

**LANCASTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

The Lancaster Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairman Plesniak at 6:00 pm. Those in attendance were Supervisor Kris Kniess, Supervisor Tim Zinkham, Secretary-Treasurer, Chrissy Senft, Township Solicitor Chris Reese, Township Engineer Tom Thompson, Connie Domhoff, Alex Weidenhof, Debbie Scott, Sergeant Mike Cornell, Doug Marshall, Velma, Petersons, Fred Bowser, and Roadmaster Mike Spiker. The September 2020 meeting was duly advertised in the Butler Eagle, a newspaper of general circulation indicating the meeting would be held through the Zoom Video-Audio conferencing program.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEETING MINUTES & TREASURER’S REPORT

A motion was made by Supervisor Kniess to approve the August 17, 2020 Board of Supervisors Meeting minutes, with the following clarifications on police hirings. Officer Michael Murcko’s payrate is to be set at \$23.07, and Officer Adam Drake’s payrate is to be set at \$21.07 per hour and is to be effective on July 1, 2020. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zinkham and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Kniess, Zinkham, Plesniak – YES

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve the Treasurer’s Report dated August 14 – September 17, 2020, motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning & Planning Use:

1. Planning Commission for September 2020 was canceled and published on the Township website on 8/23/20.
2. 16 Building permits have been issued during the current time period (8/14-9/17/20)– permits were issued for projects at the following addresses:
 - a. 13 dwellings
 - i. 779 Oliver Street (Duplex)
 - ii. 777 Oliver Street (Duplex)
 - iii. 110 Timber Ridge Road (single family)
 - iv. 109 Touchstone Court (single family)
 - v. 115 Touchstone Court (single family)
 - vi. 104 Savannah Drive (single family)
 - vii. 131 Touchstone Court (single family)
 - viii. 106 Touchstone Court (single family)
 - ix. 749 Oliver Street (Duplex)
 - x. 751 Oliver Street (Duplex)
 - xi. 110 Touchstone Court (single family)
 - xii. 103 Touchstone Court (single family)
 - xiii. 125 Touchstone Court (single family)
 - xiv. 309 Vidalia Drive (single family)
 - b. 1 Detached Structure
 - i. 1011 W. Lancaster – Shed
 - c. Inground Pool
 - i. 110 Timber Ridge Drive
 - d. Demolition
 - i. 425 Whitestown

Road Department: Roadmaster Mike Spiker discussed completing a pipe and basin installation on High Acres and Dutch Road. the widening and regrading of Salt Works Road, and discussions for Storm Water Management with residents on High Acres Road. Preparations for the winter season are scheduled to begin, and the hiring of a potential 4th employee is to be discussed among the Board of Supervisors.

Police Department: Sergeant Cornell discussed receiving the Ford Interceptor into service. Monthly reports were submitted to the Board of Supervisors prior to the meeting. To date, calls are showing a decrease of 300 for the year. Sergeant Cornell also discussed the new hires being available for shifts and Michael Murcko has received his vest.

Historical Society: No report.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Arden Woods LOC #11** – A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham for release in the amount of \$25,428.52, motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE – Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES
2. **Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS) Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO)** -A motion was made by Supervisor in acknowledgement of the calculated MMO's for both the uniform and non-uniform pension plans. The amount for the Uniform Plan to be budgeted for 2021 is \$59,533, and no payment is due on the Non-Uniform Plan. The calculations were shared via email to the Supervisors on September 3, 2020 and September 14, 2020. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE – Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES
3. **County Block Grant** - A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to adopt and authorization to sign all documents relating to the award of \$109,608.00 from the Butler County Grant for CARES Act Funding. This motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE – Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES
4. **Police New Hire** – A motion was made by Supervisor Kniess to approve hiring of Officer Abby Grooms at a pay rate of \$21.07 effective September 22, 2020. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zinkham and passed by a majority vote. VOTE – Kniess, Zinkham, Plesniak – YES
5. **Halloween 2020** – A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve Trick or Treat on October 31, 2020 from 6-8 PM, following Zelenople Borough's schedule. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE – Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

A discussion was held among the Board of Supervisors, Roadmaster Michael Spiker, and Secretary-Treasurer Chrissy Senft regarding purchase of tires for police vehicles from several different vendors.

A discussion was held among the Board of Supervisors and Secretary-Treasurer Chrissy Senft regarding payment to Suit-Kote for \$16,839.99 and utilizing the Nextier Capital Reserves account rather than the General Fund. All Board members agreed to pay the above invoice from the Nextier Capital Reserves account.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Township resident, Connie Domhoff had several questions for the Board of Supervisors. A discussion was held discussing the purchase of new trucks, planning commission agendas, and the purchase of the property where Four Springs Park was built. Several questions were asked about who the Board members were during the purchase of the former Haine property, as well as the property being subdivided to allow for a future municipal building. Tom Thompson will be looking into the removal of trees above the retention pond at Scenic Ridge and explained the details of the Butler County Conservation District's involvement in the Log Cabin Property on Route 19.
2. Fred Bowser of the Harmony Fire District spoke with the Board of Supervisors regarding the possibility of an increase of 1.5 mil of the fire tax mileage for the 2021. The Board of Supervisors and Fred discussed a formal presentation being done during the October meeting.
3. Resident Doug Marshall, property owner at 591 Scott Ridge Road expressed concern over a motor cross track being built and used in his neighborhood. The track continues to grow in size, lights are currently being constructed and dust is being spread. The Board of Supervisors are aware of the situation and will be consulting with Solicitor Chris Reese on possible zoning violations or nuisance laws. Solicitor Reese encouraged the Marshall family to submit their concerns in writing.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to adjourn the public meeting at 6:53, was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote.

Respectfully submitted:

Christina M. Senft
Secretary/Treasurer