

▪ **MINUTES**
▪ **Pittston Township**
▪ **Board of Supervisors Meeting**
▪ **October 21, 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 10/2/2024, 10/4/2024, and 10/17/2024 regarding contracts, personnel, and public safety purposes.

Minutes: minutes of the Supervisors regularly scheduled September 16, 2024 meeting and presented to Supervisors for their review comments and/or corrections.

Questions/Corrections – NONE HEARD.

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of September 16, 2024 general meeting

Slezak __M__ Hawk __S__ Taroli __
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.

Police

Award Presentation to Officers who assisted in Pine Street and Decker Lane Fires

The supervisors wanted to provide awards to the officers who assisted in the Pine Street fire in August 2024 and the Decker Lane fire in October 2024. The supervisors are presenting awards for outstanding bravery to the August 2024 Pine Street fire to:

Patrolman Tommy Skilonger—Pittston Township

Patrolman Scott Viadock—Jenkins Township

Lieutenant Michael Bohan—Plains Township Lieutenant and Pittston Twp. Resident, who was not in attendance due to illness

The supervisors are presenting an award for outstanding bravery to the October 2024 Decker Lane fire to:

Patrolman Aidan McIntyre—Pittston Township

Pittston Township Police Chief Lena Angelella provided remarks on the bravery these officers demonstrated in both of these situations as they went above and beyond the call of duty.

Supervisor Hawk also provided remarks on the bravery of these officers as well and asked for the audience to give the officers a round of applause.

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Mr. Rozitski also expressed the township’s thanks and gratitude to Barhill for graciously donating these trophies for these officers for no charge.

Supervisors Comments

2024 Municipal Pension State Aid Allocation Received

Mr. Rozitski announced that the township received the 2024 Municipal Pension State Aid allocation on 9/25/2024 of \$138,482.43. Based on the recommendation of the township actuary, Joe Duda, he recommends depositing the whole amount in the police pension plan based on the AG385 form submitted earlier in the year and the 2024 MMOs. He also recommends depositing the whole amount because of the unfunded mandate on the police pension plan.

- **MOTION:** To forward 2024 municipal pension state aid allocation of \$138,482.43 to the police pension plan for deposit as recommended by the township actuary.

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

2022-2023 Liquid Fuels Audit Completed by the PA Auditor General’s Office

Mr. Rozitski announced that Eileen Rosen from the PA Auditor General’s office came in to complete fieldwork for the 2022-2023 Pittston Township Liquid Fuels account on 10/9/2024. This is a normal and routine audit completed on a one or two year basis. There were some adjustments that had to be made, but the auditor reported no findings and a clean audit, which is good news.

Letters of Interest Being Accepted for Vacant Sewer Authority Board Position

Mr. Rozitski announced that Pittston Township is accepting letters of interest for a vacant sewer authority board position as a member of the board resigned at the October 10, 2024 sewer authority board meeting. Letters of interest could be emailed in to pitttown@comcast.net or dropped off at the township building during regular business hours of Monday-Friday from 8am-4pm. Letters of interest are being accepted until 4pm on Monday, October 28, 2024.

Resolution #10-01 of 2024—Authorizing the Emergency Demolition of 34 Decker Lane

On October 2, 2024, a residence in the township, 34 Decker Lane, caught on fire, which resulted in a fatality. We received a certified report from the engineer that as a result of the fire, the residence was inhabitable and must be demolished immediately. The owner of the property was served the paperwork that the property must be demolished in 24 hours on October 4, 2024. The owner was noncompliant, and as a result of the present danger to the residents, the township had Arena Trucking & Excavating demolish the structure on an

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emergency basis. The township is currently evaluating what actions could be taken to recoup the cost of the demolition, which was \$7,606.75.

- **MOTION:** To approve Resolution #10-01 of 2024, authorizing the emergency demolition of 34 Decker Lane located in Pittston Township.

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

Resolution #10-02 of 2024—Opposing An Application for a Special Exemption Submitted by Big Rocks LLC To Operate a Construction and Demolition Solid Waste Transfer Station in Avoca Borough

On October 22, 2024 at 6:00pm, the Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board is hearing an application for a special exemption submitted by Big Rocks LLC to operate a construction and demolition solid waste transfer station in Avoca Borough. The board of supervisors of Pittston Township strongly opposes this application as it could be detrimental to the health of residents of Pittston Township and Avoca Borough, and stand with Avoca Borough denouncing this application.

