

MINUTES
 ▪ **Pittston Township**
 ▪ **Board of Supervisors Meeting**
 ▪ **February 16., 2021**
 ▪ **Pittston Township Municipal Building**

Call Meeting To Order 7:00 PM

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call Slezak ___P___ Hawk _P___ Rinaldi ___P___

Minutes: minutes of the Supervisors regularly scheduled January 19, 2021 were presented to Supervisors for their review comments and/or corrections.

Any Questions/Corrections -NONE

- **Motion:** To ACCEPT minutes of January 19, 2021 as presented to the Supervisors for their review, comments and/or corrections.

- Slezak _M___ Hawk __S___ Rinaldi _____
- Roll Call: Slezak _Y___ Hawk _Y___ Rinaldi _Y_____

New Business

Signs have been ordered for the Jake Brake restriction on SR2021 between Oak St and William Street intersections, a total distance of 0.7 . Supervisor Slezak said he was in touch with his contact at PDOT and when the signs arrive he will install in accordance with PDOT requirements.

Resolution - Luzerne County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacted statewide recycling in 1988 with the passage of the Municipal Waste Planning Recycling and Waste Reduction Act (Act 101) that requires larger municipalities to recycle;. The Act requires the creation of a county Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan so as to comply with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's mandate that Municipal Solid Waste Management Plans be updated every ten years; The existing Luzerne County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan expired on December 31, 2020;

Questions/Concerns - NONE

- **Motion - to ADOPT Resolution 2-01 of 2021 whereby** the governing body of the Municipality of Pittston Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania hereby approves and ratifies the Luzerne County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan effective January 2021 in the form adopted by the Luzerne County Council on January 16 2021.

- Slezak____ Hawk __S___ Rinaldi _M_
- Roll Call: Slezak__Y___ Hawk __Y___ Rinaldi ___Y_

Speed Limit Ordinance

A proposed ordinance of the Township of Pittston, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, establishing a procedure for exercising discretion as to speed limits on public highways and township roads as

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permitted to local authorities by reason of 75 PA C.S.A. §3362 and §3363 of the motor vehicle code of Pennsylvania was duly advertised in the Citizens Voice on February 6, 2021

The purposes of this article is to establish a flexible procedure for the Board of Supervisors to exercise discretion as to speed limits on public highways as permitted to local authorities by the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code and to authorize the Township Board of Supervisors to exercise said discretion by resolution, without prior or subsequent advertising.

Questions/Concerns - Mr. Sulima mentioned that he read the ordinance and asked about the engineer reports preceding the changing of the signs. He wanted to made sure these reports would be available to the general public. Mr. Bonita assured him they would or he could simply issue a RTK request which would have to be complied with.

- Motion - to **ADOPT Ordinance 2-01 of 2021** establishing a procedure for exercising discretion as to speed limits on public highways and township roads as permitted to local authorities by reason of 75 PA C.S.A. §3362 and §3363 of the motor vehicle code of Pennsylvania

• Slezak__M_ Hawk__S_ Rinaldi__
 Roll Call: Slezak__Y__ Hawk__Y__ Rinaldi__Y__

Tax Collector Compensation

Board of Supervisors have until February 16 2021 to increase/decrease the rate of compensation for the elected tax collector for collecting the real estate tax. Any change of the current rate of \$4000 will take effect for 2022 and must be done by resolution

Questions/Concerns - NONE

- Motion - to **ADOPT Resolution 2-02 of 2021** establishing compensation for the elected tax collector for collecting the real estate tax for 2022 and the remaining term of office at \$4400.

Slezak__S__ Hawk____ Rinaldi__M_
 Roll Call: Slezak__Y__ Hawk__Y__ Rinaldi__Y__

Received a e mail from Rita Timonte on February 2, 2021 notifying the Twp. that she will not be seeking another term as tax collector.

PDOT Multi-Modal Grant - Baker, Chapel and Ridge Road

PennEastern Engineering has been officially notified of the rescinding of their contract to perform services for this contract. Colwell-Neagle Associates has submitted a contract agreement for this project for review by the Supervisors. Robert Neagle has been in contact with PDOT representatives to determine the status of the contract. Mr. Bonita has reviewed the contract and found it to be similar to PennEastern Engineering and has made recommendation to the Board that the contract be executed.

Questions/Concerns - NONE

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- Motion - to **SIGN** the contract agreement with Colwell-Neagle Associates for the **PDOT Multi-Modal Grant - Baker, Chapel and Ridge Road** with fees as outlined in the contract.

Slezak__M__ Hawk__S__ Rinaldi__
 Roll Call: Slezak__Y__ Hawk__Y__ Rinaldi__Y__

Police Pension Plan

Supervisor Rinaldi advised the Board in 2020 that he wished to be removed as a Police Pension member. Since his resignation the board consisted of Chief Angelella, John Bonita and Joseph Hawk. Pension consultant recommended removal of Steve Rinaldi as Trustee. A conflict could possibly exist if Chief Angelella became trustee since she was a member of the plan. Joseph Hawk deferred to John Bonita who is also the Chief Executive Officer of the plan.

Questions/Concerns - NONE

- **Motion** - to ENACT **Resolution 2-03 of 2021** removing Steve Rinaldi as Trustee of the Police Pension Plan and replace him with John Bonita.

Slezak__S__ Hawk__M__ Rinaldi__
 Roll Call: Slezak__Y__ Hawk__Y__ Rinaldi__Y__

Banking Resolution

Mr. Bonita has met with representatives from FNCB located in Pittston Township about changing accounts from M&T to FNCB. After a visual meeting with FNCB Mr. Bonita has determined that the services provided are more than M&T is currently providing.

