

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 8, 2018** **PAGE ONE**

CALL TO ORDER TIME: 7:36 P.M.

- Moment of Silence observed for what happened in California this morning.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by: Gerald Yozwiak

ROLL CALL: Present: Peter J. Biscontini, Esq., Ciro Cinti, Robert Sax and Gerald Yozwiak.
Absent: Thomas Shubilla. Also in attendance: 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.

GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion to accept: **Minutes:** The Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting of October 11th; Planning Commission Meeting of September 6th; Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority Meetings of July 17th and September 25th. **Monthly Reports** of the Fire Department for October, Zoning Permits Issued for third quarter and October; DPW Report for October, Secretaries Report for October. **Payrolls** of the Administrative, Zoning Office, Department of Public Works and Recreation Departments. Also the **Treasurers Report** – General Fund Checking Account Receipts \$245,767.93 General Fund Checking Account Disbursements \$1,296,797.39. Total Ending Balance in the General Fund Checking as of 10/31/2018 - \$1,584,726.74.

BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE – Biscontini announced there is an increase in car break-ins. Asked if residents see a suspicious person, to call 911. This month on the police report there were 115 traffic citations issued and accidents are down.

FIRE – Sax reported on Fire Prevention Month in October. Captain Krommes headed the program and approximately 1300 students and residents were instructed.

DPW – Yozwiak reported on Recycling for the Month: Co-Mingled 21 ton, Newspapers 11 ton, Cardboard 7 ton and Refuse/Yard Waste 202 ton. Announced Electronics Recycling Event on next Saturday up at the pavilion, rain or shine from 11A.M. – 2P.M. A lot of items are free of charge and some have a fee. Hard drive destruction and document destruction. Also mentioned a project that just came up. A culvert on Rose Ave., almost like a tunnel that collapsed.

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RECREATION – **Cinti** reported that the Township received a grant from PPL of over 250 trees from saplings to trees 2 to 3 feet tall. The horticulture class at Wilkes-Barre Area Vo-Tech, along with a professor from Penn State came in to help us plant the trees up at our park. They are also going to help us if we get the grant to beautify the park and the property we purchased adjacent to park (Burgio property) with walking trails. Thanked the Vo-Tech class and the professor from Penn State for their assistance. Added that the Plains Yankees C team will be playing Dallas in the Super Bowl this Saturday in Berwick.

Yozwiak announced that a telephone book drop off container will be at the Town Hall approx. December 3,4,5 and will be there for a about a month. Always be mindful of your personal security. He personally received a scam email recently.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to pay General Fund Bills: Utility**\$25,681.45**; Regular**\$260,262.06**; Total **\$285,943.51**
BY: Biscontini 2ND: Sax For: Biscontini, Cinti except abstain from Assured Partners Bill for business relations, Sax except abstain from GBM Bill due to employment, Yozwiak.
Motion Carried.

Motion to approve the handicapped parking application of Gregory Kravitz of 135 Henry Street as per a police traffic study. **BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to ratify the hiring of Daniel Kosisky as a part time firefighter subject to successful completion of physical examinations. **BY: Sax 2ND: Biscontini All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to ratify the hiring of Bryan Tonte as a part time firefighter subject to successful completion of physical examinations. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to accept the resignation of Michael Sierko from the Plains Township Planning Commission. **BY: Sax 2ND: Biscontini** **Yozwiak** asked if anyone is interested to serve on our boards, to send a letter in. **All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to authorize the execution of Reimbursement Request No. 1 of the WWSA Interceptor LSA Grant Project. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax Yozwiak** noted that is the River Street Sewer Line Project. Will be opened tomorrow. **All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to authorize payment application # 1 in the amount of \$134,793.69 and payment application # 2 in the amount of \$33,676.05 with Panzitta Enterprises on the DPW Garage Addition for a total of \$168,469.74. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to approve partial payment request # 1 of the 2018 Storm Drainage and Roadway Improvement Project in the amount of \$236,983.44 to Stell Enterprises and approve Change #1 for a decrease of \$51,016.65. **BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti** Question from the audience (Mr. Bridgen) as to what streets were done. **Board** named the streets. **Bridgen** asked if the project will have a direct effect on Gail Drive. **Yozwiak** assured it would not and named the streets and the deduction will be used for the Rose Ave. project previously mentioned. **All For Motion Carried.**

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Motion to transfer Eric Sovan and Tyler Deats from part-time summer DPW workers to regular part-time DPW laborers at a rate of \$9.00 per hour subject to successful completion of physical examinations. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Biscontini All For Motion Carried.**

SOLICITORS REPORT

Motion to authorize the solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance to adopt the updated International Codes. **BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

Motion authorize amendment to the Plains Township Police Pension Plan regarding the clarification of compensation. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to adopt a resolution to make application for the 2018 Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant Program for Hudson Road Area Improvement Project **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti Silveri** asked what is included in project. Yozwiak explained the areas that would be addressed on Hudson Road. Our portion is 30%. **All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to read and accept the first reading of the 2019 Budget.

