

- MINUTES
 - Pittston Township
 - Board of Supervisors Meeting
 - August 19, 2024
 - Pittston Township Municipal Building

Call Meeting To Order 7:00 PM

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call Slezak ___P___ Hawk _P___ Taroli __P___
- Executive sessions were held on July 23, 2024 regarding personnel and contracts.

Minutes: minutes of the Supervisors regularly scheduled July 15, 2024 meeting and presented to Supervisors for their review comments and/or corrections.

Questions/Corrections – NONE HEARD.

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of July 15, 2024 general meeting

Slezak__S___ Hawk _____ Taroli _M___
 Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y___

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – Any public guest who is to provide testimony to the Board during a meeting should state their name (spell their last name) and address, and if speaking for an organization, the name, and identity of the organization.

Supervisors Comments

Resolution 8-01 of 2024—Amending Township Right-To-Know Policy to Deny Anonymous Requests

Over the past few months, townships and boroughs around the state have been inundated with anonymous right-to-know requests from individuals that don't exist. PSATS and Mr. Rozitski recommend the board amend the right-to-know policy to deny anonymous right to know requests to combat this. This is permissible according to Section 702 of the Right-To-Know Law. The policy will be posted on our website afterwards if adopted.

- **MOTION:** To approve and enact Resolution 8-01 of 2024—Amending Township Right-To-Know Policy to deny anonymous requests.

Slezak __S___ Hawk __M___ Taroli ___
 Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y___

Phone Surveys Being Conducted for Luzerne County Community Development Block Grant—Poole Street, Frothingham Street, Langans Road, Renfer Road

Mr. Rozitski reported that representatives from Pittston Township, either Debbie or Cassandra, will be conducting a phone survey of residents of Poole Street, Frothingham Street, Langans Road, and Renfer Road during the following weeks:

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August 15th, 2024

UNTIL

September 12th, 2024

The purpose of the survey is to gather information essential for an application for federal Community Development Block Grant funding through Luzerne County for street improvements in the surveyed neighborhoods. The Board of Supervisors appreciates the cooperation of residents. All information will be kept confidential. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact our office at 570-654-0161 during normal business hours. Mr. Rozitski posted the announcement on the website as well.

IT Services Proposal

- **MOTION:** To enter into an agreement with Novation Networks for IT services for the administration building and the police department for approximately \$7,204 annually. This is an estimate of \$1,740 in savings to the township annually.

Slezak __S__ Hawk __M__ Taroli __
 Slezak __Y__ Hawk __Y__ Taroli __Y__

Pittston Township CodeRED Notification System In The Works

Mr. Rozitski reported that Pittston Township is working on a collaboration with Luzerne County Emergency Management to bring a joint-CodeRED notification system to the residents of Pittston Township. There would be no cost to the township nor anyone wanting notifications from the CodeRED system. Any individual who would sign up would receive an email or text message notification for any emergencies or severe weather alerts happening within Pittston Township or Luzerne County. In order to get the ball rolling, some representatives from the Township would just have to receive training on the system. Charlie from Luzerne County EMA is going to inform Mr. Rozitski when the next training session is for the CodeRED system. When the township is taking sign ups and the service is ready to roll out, Mr. Rozitski will advertise the sign ups on the website and possibly in the newspaper so older residents would be aware of the sign ups as well.

Financial

- **Motion:** To ratify June-July pre-paid bills in the amount \$ 169,749.19 and bills payable in the amount of \$ 4,710.02 and payroll and related expenses for payroll period ending

7/3/2024	73,747.97
7/17/2024	67,747.39
7/31/2024	71,521.63

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Automatic Debits:

Neopost	\$100.00
PR Transfer	\$73,747.97
Aflac-July	\$66.86
Principal	\$832.20
AmTrust	\$10,747.00
Adobe	\$21.19
Lead Devil – Police	\$162.39
Neopost	\$100.00
Hartford	\$1,087.53
PR Transfer	\$67,747.39
Amazon	\$172.63
UCC Fees	\$139.50
Amazon	\$474.18
Aflac-August	\$66.86
PR Transfer	\$71,521.63
Bank Fees	\$95.00

BHW—July 2024---\$3,668.11

Handwritten Checks:

Check #9119—7/22/2024—Matthew’s Liquidation--\$35.00

Check #9120—7/24/2024—Matt Chesniak--\$500.00

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS—NONE HEARD.

