

**PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 5, 2022**

Call to Order

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

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

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve the November 21, 2022 Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 3-0.

Work Session

Mount Airy #1, LLC – Gonze stated that the Work Session with Mount Airy has been postponed. Mount Airy is to submit a Forestry Plan by the second Board meeting in

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January. The Board discussed scheduling a new Work Session to be held on the second meeting date in February 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion: Gonze moved and Stein seconded to schedule a Work Session with Mount Airy on the second meeting date in February 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

Unfinished Business

Work Session with Hawthorne Mt Pocono Resort/Reschedule – The Board discussed scheduling a Work Session with Hawthorne Mount Pocono Resort on February 6, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss road improvements at the proposed entrance to the resort.

Motion: Gonze moved and Stein seconded to schedule a Work Session with Hawthorne Mount Pocono Resort on February 6, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

New Business

2023 Budget/Approve – The Public Notice for the 2023 Budget was advertised in the *Pocono Record* on November 7, 2022. The Public Notice indicated that the Board of Supervisors would take action and adopt the 2023 Budget at its December 5, 2022 meeting.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to adopt the 2023 Budget as proposed.

Motion carried 3-0.

Maureen Garcia/842 & 844 Red Rock Road/Discuss/Any Action – Resident Maureen Garcia and family were present to discuss issues they are experiencing with their neighbors. Ms. Garcia relayed that she was having problems with the Pennsylvania State Police and the Zoning Office responding and resolving issues. Ms. Garcia stated that she has filed complaints with the Zoning Office. She admitted that she has not submitted complaints recently. The Board recommended that Ms. Garcia submit current complaints to the Zoning Office as well as contact their State Representatives to address their concerns with the State Police.

United Way Donation Request/Discuss/Any Action – Todd Nemura from the Pocono Mountains United Way was present. Mr. Nemura asked the Board to consider allocating \$5,000.00 of the yearly budget to fund the *PoconoInfo* helpline. Mr. Nemura explained to the Board the purpose of the *PoconoInfo* helpline. Gonze informed Mr. Nemura that the 2023 Budget has already been approved. Mr. Nemura stated that he would contact the Board next year prior to the Budget Work Sessions, which are generally held in October, to request funding.

Open Space Acreage in the Township/Discuss/Any Action – Briglia stated that she gathered information on how many acres in the Township are currently being used as Open Space, Parks, and Conservation. Briglia also explained that she included in the calculations Pocono Mountain School District and Mount Airy Resort. Briglia stated that the above-mentioned properties total three thousand one hundred forty-seven acres.

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This acreage represents approximately twenty-three percent of the total acreage of Paradise Township. The Board discussed what percentage of Township property it wanted to see reserved for Open Space. The Board questioned how many acres in the Township were enrolled in the ACT 319 "Clean and Green" program. Transue is to compile a report of the properties enrolled in ACT 319 for the next meeting.

Doukakis BOS Hearing Withdrawal/Discuss/Any Action – Solicitor Prevoznik stated that Attorney Riegel sent a letter on behalf of his clients, Clio and Ioannis Doukakis, stating that they are withdrawing the Board of Supervisors Hearing application. The letter also stated that Mr. and Mrs. Doukakis would not pursue an appeal of the Zoning Hearing Board's decision to deny the change of use for their property. Attorney Riegel requested that any unused monies be refunded to his clients.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to accept the withdrawal from the Board of Supervisors hearing regarding the denial of the Short-Term Rental License and cancel the hearing scheduled for January 16, 2023. Any unused monies will be refunded to Mr. and Mrs. Doukakis.

Motion carried 3-0.

Reorg Meeting Ad/Approve – Gonze stated that a public notice must be published in the *Pocono Record* advertising the Organizational Meeting dates and times for the Boards/Committees of Paradise Township.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve advertising the dates and times of the Organizational Meetings for the Boards/Committees of Paradise Township.

Motion carried 3-0.

Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer Bonds/Discuss Bonds/Any Action – The Board discussed appointing a Supervisor as the Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer.

Motion: Stein moved and Gonze seconded to appoint Briglia as the Treasurer for the remainder of 2022 contingent on securing a Treasurer's Bond for Briglia and appointing Transue as the Assistant Treasurer.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Stein moved and Gonze seconded to rescind the previous motion.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Stein moved and Gonze seconded to appoint Briglia as the Assistant Treasurer for the remainder of 2022 contingent on securing a Treasurer's Bond for Briglia. Transue will remain the Treasurer.

Motion carried 3-0.

Transue's 2023 MOU/Discuss/Any Action – The Board asked Solicitor Prevoznik to prepare Transue's 2023 MOU for approval at the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve Solicitor Prevoznik to prepare Transue's 2023 MOU for approval at the December 19, 2022 meeting.

Motion carried 3-0.

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Reports

Roadmaster – Roadmaster's report was not received.

Solicitor – Solicitor Prevoznik stated that he has not received the original License Agreement for the Browns Hill Road Project for Gonze to sign. Gonze stated that he would reach out to Attorney German to request the original be forwarded to Solicitor Prevoznik. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that he would reach out to representatives of Hawthorne Mount Pocono Resort to let them know a date of February 6, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. has been set for a Work Session to discuss road improvements at the proposed entrance to the resort. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that he had an Executive Session item to be discussed.

Engineer – Mr. Unangst stated that Jason Smith is speaking with the contractor for the Browns Hill Road Project via phone conference on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. The Board briefly discussed the submission and timeline to hold a hearing for the Conditional Use Application by Hawthorne Mount Pocono Resort.

PARC – Briglia stated that PARC does not meet in November.

Correspondence/Miscellaneous

None.

Other Business/Public Comment

None.

Executive Session

Motion: Stein moved and Briglia seconded to recess the regular meeting and go into an Executive Session at 7:13 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to reconvene the regular meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

Solicitor Prevoznik stated that an Executive Session was held and all three Supervisors were present. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that contract negotiations for the CBA were discussed.

No decisions were made.

Adjournment

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Transue

Tina Transue
Secretary