

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2018** **PAGE ONE**

**CALL TO ORDER TIME:** 7:32 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by: Gerald Yozwiak

**Observed Moment of Silence for September 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Peter J. Biscontini, Esq., Ciro Cinti, Robert Sax, Thomas Shubilla, and Gerald Yozwiak. Also present: Attorney Stephen Menn and Patricia Sluhocki.

**Secretary Read:**

The Sunshine Act requires that those in attendance be given the opportunity to comment before a vote is taken. Anyone wishing to comment on an issue is encouraged to notify the Board prior to roll call being taken on that issue. The Township policy is to limit comment to five minutes. Anyone requiring additional time is encouraged to make arrangements to meet with the Board at a later date. Additionally, all correspondence read or referred to is available at the North Main Street Municipal Building for public inspection during regular business hours. Note that the meeting is being recorded. At this time please turn off any cell phones to avoid disrupting the meeting.

**D. GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Motion to accept: **Minutes:** The Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting of August 9th; Planning Commission Meetings of July 12<sup>th</sup> and August 2nd, Recreation Board Meeting of August 6<sup>th</sup>, Plains Sewer Authority Meeting of July 13, 2018. Noted receipt of Liquid Fuels Audit for years 2016 and 2017 and Wyoming Valley Sanitary Audit for years ending 2016 and 2017. **Monthly Reports** of the Police Department for August, Fire Department for July, DPW Report for August, Secretaries Report for August. **Payrolls** of the Administrative, Zoning Office, Department of Public Works and Recreation Departments. Also the **Treasurers Report** – General Fund Checking Account Receipts \$804,381.44 General Fund Checking Account Disbursements \$584,204.03. Total Ending Balance in the General Fund Checking as of 8/30/2018 - \$2,597,295.10. **BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE - None**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**POLICE – Biscontini** reported that drug activity is up this month. A lot of break-in's and 21 thefts this past month. Reminder not to keep your belongings in sight inside your vehicle. Lock your doors. This month we had 61 narcotics/OD calls and 27 suspicious persons reported. Be vigilant.

**FIRE – Sax** reported that the fire department had a busy summer with high grass and weed complaints. October is Cancer Awareness Month. The department is selling Tee Shirts. Deadline is September 15<sup>th</sup>.

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**DPW – Shubilla** announced that DPW had a very busy month. Had to clean the catch basins due to the heavy rains. They also installed almost 400' of pipe on Mitchell Street and 6 catch basins. **Recycling Report: Co-Mingling 21 Ton**

**Newspapers: 10 Ton**

**Cardboard: 7 Ton**

**Refuse/Yard Waste: 187 Ton**

We also bid out some line painting on Jumper Road by Sheetz. We will be voting on a bid to replace 10 catch basins. WVSA is working on four the worst catch basins that are in our town. Luzerne Co. Tire Recycling Event – October 13, 2018 at Hanover High School. 8 – 2P.M. E-Waste Recycling on November 17, 2018.

**Biscontini added** that on the 10<sup>th</sup>, DEP was supposed to go out and spray for mosquitos. Not sure if that occurred. We authorized 10 bat houses to put up which should help. **Yozwiak** added that you need to register after a certain amount of tires on the Tire Recycling Event.

**RECREATION – Cinti** reported that the fields are being maintained, weather permitting. The pavilion is still being used. The Solomon School is looking to have a fund raiser in October to support the student counsel and the special ed department. The football field is up and running and also softball is still going on.

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion to pay **General Fund Bills:** Utility \$23,326.69 Regular \$171,022.26 Total \$194,348.95  
**BY: Shubilla 2ND: Biscontini For: Biscontini, Cinti – Abstain Assured Partners Bill due to business relations, Sax, Shubilla, Yozwiak. Motion Carried.**

Motion to hire Tyler DeCinti as a regular part-time DPW laborer at a rate of \$9.00 per hour with no benefits effective September 17, 2018 subject to successful completion of a background check and physical examinations. **BY: Shubilla 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to hire Joseph Filippini II as a part time Recreation Assistant Supervisor at a rate of \$11.00 per hour with no benefits effective September 17, 2018 subject to successful completion of a background check and physical examinations. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Biscontini All For Motion Carried. Noted by Cinti** that the gentlemen that was working with Mr. Delesandro is no longer working. That's the reason for the hire.

