

**PARADISE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 5, 2023**

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

Executive Session

Solicitor Prevoznik stated that an Executive Session was held at 5:49 p.m. and all three Supervisors were present. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that personnel matters and potential litigation were discussed. The Executive Session ended at 5:59 p.m.

No decisions were made.

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Approval of Minutes

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve the April 17, 2023, Board of Supervisors hearing meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve the May 15, 2023, Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 2-0. (Gonze abstained due to absence)

Motion: Briglia moved and Stein seconded to approve the May 23, 2023, Board of Supervisors special meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 3-0.

Work Session

Discuss Public Sewer and Water Along the Route 611 Corridor/Any Action – Gonze stated that the Board met with Dave Horton, from the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (BCRA), and representatives from JSPA Realty, Mount Airy Casino, Empire Real Estate & Development, Brodhead Watershed Association, Monroe County, and several Paradise Township residents to discuss the concept of installing water and sewer utilities along the Route 611 corridor. The Board briefly discussed its interest in participating in the “next steps” in the process.

Motion: Stein moved and Briglia seconded to approve Solicitor Prevoznik to draft a letter to Dave Horton to express the interest of the Board to participate in the “next steps” in the process of determining if there is a viable path forward. Gonze will act as the point person for Paradise Township.

Motion carried 3-0.

Discuss Open Space Priorities/Any Action – Gonze stated that the Board received a response from the Environmental Advisor Council (EAC) regarding the Open Space Priorities list. The Board briefly discussed the EAC’s suggestions.

Motion: Stein moved and Briglia seconded to acknowledge receipt of the EAC’s Open Space Priorities list response and will consider its suggestions in the future.

Motion carried 3-0.

Motion: Stein moved and Briglia seconded to invite Christine Meinhart-Fritz to a Work Session to discuss the use of Open Space funds and potential uses of the Township’s Open Space properties.

Motion carried 3-0.

Unfinished Business

Seasonal Laborer Applications/Any Action – Transue stated that two applications were received for the Seasonal Laborer positions. The Board discussed having Maintenance/Laborer, Doug Leies, who has been a Seasonal Laborer in the past, work with one of the Seasonal Laborers on the trails. The second Seasonal Laborer would work with Maintenance/Laborer, Mike Reed, performing mowing and upkeep of the parks. Gonze questioned if there would be an issue with the Union having a Seasonal Laborer fill in for Leies if he is working on the Open Space Trails. Mader is to meet with the

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applicants to determine if they are familiar with the equipment necessary to complete the work.

Motion: Stein moved and Briglia seconded to approve hiring Cameron Rauch and Mason Cuvo as Seasonal Laborers contingent upon Mader's determination that they can do the jobs assigned to them and the verification of compliance with the Union Contract. Applicants will be hired at \$17.00 per hour with no benefits. The Seasonal Laborers will work no more than forty hours a week, weather permitting. Mader will allocate Laborer Leies to work with Cameron Rauch on trail maintenance and Laborer Reed will work with Mason Cuvo on mowing and park maintenance. Laborer Leies' wages will be charged to Open Space to be reimbursed to the Township from the Open Space Funds.

Motion carried 3-0.

New Business

Monroe County Assoc. of Township Officials/Any Action – Stein stated that he was contacted by Annette Atkinson regarding a meeting of the Monroe County Association of Township Officials (MCATO) scheduled for June 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Stein stated that he planned to attend the meeting in person. Stein stated that the MCATO is a legislative group formed to discuss issues of local and regional importance and to present resolutions regarding these issues to PSATS.

Motion: Gonze moved and Briglia seconded to appoint Stein as the Township's representative to MCATO.

Motion carried 3-0.

PMREMS Budget Disbursement Request/Any Action – Transue stated that she received a letter from PMREMS requesting that the budgeted disbursement of \$100,000.00 be released. These funds are to be designated for capital vehicle purchases.

Motion: Stein moved and Briglia seconded to disburse the budgeted \$100,000.00 to PMREMS.

Motion carried 3-0.

Reports

PMREMS – Gonze stated that the new Chief Operating Officer has been hired and will start on June 12, 2023.

Roadmaster – Mader presented the Roadmaster's report. The Board discussed having the Roof Park repainted and other upgrades to the park. The Board inquired of Mader concerning the status of the emergency access project for Wyndham Hills, Wood Acres, and Green Chapel Lane. The Board discussed with Mader other open projects. Gonze stated that he would schedule a time with Mader to review the open projects to be completed and to discuss a timeline and budget for each. The Board discussed the completed Browns Hill Road emergency repairs. Gonze stated that he was notified by Melvin Fish that more stabilization work may be necessary in the future. Solicitor Prevoznik questioned if the easement given by the Cranberry Associates would cover the additional repairs. Mader stated that he was made aware of water running from the lawn

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of 158 Burton Road onto a Township Road. Solicitor Prevoznik stated that a letter should be sent to the homeowner to make them aware that the issue needs to be fixed.

PARC – Briglia explained to the Board PARC's reasoning for closing the gate at Skywood Park. Briglia stated that one of the neighbors of Skywood Park complained that people were coming onto their property from the park. Upon inspection of the property lines, it was discovered that the neighbors created a trail from the park to their driveway which could be mistaken for a park trail. Briglia questioned whether a bush planted at the trailhead on the park side would deter park users from using the trail. Briglia also stated that PARC may be expanding the parking area outside of the closed gate for more parking. The Board asked Mader to look at the parking area and give PARC an estimate of the cost of materials to expand the parking area. Briglia stated that PARC would be meeting with Brick Linder to discuss the next phase of development at Seven Pines Park.

Solicitor – Solicitor Prevoznik stated that he had nothing further.

Engineer – Mr. Unangst stated that a letter was sent to Mike Dwyer, of the Pocono Mountain Council of Government, regarding the Act 167 Ordinance as discussed at the May 23, 2023, Board of Supervisors Special Meeting.

Correspondence/Miscellaneous

None.

Other Business/Public Comment

Resident Ken Schermann was in attendance and requested that the Township contact PennDOT regarding potholes on Route 940. The Board advised Mr. Schermann to contact Senator Brown and Representative Madden regarding the PennDOT road issues. Gonze stated that he would also reach out to the representative's offices. Mr. Schermann also suggested that Traffic Calming Devices be installed on Route 390 between the Route 940 intersection and the Route 191 intersection. Mr. Schermann questioned if anything could be done on Peterson Hill Road to slow speeders and wrong-way drivers. The Board informed Mr. Schermann that it has already been studied and the residents on Peterson Hill Road did not want a cul-de-sac to close off the road to through traffic.

Adjournment

Motion: Stein moved and Briglia seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Transue

Tina Transue
Secretary