INCOME	2019 TENTATIVE OPERATING BUDGET
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 1,560,000.00
Taxes, Enabling Act	2,639,500.00
Licenses & Permits	487,100.00
Fines, Forfeits & Costs	35,700.00
Interest & Rents	18,000.00
Grants & Gifts	5,499,207.00
Department Earnings	283,000.00
Non-Revenue Receipts	20,000.00
Misc Revenue Receipts	162,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$10,704,507.00
EXPENDITURES	
General Government	\$ 275,500.00
Mun Bldgs/Offices	148,500.00
Tax Collection	29,225.00
Bldg, Regulations, Plan/Zone	146,070.00
Police Protection	1,726,900.00
Fire Protection	1,526,050.00
Health Services	7,000.00
Sanitation	427,500.00
General Services/Highways	1,074,355.00
General Services Main.	2,076,500.00
Parks & Recreation	173,900.00
Library Contributions	22,000.00
Unpaid Bills	70,000.00
Benefits, Payroll Taxes, Insurances	3,001,007.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$10,704,507.00

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BY: Sax 2ND: Biscontini Cinti thanked Commissioner Yozwiak and the rest of the board, along with Patty for the working on this budget. Again, no tax increase for next year.
All For Motion Carried.

Motion to award the bid for the Plains Township Signal Upgrades Project to Northeast Signal & Electric Co. for the low bid of \$82,500.00. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax Yozwiak** noted that this is for the Green Light Go Program. We received a grant for this for signal upgrades.
All For Motion Carried.

Motion to award the bid for the Plains Township Controller Cabinet Relocation Project Rebid to Kuharchik Construction, Inc. for a bid of \$27,900.00. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti**
All For Motion Carried.

Motion to authorize execution of the Cooperation Agreement By and Between Luzerne County and Plains Township for the Plains Township Streetscape, Water/Sewer and Street Improvements Project in the amount of \$1,302,260.00. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to authorize addition of three catch basins to the 2018 Catch Basin Replacement Project located on Cotton Avenue, N. Beech Road and in front of 15 Poplar Street with Hardrox Inc. at a cost of \$7,600.00. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS by Yozwiak – The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held December 13, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. The DPW will be closed Monday, November 12th in observance of Veterans Day. Residents with Monday Garbage Collection will be picked-up on Tuesday, November 13th. The Administrative, Zoning/Code Enforcement Offices will be closed beginning Wednesday, November 21st at 2:00P.M. and reopen Monday, November 26th for the Thanksgiving Holiday. DPW will be closed on Thursday, November 22nd in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. . The DPW will reopen Friday, November 23rd for recycling pick-up for residents with Thursday garbage collection. Residents with Thursday garbage pick-up will be picked up on Wednesday, November 21st. The DPW will be closed on Monday, November 26th for the first day of deer season. Residents with Monday garbage pick-up will be picked up on Tuesday, November 27th. Residents are also reminded that there is an 8 bag limit the week after the holiday which is November 27th to November 29th. Also: Veterans Day Ceremony 11/9/2018 11:00 A.M. at the Veterans Park on the corner of Maffett and River. Electronic Recycling Day 11/17/2018 11:00A.M.-2:00P.M. up at the Plains Twp. Pavilion, Tree Lighting Ceremony 11/21/2018 6:00P.M.-9:00P.M. West Carey will be closed during that time, Santa Parade 11/24/2018 11:00 A.M. **Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.....**

TAXPAYERS:

Tom Brigden – Thanked the Board for coming down. Met with Jeff this morning. He had a crew down there to try to clean the ditch, but they need a machine in there. Concerned about adjoining property owners. **Yozwiak** explained how they researched to see if there is an easement back there. Solicitor will be sending out a release to the property owners. We are working on it. **Menn** had discussion about liability. **Cinti** noted that DEP will be doing a project for us so the water coming down from upper Hilldale near year property down to the river.

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Fred Silveri – Thanked the Board for the Mitchell Street job. Fantastic job. Thanked the Commissioners, road department, Borton Lawson, Stell and everyone who was involved. **Yozwiak** also noted that the lights are on order. Asked if the police could do a study from the top of Abbott to the stop sign at the school. Just had another accident on Sunday. Concern about speeding on Abbott Street. **Yozwiak** said we can put the speed trailer there.

Cathy Silveri – Suggestion to maybe put on Facebook for Main Street Christmas tree decorating.

Rob Sax – Plains Branch is celebrating 50 years this month. Every Thursday they have cupcakes.

ADJOURNMENT BY: Cinti 2ND: Yozwiak All For Motion Carried. TIME: 8:04 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Patricia Sluhocki
Secretary**

Accepted By,



**Gerald J. Yozwiak
Chairman**