Motion to request a police traffic study for possible No parking on the north side of Foote Street near School Street. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to approve the handicapped parking application of Edward Simonson of 72-74 South Main Street as per a police traffic study. **BY: Sax 2ND: Shubilla All For Motion Carried.**

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Motion to authorize the 2019 MMO calculations for the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$443,782.00, Non-Uniformed Pension Plan in the amount of \$212,298.00 and the Fire Department Pension Plan in the amount of \$193,368.00 to be included in the 2019 budget. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Biscontini All For Motion Carried.**

**SOLICITORS REPORT**

Motion to present a Proclamation to the Plains Branch of the Osterhout Library in Celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in November of 1968. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Shubilla All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to award the bid for the CDBG-OCD Contract # 2 Buy Out Demolition Bid Plainsville to TSE Inc. for the low bid of \$17,350.00. **BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti Noted by Menn** that this grant money. **All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to award the bid for the 2018 Catch Basin Project to Hardrox, Inc. for the low bid of \$22,100.00. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Shubilla** noted that these are our 10 worst catch basins that need to be done in a short amount of time. **All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to adopt a resolution to install stop signs on both ends of Wintersteen Lane as recommended by a police traffic study. **BY: Sax 2ND: Biscontini All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to adopt a resolution to install No Parking Here to Corner signs near the corner of Perkins and Catherine Streets and install a stop sign on Catherine Street as it intersects with Perkins Street. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Shubilla All For Motion Carried.**

**Menn** The next three motions are for zoning ordinance amendments. A public hearing was held on Monday. No one was present and it was duly advertised.

Motion to adopt an amendment to the Plains Township Zoning Ordinance regarding the regulation of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries by special exception. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax Menn** These are still regulated by the state but in case they come to Plains we have something in place. **All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to adopt an amendment to the Plains Township Zoning Ordinance allowing Pennsylvania State Stores in B-3 zones. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to adopt an amendment to the Plains Township Zoning Ordinance to include a Definition of Half-Way Houses in B-1 and B-3 zones and amend regulations for Group Residents and Institutional Uses. **BY: Biscontini** asked the solicitor to define the two different zoning districts. **Menn** B-1 is a business 1 zone and B-3 is a business 3 zone. These are zones that are not residential zones. Group homes are usually run by the state or businesses. Half-way houses were not defined in our current ordinance. **2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

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The Board had a public hearing Monday night at 6:30 P.M. on an application to transfer a liquor license into the Township from applicant Plains Six Packs to Go. During public comment some people showed up and expressed their concern with the application. Therefore a motion is in order to adopt a resolution to deny the liquor license transfer application of Plains Six Packs to Go LLC. . **BY: Shubilla 2ND: Cinti** Question from **Dave Willis** asking where it is located. **Yozwiak** directly across from the Woodcrest Development. The old Torony's building on the corner of Tamarac Road and East Main Street. **Shubilla** added we had some residents from Woodcrest that did not want it in their neighborhood showed up to object. **Biscontini** noted that they also want to put a large convenience store and a car wash with a Sunoco gas station. **Menn** explained that the only reason they had to have a public hearing is because we are at our limit of liquor licenses within the municipality. This license was coming from another municipality. The applicant can still put this in there if he purchases an existing Plains liquor license. They wouldn't need to come to us for approval if that happens. **All For Motion Carried.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS by Yozwiak:** The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held October 11, 2018 at 7:30 P.M.

**TAXPAYERS:**

**Bernie Prevuznak** - Asked the Board if there was any further discussion on repealing the current ordinance and going back to the ordinance from 2008. **Yozwiak** no. **Prevuznak** made a suggestion to bring the quarry, commissioners and the community people to work on an ordinance together.

**John Day** - Lives at 422 E. Thomas Street and has a complaint about speeders near the intersection of Second and East Thomas Streets. Asked why there are no speed limit signs. There is even a school located there. **Yozwiak** asked which street. **Day** said on East Thomas Street. **Yozwiak** we have to look up in the traffic ordinance to see what the speed limit is for that street and could have DPW put up the signs. **Biscontini** asked if there are any cross walks there. **Day** there is not.

**Gabe Day** - Also came about the speeders. Lives in the rear of East Thomas Street and sometimes has a hard time getting out. Regular drivers and Wilkes-Barre bus drivers are speeding as well. **Yozwiak** asked where he lives. **Day** answered that he lives at Rear 421 E. Thomas Street. **Yozwiak** suggested that the police have a speed trailer and maybe to bring that up there. Board will find out if it's available.

**Myron Feszchak** - Lives at 57 Hancock Street and has a weed problem on the Elizabeth Street side of his house. There is a big hill in the rear that he's been taking care of it, but cannot do it any longer. **Menn** we talked about this on Monday and has to go to mapping to determine who owns it. We shouldn't be going in there cutting the weeds if we don't own the property. **Feszchak** also questioned about the streets. Doesn't see many streets being paved. **Yozwiak** explained this year's project and the TIP loan from PennDot that the Township is going for next year. **Feszchak** informed the Board about an underground spring up at the Terrace.

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ADJOURNMENT BY: Cinti 2ND: Yozwiak TIME: 8:03 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Sluhocki  
Secretary

Accepted By,



Gerald J. Yozwiak  
Chairman