Questions/Concerns - NONE

- **Motion** - ADOPT **Resolution 2-04 of 2021** transferring checking accounts from M&T Bank to FNCB Bank.

Slezak__S__ Hawk__M__ Rinaldi__
 Roll Call: Slezak__Y__ Hawk__Y__ Rinaldi__Y__

Financial

- **Motion:** To ratify January - February pre-paid bills in the amount \$ 149782.48 and bills payable in the amount of and \$76272.77
- payroll and related expenses for payroll period ending

1-20-2012	59011.71
2-3-2012	59655.27

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Hartford	994.17
Cartridge World	37.08
Labor Law Center	127.75
Sams Club	283.86
Hassler	100
PLSIC	609.83

BHW Bldg. Permits \$ 60,342.86

Questions/Concerns -

Mr. Bonita mentioned that the large amount to BHW was due to the large building permit fees paid by commercial companies located within the Township. He discussed the fee split with BHW.

Slezak__S__ Hawk __M__ Rinaldi __
 Roll Call: Slezak_Y____ Hawk __Y__ Rinaldi __Y__

Emergency Management Report - Supervisor Hawk

Supervisor Hawk read his report for January- February - (attached). He mentioned the joint effort made by the Fire and Police at a recent incident involving a cat and read a letter of appreciation from the cat owner. He also mentioned joint efforts being made between the Pittston City police department and the Pittston Twp. police department.

Fire Department

Received a report from Fire Chief Capozucca regarding the Volunteer Fire Department activity for the Period January 1, 2021 to January 31, 2021. (attached)

At the work session, Chief Capozucca asked the Twp. to consider agreeing to commit to the purchase of a new brush truck. Supervisor Slezak had comments about diesel vs gas and suggested that they look into a gas vehicle instead of diesel. Mr. Bonita was asked to look into various financing methods. Chief Capozucca asked that the truck be titled in Twp. name and they would pay all expenses, including insurance. The reason was the availability of future grants for the fire department and the Township.

Police

POLICE REPORT - submitted by Chief Angelella - Mr. Bonita read the report in the absence of Chief Angelella.

Questions/Concerns - NONE

- Motion ACCEPT police report as submitted.

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- Slezak __S__ Hawk __M__ Rinaldi __
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Mr. Bonita read a proposal from two companies for (a) rifle quote of \$2135 each for two and (b) computer and license plate reader \$ 15,087. Quote for computer and license plate reader from authorized COSTARS contractor eliminating the need for bidding.

Supervisor Hawk discussed the need for the rifles and also the need for the computer and license plate reader. Mr. Bonita mentioned that the prices of the LPR and computer was reduced drastically from the first request which was included in the 2019 LSA grant which still is outstanding.

Questions/Concerns - NONE

- Motion purchase two rifles at \$2135 each and one computer and license plate reader \$ 15,087.
- Slezak __S__ Hawk __M__ Rinaldi __
Roll Call: Slezak __Y__ Hawk __Y__ Rinaldi __Y__

Planning Commission - attached

McNamara Sub-division. no updates to provide to Supervisors
Mericle 1201 Oak Street sub-division. no updates to provide to Supervisors
Mericle Lot 46 Research Drive. no updates to provide to Supervisors
Musto/Higgins Subdivision - tabled
Petroleum Services Corp - no updates to provide to Supervisors

Mr. Bonita read and summarized the engineering report issued by CNA Engineers for the month. Supervisor Slezak commented on the report and stated that this is only the second time since he has been a supervisor that such a report was made by the engineers.

New Business

Lot 30, 30A and 34 Independence Drive - plans presented to Planning
Vesper Group - Multi-municipal multi-county project plans accepted for review. However, Twp. portion in Conservation District and Use Variance or Zoning Change would be required.

MS-4 - No report

Public Comment

Dennis Fritz - suggested that the meetings be live streamed and/or recorded. Then proceeded to question illegal tanks and illegal septic system discharges. Solicitor explained that there was an inspection done on site of the alleged violations and there was no evidence of illegal discharges. As to illegal tanks Mr. Fritz was told that there is no justification to dig up the tanks at this time.

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Mr. Fritz was not happy with the past and present response of the Zoning Officer, the loss of records by the Zoning Officer, the lack of follow up of citations issued by the Zoning Officer, fines not being imposed, Supervisor Hawk explained that fines are imposed at the Magistrate level - not Township level and due to the pandemic the Magistrate is only handling criminal complaints. Mr. Fritz questioned why he cannot get a copy of the sewage planning module for the Decker trailer park. Nowhere to be found. He was told the septic system is being pumped out but Zoning has no records. Why? Illegal tanks in ground supported by pictures which Terry lost. Why?

Mary O'Malley - 17 Poole St. complained about a double trailer behind her property which has been abandoned and nothing is being done about it. It was to go up on sheriff sale but it was explained to her that the sheriff sale was cancelled due to the pandemic. Mr. O'Malley accused Supervisor Rinaldi of non action on his part in that he was made aware on several occasions of the condition of the trailer and lot. Supervisor Rinaldi stated that the property was condemned by Terry Best. Questioned as to what action can be taken. Solicitor asked to speak with them after the meeting to discuss.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn

- Slezak___ Hawk _S_ Rinaldi __M_

Roll Call: Slezak_Y___ Hawk __Y___ Rinaldi _Y__