Motion to approve payment of bills and unpaid bills.

Slezak_____ Hawk __S__ Taroli _M__
 Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Emergency Management Report

Supervisor Hawk echoed the report by Mr. Rozitski regarding the Pittston Township/Luzerne County CodeRED system in the works.

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Fire Department

Incident Report - July 2024 – Supervisor Hawk dispensed with the reading.

QUESTION/CONCERNS

- Motion to approve incident report for July 2024
 Slezak__M__ Hawk _____ Taroli _S__
 Slezak _Y __ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Approval of Payment for Fire Equipment Funded Through 2021 LSA Grant

- **MOTION:** To approve payment to Fire & Rescue Products for fire equipment for \$60,517.47. Equipment was fully funded through 2021 LSA Grant.

Slezak__S__ Hawk __M__ Taroli ____
 Slezak _Y __ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Ambulance Report

Monthly report for July 2024 – Supervisor Hawk dispensed with the reading.

- Motion to approve ambulance report
 Slezak__S__ Hawk _____ Taroli _M__
 Slezak _Y __ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Police

POLICE REPORT - submitted by Chief Angelella – Supervisor Hawk dispensed with the reading of the report.

- Motion to approve police report as submitted
 Slezak__M__ Hawk _____ Taroli _S__
 Slezak _Y __ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

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Applying for COPS Grant for Additional Full-Time Police Officer—OPEN DISCUSSION

Chief Angelella has spoken to Mr. Rozitski about applying for a COPS recruiting grant for Pittston Township to sponsor a possible future police officer going to the academy, and he would be a full-time officer for Pittston Township upon graduating from the academy. The grant would pay for 65% of the schooling for the academy and the township would match the 35%. We have done this before for one of our officers, so Mr. Rozitski wanted to take the temperature of the board on this. Chief Angelella said that with this program, Officer Winn turned out to be a great officer. Mr. Rozitski recommends that eventually the township will need another full-time officer with new warehouses being built, new development, and two new hotels being constructed in the township.

- **MOTION:** To grant permission for the financial administrator and the police chief to explore and apply for a COPS Recruiting Grant for an additional full-time police officer for Pittston Township.

Slezak_____ Hawk __M__ Taroli _S__

Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Notification Received from District Attorney’s Office of Their Intent to Install License Plate Reader In Pittston Township

Mr. Rozitski received notification from the Luzerne County DA’s office of their intent to install an ALPR at a stoplight in Pittston Township. The DA’s office would purchase the ALPR and install, and the yearly subscription that would be required for it. From Mr. Rozitski’s understanding, our police department would have access to this as well. Mr. Rozitski and Chief Angelella discussed some possible locations of the ALPR if the township were to be able to choose the location, but the DA’s office said that Detective Sarafinko would reach out to the township to discuss more with us. Mr. Savokinas in the audience asked who benefits from the ALPR camera. Supervisor Hawk responded that the police department and the District Attorney’s office benefits from it. Mr. Rozitski said it is unknown at this time whether the township will receive one or two ALPRs from the District Attorney’s office. Chief Angelella said this project is in the very early stages of development at this point.

Road Department –

Salt Shed Redesign Proposal

The salt shed on the Pittston Bypass is in serious need of repair given its age. The first step is to have a structural engineer design the salt shed and roof structure to give any contractors the scope. The township received a proposal from Pennoni Engineering to design the salt shed structure.

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- **MOTION:** To enter into an agreement with Penonni Engineering for Bypass salt shed redesign for \$9,895.00. This is included in the 2024 budget.

Slezak_____ Hawk __M___ Taroli _S__

Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Consideration of Proposal for Engineering Services for William Street Project

- **MOTION:** To enter in agreement with Pennoni Engineering Services for \$24,676.00 for design costs for William Street project, plus construction management and inspection at hourly rates.

