

▪ MINUTES  
 ▪ Pittston Township  
 ▪ Board of Supervisors Meeting  
 ▪ September 20, 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 August 16, 2021 was presented to Supervisors for their review comments and/or corrections.

Questions/Corrections -

- **Motion:** To ACCEPT minutes of August 16, 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\_\_

### Supervisors Comments

The Board of Supervisors of Pittston Township declared a state of emergency effective September 2, 2021 at 12:00 PM due to Tropical Depression Ida and will remain in effect until lifted by the EMA Coordinator but in no event shall continue for a period not to exceed seven (7) days without the consent of the Board of Supervisors.

### QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

- Motion to enact Resolution 9-01 of 2021 delegating authority to the emergency management coordinator to take certain actions as of September 2, 2021 and to extend until 9-30-2021

• Slezak \_S\_\_ Hawk \_M\_\_ Rinaldi \_\_\_\_\_  
 Roll Call: Slezak \_\_Y\_\_ Hawk \_Y\_\_ Rinaldi \_Y

As a result of the storm several areas experienced sink holes, One area, Lewis St. had a "subsidence" which will be addressed by the Dept. of Mining. Lewis St. itself experienced sub-surface water accumulation which caused damage to residents and business' located. As a result emergency repairs were necessary to correct the problem Cost involved to cure the problem cannot be determined at this point but repairs are being done on an emergency basis.

### 2021 LSA Grant

Mr. Bonita sent letters to all departments asking for requests for the 2021 LSA Grant which is due September 30,2021. Based on the response the following was a summary of the 2021 LSA Grant submitted on 9-17-2021

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2021 LSA Grant  
Web Application 8922237

	TOTAL COST
Ambulance	17,730.00
Emergency Management	129,715.00
Fire Department	79,925.00
Police	91,418.00
Road Department	157,227.00
	476,015.00

### Municipal Offices

The incoming tax collector has notified the Twp. that she is requesting an office in the municipal building for her term of office. Joseph Hawk has discussed the idea of moving the Sewer Authority to the rear of the old police station with the Authority, which be referred too as Suite 2. The Authority has agreed. The Twp. renovate Suite 2 and has secured a estimate of \$9850 from Valley Construction. In addition, Valley Engineering estimate for heating and cooling heat pump \$4590

Mr. Bonita explained the need for repairs to Suite 2 including heat pump. The whole old police station has one central heating/cooling. To split the building into two Suites requires separate heating/cooling.

### QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

- Motion to approve renovations to Suite 2 (Old Police Station) as per the estimate by Valley Construction. \$9850 and Valley Refrigeration \$ 4590.

Slezak   S   Hawk   M   Rinaldi     
 Slezak   Y   Hawk   Y   Rinaldi   Y  

Township tax collector will move into space currently occupied by the Sewer Authority which will be referred too as Suite 1.

### Annual Minimum Municipal Obligation

Board of Supervisors must approve financial requirement and minimum municipal obligation for 2022 for both Police and Non Uniform Pension Plans and provide for such in the annual budget for 2022.

Police Pension Minimum Municipal Obligation for 2022   \$71358  
 Non Uniform Minimum Municipal Obligation for 2022   21024

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QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

- Motion to approve Minimum Municipal Obligations for 2022 as prepared by Duda Actuarial Consultants.

Slezak   S   Hawk   M   Rinaldi     
 Slezak   Y   Hawk   Y   Rinaldi   Y  

**Highmark Rebate Check**

Affordable Care Act law required that Blue Cross spend at least 80% of premiums of health care services and programs to improve wellness. Since claims were less than expected, Highmark returned a pro rata refund check in the amount of \$4958 to the Twp.

**Financial**

- **Motion:** To ratify August-September pre-paid bills in the amount \$ 161,144.36 and bills payable in the amount of \$ 16,328.41

and payroll and related expenses for payroll period ending

8-18-2021	58,298.94
9-01-2021	56,886.24
9-15-2021	54,457.95

PLSIC - Life Insurance	655.68
Hartford - Disability Insurance	994.17
Continuing Education	155.00
NeoPost	100.00
AFLAC	66.86
Lowes	142.89
Pocono Transcrete	376.00
BHW	\$ 69,905.00
	13,215.28

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

Motion to approve payment of bill and unpaid bills.

Slezak   M   Hawk    Rinaldi   S    
 Slezak   Y   Hawk   Y   Rinaldi   Y

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**Bag Drive -**

Sewer Reimbursement	96,885
Ambulance Reimbursements	26,745
Septic Tank Reimbursements	2,160
Ptn. Twp. Resident Reimbursement	9,350

BAG DRIVE REIMBURSEMENTS END SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

**Emergency Management Report**

**Fire Department**

Incident Report read into minutes.

- Motion to approve incident report.

Slezak   M   Hawk        Rinaldi   S    
 Slezak   Y   Hawk   Y   Rinaldi   Y  

**QUESTIONS/CONCERNS**

Letter from Fire Department requesting additional part time shifts on weekends to allow two firefighters on until 11 PM to provide better protection to residents and business' of the Twp.; and now allow operation at full staff 7 days per week until 11 PM.

