

Motion: Gonze moved and seconded by Konrath to approve the PARC budget as submitted.

Motion carried 3-0.

Other Business/Public Comment

Trevor and Janine Sopko were present at the meeting to inquire about the progress on the Route 390 redistricting from residential to a B-1 district. Transue stated that she emailed Steve Dellinger, from Hanover Engineering, that day and he responded that he was finishing up the proposed ordinance and map changes and expected to be done by the end of the week at which time the changes would go back to the Board of Supervisors before being sent to the Paradise Township Planning Commission and the Monroe County Planning Commission.

Ken Schurman was present at the meeting to inquire whether stop bars would be repainted at the intersections where the roads have been newly painted. Mr. Schurman also stated that the traffic lights on Route 940 had unevenly timed light changes. Mader is to contact Signal Service to have them review the light change intervals. Mr. Schurman also stated that motorists are speeding on Route 390 and suggested digital signs to make motorists aware of their speed.

Terry Martin appeared before the Board to inform the Board that the Pocono Mountain Temple Association just received DEP approval. He noted, however, that the plans were not recorded within the ninety-day timeframe required by the Township's approval.

Motion: Gonze moved and seconded by Briglia to amend Resolution 07-2021 Paragraph 1B to authorize the recording and executing the of the Pocono Mountain Temple Association Minor Subdivision Plan by the Supervisors and the Planning Commission

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outside of the ninety days due to DEP's failure to provide proper modules. The plan must be recorded within thirty days from today.

Motion carried 3-0.

Reports

Roadmaster – Mader summarized his report. Mader stated that he received final quotes for the John Deere Tractor and Tiger Boom to be ordered for the 2022 Budget year. Mader stated that the quote came in approximately \$1,700.00 higher than originally given. Mader requested that the quote be signed to lock in the pricing; however, the quote cannot be signed until the 2022 Budget is passed.

Motion: Briglia moved and seconded by Gonze to table the discussion of ordering the John Deere Tractor and Tiger Boom.

Motion carried 3-0.

Gonze asked Mr. Unangst if he had been out to Sylvan Cascade to look at the repairs made by the Road Crew, and Mr. Unangst stated that he had not been out to the site yet; however, the Hanover Engineering Structural Engineer and the Kleinfelder geotechnical company would be meeting at the site of the washout on Sylvan Cascade Road on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., to develop some options to fix the road.

Solicitor - Solicitor Prevoznik stated that the Wilkins' ZHB Appeal Hearing has been continued. Mr. Unangst stated that he and Zoning Officer Shawn McGlynn would be meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins at the Township building at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 4, 2021.

Solicitor Prevoznik also stated that there was also one other ZHB Appeal Hearing later this month.

Solicitor Prevoznik stated he had an Executive Session matter to discuss in regard to litigation.

Engineer – Mr. Unangst stated that Wyoming Electric did pour the concrete pads for the Traffic Calming signals; however, he did not have word as to when the signals would be installed.

EAC – Konrath stated that the EAC members discussed the Solar Banks proposed to be installed on Mount Airy's Greenway by A. J. Magnotta. Konrath reported that the EAC members stated that the solar banks should be put in a parking lot not on a greenway where trees would have to be cut down to accommodate the solar panels.

PARC – Briglia stated that PARC would be setting up a subcommittee to focus on fundraising to replenish PARC's match monies for future grants. Briglia stated that PARC may be looking into putting Pickle Ball courts and Disc Golf at Skywood Park.

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Correspondence/Miscellaneous

Konrath reported that due to weather, the Halloween Party was canceled and that some pumpkins not used for the Halloween Party were taken to the Library for decorations. Konrath stated that the Library updated their trustee resource book to 2021, and the Library also completed their every 3rd year audit and he will forward that to the Township Secretary.

Konrath presented his letter of resignation to the Board. Konrath stated that November 12, 2021 would be his last day as the Board of Supervisors' Chair.

Motion: Gonze moved and seconded by Briglia to accept Konrath's letter of resignation reluctantly and with gratitude for his service.

Motion carried 2-0 (Konrath abstained).

Motion: Gonze moved and seconded by Briglia to recess the regular meeting and go into an executive session.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Briglia moved and seconded by Gonze to reconvene the regular meeting.

Motion carried 3-0.

Solicitor Prevoznik stated that the Executive Session started at 7:10 and ended at 7:23 and all three Supervisors were in attendance. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that a litigation/collection matter was discussed along with a potential litigation with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a real estate matter. No decisions were made.

Motion: Gonze moved and seconded by Briglia to authorize a current owner search on the Meher Real Estate Investment property.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Gonze moved and seconded by Briglia to approve Solicitor Prevoznik contacting the Commonwealth of PA regarding damages to the Seven Pines Park property as a result of storm runoff, if Barrett Township does not take the lead in the matter.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Briglia moved and seconded by Gonze to authorize Solicitor Prevoznik to conduct an encompassing search on the Nothstein Property to determine title issues.

Motion carried 3-0.

Adjournment

Motion: Gonze moved and seconded by Briglia to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Transue
Secretary