- **MOTION:** To approve Resolution #10-02 of 2024, which opposes the application for a special exemption submitted by Big Rocks LLC to operate a construction and demolition solid waste transfer station in Avoca Borough.

Slezak _____ Hawk __M__ Taroli __S__
 Slezak __Y__ Hawk __Y__ Taroli __Y__

Financial

- **Motion:** To ratify September-October pre-paid bills in the amount \$314,830.43 (bills are higher due to insurance renewals, approved fire trailer reimbursed through LSA, and volunteer fire relief payment mandated by PA) and bills payable in the amount of \$14,250.04 and payroll and related expenses for payroll period ending

9/11/2024	68,454.75
9/25/2024	70,463.39

Automatic Debits:

Principal	\$900.88
Indeed	\$53.78
Walmart	\$19.06

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Driscolls	\$6.34
Amazon	\$332.76
Aflac	\$66.86
Salomon—Police Boots	\$205.00
JW Surety Bonds—Zoning	
Officer Bond	\$308.00
AmTrust	\$10,747.00
Adobe	\$21.19
PR Transfer	\$68,454.75
Amazon	\$262.48
Hartford	\$1,445.32
Redners—EMA Supplies	\$180.90
Commonwealth of PA—LSA	
Grant Fees	\$500.00
Neopost	\$100.00
PR Transfer	\$70,463.39
Madtees—Police Uniforms	\$453.00
Vistaprint	\$40.25
4Imprint	\$1,578.95
Galls—Police Boots	\$134.98
Bank Fees	\$95.00

BHW—September 2024---\$6,732.50

Handwritten Checks:

#9123—9-17-2024—Matthew Chesniak--\$1,000.00 (Pay advance)

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS – NONE HEARD.

Motion to approve payment of bills and unpaid bills.

Slezak____ Hawk __S__ Taroli _M__
 Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

2025 Budget Preparations Underway

Mr. Rozitski announced that 2025 budget preparations are underway. Departments have been asked to provide their request for 2025 budget items. First reading of 2025 tentative budget will be read at the November 2024 regularly scheduled meeting of the supervisors.

Emergency Management Report

Supervisor Hawk wanted to express his thanks to all departments for their assistance in the Pine Street and Decker Lane fires and wanted to express his kudos to all mutual aid agencies as well. He reported there were also some issues with communication on the airport’s end

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with security purposes for the presidential candidates flying into the airport. Supervisor Hawk said that he met with the airport about these issues and reported that everything is flowing well now.

Fire Department

Incident Report – September 2024 – Supervisor Hawk dispensed with the reading of the report.

QUESTION/CONCERNS – NONE HEARD.

- Motion to approve incident report for September 2024
 Slezak __M__ Hawk ____ Taroli _S__
 Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli _Y__

Ambulance Report

Monthly report for September 2024 – Supervisor Hawk dispensed with the reading of the report. No questions nor concerns were heard.

- Motion to approve ambulance report
 Slezak __M__ Hawk __S__ Taroli ____
 Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Police

POLICE REPORT - submitted by Chief Angelella – Supervisor Hawk dispensed with the reading of the report. No questions nor concerns were heard.

- Motion to approve police report as submitted
 Slezak __S__ Hawk ____ Taroli _M__
 Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Road Department –

William Street Bid Results and Update

Mr. Rozitski reported that the request for proposals for the William Street 2024 Community Development Block Grant Street Improvement Project was placed in the Citizens Voice on October 1, 2024 and October 4, 2024. The bid opening was held on 10/14/2024 at 1pm and bid results were as follows:

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Multiscape Inc.	\$246,091.15
Pennsy Supply	\$258,117.75
Leeward Construction	\$260,700.00
Pioneer Construction	\$262,264.00
Linde Corporation	\$286,392.50
Kruger Construction	\$399,335.00
Kobalt Construction	\$352,106.50
American Asphalt	\$414,795.00

With the lowest bid being \$246,091.15 and the grant funding being \$183,791.00, and Pennoni advises writing a letter to the county requesting more funding due to the shortfall. Mr. Rozitski reported a letter was written and sent to the Office of Community Development and we are waiting on to see if we are receiving more funding before the board takes action or if the plans need to be tweaked.