Also requesting 4 additional part time workers to cover roster to fill shifts.

TABLED Supervisors will review with fire representatives their request.

**Road Department -**

Phase II Commonwealth Financing Grant in the amount of \$893,148, grant proceeds \$625,204 with a match (30%) of \$ 267,944 for another phase of the Baker, Chapel and Ridge project was submitted. No time frame for approval of funds for this project. Grant was timely filed.

Advertisement appeared in Citizens Voice for full time road worker. Two applications were received. Interviews will be conducted.

Advertisement appeared in Citizens Voice for sale of Case Loader. One bid was received from Cleveland Bros. in the amount of \$15000.

Bids were due 9-17-2021 at 9:30 AM

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- Motion to accept bid of \$15,000 from Cleveland Bros. for sale of Case Loader "as is".

Slezak   M   Hawk   S   Rinaldi     
 Slezak   Y   Hawk   Y   Rinaldi   Y  

Mr. Bonita will submit requisition for purchase of new loader from Cleveland Bros in accordance with the 2020 LSA Grant. Grant funds applied for were \$100,000, cost of Loader \$118,000. Township will apply \$15,000 toward the purchase. Purchase is thru state Contract COSTAR program - no bidding required.

**Ambulance -**

**Recreation - Parks**

**Little League** - presented an estimate of \$9350 for repairs to the Club House and refreshment stand. The Twp. does own the property and therefore is responsible for the repairs.

Mr. Savokinas questioned the amount and suggested that bids be secured. T. Best stated that the repairs are needed and he feels that to wait the price would be more and the problem would be timing of the repairs. Supervisors agreed with T. Best.

- Motion to approve renovations to Little League Club House and Refreshment Stand at a cost of \$9350 by Valley Construction.

Slezak   M   Hawk   S   Rinaldi     
 Slezak   Y   Hawk   Y   Rinaldi   Y  

**Police**

**POLICE REPORT** - submitted by Chief Angelella -

- Motion ACCEPT police report as submitted
- Slezak   M   Hawk   S   Rinaldi     
 Slezak   Y   Hawk   Y   Rinaldi   Y

**New Hires**

Chief Angelella requested the hire of two additional full time employees. She discussed this with the supervisors stating that two part time employees are being considered by other departments and that there are no part time police available. Mr. Bonita stated that the last advertisement for part time police yielded no response. Based on the demands and the

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growing economy in the Twp. the supervisors agreed to hiring two additional police officers who are currently on the part time roster.

- Motion to hire full time police officers George Spotts and Justin Luciano with terms in accordance with the police collective bargaining unit.
- Slezak   S   Hawk        Rinaldi   M    
 Roll Call: Slezak   Y   Hawk   Y   Rinaldi   Y

### **Zoning/Code Enforcement**

Township Supervisors received notification that on September 2, 2021 Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County decreed that the decision of the Pittston Twp. Zoning Hearing Board was affirmed denying the use variance request by RDM Group and ZOM Construction to construct a warehouse in an R-1 District.

**Planning Commission** - meeting held September 8, 2021. No business conducted

### **Engineering Report - August - September**

#### **MS-4**

Mr. Bonita stated that after conferring with MS-4 committee that he would apply for reimbursement from MS-4 money currently held by the WVSA for expenditures for Storm Water containment on Lewis St. Application for reimbursement would be made when the project is completed. Dept. of mining will address the "sink hole" and will secure bids to explore and fix.

### **Public Comment**

**Ray Levanavase** - spoke about trail traffic and the RR crossing. He witnessed a trail stuck at a crossing and was very concerned. Asked if signs could be purchased indicating no truck traffic. Supervisor Slezak will look into the matter. Asked about another access road, possibly on Market St. to be used for emergency purposes. He was advised that this was explored in the past and it was determined that it was not feasible.

**Joe Lokuta** - concerned that his calls to the Chief went unanswered and was questioned an investigation. He was advised that by Chief Angelella that since this was an ongoing investigation it should not be discussed at a public meeting. He questioned the fact that his towing company was not being used.

**Curt Muffley** - Wanted a hazardous waste collection event in the Twp. He was advised that hazardous waste is difficult to dispose of even by the Twp. A shredding event is scheduled and the next Twp. collection event is anticipated to be an electronic disposal

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event. He complained about trees and debris in the Mill Creek. Mr. Bonita commented that the Twp. did have a grant to work on Mill Creek, a meeting was held and certain residents bordering the Creek wanted to be paid for easements. The project failed and the grant was relinquished. Township cannot go into the Creek to clean up.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn

• Slezak S \_\_\_ Hawk \_\_\_ Rinaldi M \_\_\_  
Roll Call: Slezak \_\_\_Y\_\_\_ Hawk \_\_\_Y\_\_\_ Rinaldi Y \_\_\_