

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FEBRUARY 15TH, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

The Lancaster Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairman Joseph Plesniak at 6:00 pm. Those in attendance were Supervisor Kris Kniess, Supervisor Tim Zinkham, Township Manager Danielle Rich, Secretary-Treasurer Chrissy Senft, Township Solicitor Chris Reese, Township Engineer Tom Thompson, Amanda Petersen, Connie Domhoff, Sergeant Mike Cornell, Roadmaster Mike Spiker, Charles & Debbie Scott, Dan Cox, Mike Marburger, Doug Marshall, and Gregg Semel. The February 15th 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.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve the January 4th Organizational & Regular Meeting Minutes, the motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak - YES

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve the Treasurer's Report dated January 1 – February 12, 2021, motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

Executive Sessions were held as follows:

- i. January 12, 2021 5:00pm re: Personnel & Collective Bargaining Matters (Public Works CBA)
- ii. January 26, 2021 2:00pm re: Personnel Matters (Manager Role & Employee Health Insurance)
- iii. February 2, 2021 4:00pm re: Litigation (Butler Eagle Right to Know Appeal)
- iv. February 15, 2021 5:30pm re: Litigation (Zoning Hearing Board, Seneca Landfill Variance Request)
- v. February 23, 2021 7:00pm re: Information Gathering (Four Springs Park & April Claus Partnership)

Planning, Land Use & Zoning

Planning Commission met virtually on Thursday, January 14, 2021 to discuss the WBCA Act 537 Plan and submit questions/comments to the WBCA. The February meeting was canceled.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve the Arden Development Agreement providing modifications and supplements regarding Phase 7. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve the Set-Aside Agreement from Arden Development for Phase 2, motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve the following subdivisions:

1. Arden Wood Amendment #5 – Lot 721
2. Arden Wood Amendment #6, Lot 712
3. Arden Wood Amendment #7, Lot 724

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 5:30 pm in the Lancaster Township Community Center to consider Seneca Landfill's application for a variance to remove minerals with 500' of a residential zoning classification and within 500' of occupied dwellings.

Road Department: Roadmaster Mike Spiker discussed the winter weather events, and preparation for the ice storm and snow accumulation for this week.

Police Department: Sergeant Cornell reported that the call volume is stable, and the department is working with both the state and the Attorney General's office on several cases. As budgeted for 2021, the new police vehicle has been completed and will be placed into service in the next few weeks.

Ordinances & Resolutions

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve Resolution 2021-4 to reappoint George Metropoulos to serve a new, five-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve Resolution 2021-5 to comply with the requirements of the Butler County Parks Renovation Program for the purpose of obtaining grant funds for the renovation of the Community Center. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

New Business

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve an employee cell phone reimbursement policy. This policy provides a \$50 monthly stipend to the township manager, secretary/treasurer, roadmaster and police sergeant. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to approve the renewal of employee health insurance and continuation of the current plan, UPMC EPO GOLD MCA with a deductible of \$1,250. The renewal rate for this plan is \$6,013.57 monthly and reflects a 14% increase. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote. VOTE: Zinkham, Kniess, Plesniak – YES

Lancaster Township is seeking a representative to serve on the Zelenople Public Library Board of Trustees. The Board meets 10 times per year on the fourth Wednesday of the month, excluding July and November. Any interested residents can download an application from our website or contact the township manager.

The Lancaster Township Police Department recently installed a drug drop box in the Municipal Building lobby creating a convenient place for anyone to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs. The box is available during regular office hours.

Lancaster Township is now on Facebook. Follow us @LancasterTwp.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Semel of the Zelenople Borough Council commented on how effective the township meeting was run and is looking forward to continuing to work together in the future.

Mike Marburger of Insight Pipe thanked both the Police Department and Road Departments for their work in various situations over the past few weeks.

A motion was made by Supervisor Zinkham to adjourn the public meeting at 6:23, was seconded by Supervisor Kniess and passed by a majority vote.

Respectfully submitted:

Christina M. Senft
Secretary/Treasurer