Slezak__S___ Hawk __M___ Taroli ___

Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Baker Chapel Phase II Update

We received the anticipated construction schedule from M&J Excavation, the awarded contractor for Phase II, and the engineers that the anticipated start date and mobilization for Phase II of Baker Chapel will be September 23, 2024. The schedule is subject to change due to weather and material shipments. We anticipate a pre-construction meeting sometime later this month or early next month. Supervisor Hawk stated that the project was delayed due to multiple reasons. The one delay is in materials and supply chain issues, and the other delay is due to an endangered bat habitat that delays the work until after August 15th as per the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Recreation –

Congratulations to Pittston Township 8-10 Girls Softball All Stars on their Sectional Win

The Supervisors wanted to congratulate the Pittston Township 8-10 girls softball all stars on their sectional win. They came up just short in states, but the supervisors wanted to congratulate the girls on their sectional win and an outstanding season overall.

Tennis/Pickleball Court Project Update

Mr. Rozitski received notification from the contractor, Keystone Sports Construction, that they are anticipating starting the paving and fencing portion of the project in late September. They said that their paving contractor is facing delays and the weather has not been helping

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either. A pre-construction meeting for the project is anticipated for sometime later this month.

Approval of Payment of First Draw of Tennis/Pickleball Court Project Through Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program Grant

- **MOTION:** To approve payment to Keystone Sports Construction of first draw of tennis/pickleball court project for \$45,347.31 as per the contract with the contractor. The amount will be funded through the townships Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program Grant awarded for Phase II of the Attardo Park Project.

Slezak_____ Hawk __S__ Taroli _M__

Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Engineering Report –July-August

Mr. Rozitski said that the Home2Hotel projects and Todd Arthur land development projects remain in status quo at this time and are awaiting for comments to be resolved as issued by the township engineers and the planning commission.

Zoning

WBSIA Terminal Expansion Land Development Plan Approval

- **MOTION:** To approve the land development plans of the WBSIA Terminal Expansion as recommended by the planning commission and township engineers.

Slezak_____ Hawk __S__ Taroli _M__

Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

MS-4 Report

Supervisor Taroli reported that she received a notice of violation from WVSA from a business in the industrial park about an illicit discharge come from a pipe coming from the business. She received documentation and proof that the pipe was capped and the issue was resolved. Supervisor Taroli also reported that there is \$89,358.99 in the MS-4 savings account at July 31, 2024.

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Melanie Yozwiak—

Ms. Yozwiak questioned out of the 215 violations on the police report about how many were speeding. Chief Angelella said that she didn't have a breakdown in front of her and the citations were located everywhere around the township. Ms. Yozwiak said that there is a big problem on Broad Street with speeding. Ms. Yozwiak inferred that most drivers on Broad Street do not go at or below 15 miles per hour. Chief Angelella questioned how Ms. Yozwiak knew the vehicles were speeding. Ms. Yozwiak said that "you could see it and feel it". Supervisor Hawk said that with officer availability, speed enforcement is the key to curtail any speeding anywhere. Supervisor Hawk also suggested that the township look into radar signs that could help curtail it as well.

Kelly Rava—

Ms. Rava wanted to compliment the police department on enforcing speeding and other violations on 502 and other places in the township.

Nick Cardnile—

Mr. Cardnile wanted to inform the township of a Luzerne County zoning hearing board meeting on September 3, 2024 at 7pm. Big Rocks LLC is looking to put a solid waste transfer station in Avoca Boro up against the Quail Hill development in Pittston Township and would like the supervisor's support.

Dennis Driscoll—

Mr. Driscoll expressed the same concerns as Mr. Cardnile and asked for Pittston Township's support on the matter.

Kim Warunek—

Ms. Warunek expressed the same concerns about the Lokuta property as done previously. There was an incident last week there with burning of plastic and a fire arose out of it. Chief Angelella reported they responded to the incident and were able to enforce the new burning ordinance, which was working. Mr. Rozitski asked Ms. Warunek to see him after the meeting for more information he had on the incident.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn
 • Slezak ___ Hawk _S_ Taroli _M_
 Roll Call: Slezak _Y_ Hawk ___Y_ Taroli _Y_