Baker Chapel Phase II Update

Mr. Rozitski reported that construction work for Phase II of the Baker Chapel project is underway. Construction crews were up on the road removing some trees and completing some other miscellaneous work before they could start working on the road project. At this point, the inlet boxes for the project are delayed due to supply chain issues. The contractor, M&J Excavation, expects to receive them sometime in November, and at that point, they will return to continue work on the project.

Armstrong Road Update

Mr. Rozitski reported that construction on Armstrong Road is progressing as well. The overlay on the road is almost complete and we are just waiting on the guardrail to be ready and put up as well. Work is expected to be completed within the next two-three weeks. Supervisor Slezak reported that work is 90% completed at the time of the meeting.

Engineering Report –September-October 2024

Mr. Rozitski dispensed with the reading of the report. No questions nor concerns were heard.

Zoning—

Musto Reconfiguration Subdivision

The township engineers have completed the review of the Musto Reconfiguration Subdivision plans, and are recommending approval of the plans. The applicant’s land surveyors are also requesting waivers of sections 605.11 pertaining to showing dimensions of

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all existing structures as they believe the dimensions of all structures provide no benefit to the plan, sections 605.12 pertaining to showing the distance of all existing structures to lot lines, front, rear and side as they believe that the distances requested will provide no benefit to the plan, and sections 405.19 pertaining to using a scale of one (1) inch equals two thousand (2,000) feet for the location map as they believe that a scale of 1 inch equals 1,000 feet to more accurately depicting the site locations. At the October 2, 2024 planning commission meeting, the planning commission recommended that these waivers be granted, and the township engineer recommends that the supervisors approve these waivers as well.

Supervisor Hawk questioned if this is a residential or commercial property. Mr. Rozitski said this is residential property.

- **MOTION:** To grant the waivers to sections 605.11, 605.12, and 405.19 of SALDO to the Musto Reconfiguration Subdivision plans.

Slezak__M__ Hawk __S__ Taroli __

Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

- **MOTION:** To approve the Musto Reconfiguration Subdivision as per the township planning commission and township engineers.

Slezak__S__ Hawk __M__ Taroli __

Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Ordinance No. 10-01 of 2024—The Township of Pittston Zoning Ordinance of 2024

Mr. Rozitski advised the board to table this motion with the public hearing having to be postponed due to a procedural issue.

- **MOTION:** To TABLE Ordinance No. 10-01 of 2024—The Township of Pittston Zoning Ordinance of 2024; and providing for the effective date on the date of its approval and adoption, as provided for by law. The proposed zoning map would include changing the zoning district classification of approximately 7.5 acres of land from I-1 (industrial) to R-1 (residential) contained within a bounded area in part by Wood Street, Atwell Drive, Suscon Road and Interstate 81.

Slezak__S__ Hawk __M__ Taroli __

Slezak _Y__ Hawk _Y__ Taroli __Y__

Motion was tabled.

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MS-4 Report

Supervisor Taroli reported that the DEP MS-4 report for the period of 7/1/2023-6/30/2024 was submitted by CNA as required. She also reported that the balance of the MS-4 savings account as of 9/30/2024 was \$112,701.17

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS -- 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.

Joe Lakowski—

Mr. Lakowski questioned if Ordinance 10-01 of 2024 that was tabled was an amended zoning ordinance or a brand new zoning ordinance. Mr. Rozitski reported it was a brand new ordinance. Mr. Lakowski further asked if a red-line version could be posted on the township website for review. Mr. Rozitski said that one could be posted on the website prior to the public hearing and could check with Mr. Varaly is a red-line version could be obtained.

Melanie Yozwiak—

Ms. Yozwiak questioned the status of the radar sign to be placed on Broad Street. Mr. Rozitski reported that all parts and the sign was delivered to the township on Thursday, October 17th and provided to the road department to put up when they have an opportunity. Ms. Yozwiak also questioned if the radar sign will be monitored by the police. Supervisor Hawk said sometimes it will and sometimes not depending on police availability and staffing. Mr. Rozitski further said he will have some discussions with the chief of police on Ms. Yozwiak’s concerns and what could further be done.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn
 • Slezak___ Hawk _S__ Taroli _M__
 Roll Call: Slezak _Y__ Hawk ___Y__ Taroli _Y__