

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF  
NOVEMBER 14, 2019**

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**CALL TO ORDER TIME:** 7:31 P.M.

**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 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.

**GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Motion to accept: **Minutes:** Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting of October 10th; Planning Commission Meetings of September 5<sup>th</sup> and October 3<sup>rd</sup>; Plains Township Recreation Board Meetings of October 7<sup>th</sup> and November 4th; Plains Township Sewer Authority Meeting of September 13th; Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority Meetings of September 17th. **Monthly Reports** of the Police Department for October; Fire Department for October, DPW Report for October; Secretaries Report for October; Zoning Permits issued for October; Contractor Licenses Issued for October. **Payrolls** of the Administrative, Zoning Office, Department of Public Works and Recreation Departments. Also the **Treasurers Report** – General Fund Checking Account Receipts \$200,534.07 General Fund Checking Account Disbursements \$1,225,380.02. Total Ending Balance in the General Fund Checking as of 10/31/2019 - \$1,233,575.76. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE - None**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**POLICE – Biscontini** announced to keep your doors locked and report any suspicious vehicles or people to 911. We had 20 suspicious persons, 24 thefts and 3 burglaries called into 911. Most of them are car break-ins. We are looking at our options in next year's budget to increase police presence.

**FIRE – Sax** reported a total of 221 calls for the month of October. The firefighters raised \$800 in the Breast Cancer Awareness T Shirt sale with the proceeds going to Candies Place. Thanked Firefighter Mike Gillott for heading the project. Also, October was Fire Prevention Month. The firefighters presented materials and trained over last 3 months, over 1500 students, teachers, staff and families. Thanked Chief Ritsick and his men for the efforts with Crime Prevention Month.

**DPW – Yozwiak** assisted with report. **Commissioner Shubilla** is away in Baltimore, announced that the **2019-2020 Telephone Book and Magazine Recycling Container** will be placed in the rear of 126 N. Main Street beginning November 18<sup>th</sup>.

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**Recycling Report:** Co-Mingled – 23.15 ton, Newspapers – 9.55 ton, Cardboard – 8.71 ton, Refuse/Yard Waste 201.62 – ton. Thanked the Township residents for recycling that doesn't have to go to the landfill. November 23<sup>rd</sup> is the last day for Yard Waste Drop-Off. Note for the minutes. Monday was Veterans Day. DPW was not working. Tuesday was a double run of garbage. If they get everyone's garbage, they will pick it up the next day. **Dave Willis** asked how we made out with electronics recycling. **Yozwiak** reported that we had over 5,000 pounds. We are going to have it again next year and do get compensated for some of it from the County.

**RECREATION – Cinti** all the recreation facilities winterized for the year until spring. Proud of the soccer organizations this year that used the fields. The Yankee Football and cheerleaders A-D did well The B team were super bowl champs. Announced that one of the football parents passed and there will be fund raiser for the family next Sunday at SS Peter & Paul, Bernadine Hall. **Yozwiak** added there is an opening on the Planning Commission. We are looking for someone to be on the Board. Valley Crest property will be next big development. Talked about artificial intelligence apps. Be aware.

**OLD BUSINESS –**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion to pay **General Fund Bills:** Utility \$24,317.41, Regular \$207,553.19; Total \$231,870.60. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti For: Biscontini, Cinti Abstain – Assured Partners Bill due to business relations, Sax, Yozwiak. Motion Carried.**

Motion to authorize the real property tax exemption certification application of Francis Sott 36 Enterprise Street, Plains, PA. Township Portion is \$142.66. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

**SOLICITORS REPORT**

Motion to adopt a resolution to place No Parking Here to Corner signs on the east side of lower Stocker Street replacing the handicapped signs there that are not needed as recommended by a police traffic study. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to enter into a 24 month agreement with Direct Energy as our electrical supplier at a cost of 4.354 cents per kilowatt hour. **BY: Sax 2ND: Biscontini All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to ratify Payment Request # 2 of the CDBG Contract 2 Structure Demolition to TSE, Inc. in the amount of \$3,470.00. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to ratify Contract Amendment #4 with Brozena Consulting Services for the CDBG-DR Program to extend the completion date to December 31, 2019. These are all projects down in the flats. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to ratify Payment Request # 9 of the CDBG DR Project to Brozena Consulting Services in the amount of \$15,250.00. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Biscontini All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to ratify Contract Amendment # 3 with Luzerne County under the County's Buy Out Program for an extension to December 31, 2020. **BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

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Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing submission of a CFA H2O Pa Grant Application for the Hilldale Channel Improvements Project to be submitted by Ashburn Advisors, LLC. Noted by **Menn** that they are our grant writers submitting for project down in Hilldale. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti All for Motion Carried.**

Motion to read and accept the first reading of the **2020 Budget.**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2020 TENTATIVE OPERATING BUDGET</b>
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 1,620,983.00
Taxes, Enabling Act	2,692,000.00
Licenses & Permits	423,500.00
Fines, Forfeits & Costs	46,000.00
Interest & Rents	21,000.00
Grants & Gifts	4,319,700.00
Department Earnings	278,000.00
Non-Revenue Receipts	2,323,000.00
Misc Revenue Receipts	199,550.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$11,923,733.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
General Government	\$ 266,110.00
Mun Bldgs/Offices	530,500.00
Tax Collection	26,975.00
Bldg, Regulations, Plan/Zone	152,700.00
Police Protection	1,873,400.00
Fire Protection	1,595,470.00
Health Services	5,550.00
Sanitation	704,550.00
General Services/Highways	1,126,950.00
General Services Main.	1,629,000.00
Parks & Recreation	167,900.00
Library Contributions	22,000.00
Principal/Interest -Unpaid Bills	825,000.00
Benefits, Payroll Taxes, Insurances	2,997,628.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$11,923,733.00</b>

**BY: Sax 2ND: Biscontini All For Motion Carried.**

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Motion to request a street light be installed in the area of 142-144 Chamberlain Street.  
**BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** by **Yozwiak**: The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held December 12, 2019 at 7:30 P.M. The Administrative and Zoning Offices be closed on Thursday and Friday November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. The DPW will be closed on Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday and Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup> for Deer Season. Residents with Thursday garbage collection will have their garbage collected on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Residents with Monday garbage collection, will have their garbage pick-up on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Residents are reminded that there will be an eight bag limit after the holiday collection week of December 3<sup>rd</sup> through December 5<sup>th</sup>.

This Board is wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**TAXPAYERS** - None

**ADJOURNMENT** **BY: Cinti 2ND: Yozwiak All For Motion Carried. TIME: 7:54 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,



**Patricia Sluhocki**  
Secretary

Accepted By,



**Gerald J. Yozwiak**  
Chairman