

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF
APRIL 8, 2021**

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Gerald Yozwiak

ROLL CALL: Peter J. Biscontini, Esq., Ciro Cinti, Robert Sax, Thomas Shubilla, and Gerald Yozwiak. Also present: 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 March 11; Plains Township Planning Commission Meeting: March 4th; Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority meeting of February 16th. **Monthly Reports:** of the Police Department for February and March; Fire Department for March; EMA Coordinator for March; DPW for March; Zoning Permits Issued for March; Contractor Licenses Issued for March; Secretaries Report for March. **Payrolls** of the Administrative, Zoning Office, Department of Public Works and Recreation Departments. The **Treasurers Report for March** General Fund Receipts **\$514,363.04**; General Fund Disbursements **\$604,623.80**; Total Ending Balance in the General Fund as of 3/31/2021 - **\$11,471.87. BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE – Biscontini noted that we received a letter of appreciation John Morris Funeral Home regarding the Nancy Fedor Funeral. Also newly appointed Officer Brandyn Cole is in attendance. He just completed his first month here and is doing a great job. Chief Binker is here if any one has any questions.

FIRE – Sax reported that the department had 123 calls and 96 were fire calls and 26 inspector calls. There are a lot of brush fires lately in the last couple of days. There was a huge fire in Wilkes-Barre at the Bielecki's Scrap Yard that we assisted at. Received a thank you letter from Mayor Brown for our outstanding efforts.

DPW – Shubilla reported that later in the meeting we will be appointing our new DPW Director Jeff Gustinuci and Assistant Director Jon Minnick. For the Recycling Report for March: Recycling 46 ton; Refuse and yard waste 238 ton.

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RECREATION – Cinti noted that we still are accepting applications for summer help for Recreation and DPW. Summer camp is June 15th through July 30th. Times are 10 to 2. There will be no lunches. All CDC guidelines will be followed. Dates are still available for the pavilion. Applications are available at the N. Main Street building. All parks are up and running.

OLD BUSINESS – None

Noted by Yozwiak that our solicitor is not here tonight because his wife tested positive for COVID. He had one shot and is ok. Board members are either fully vaccinated or at least have one shot.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to authorize payment of the **General Fund Bills upon the availability of funds Utility\$23,018.01; Regular \$113,914.20; Total \$136,932.21. BY: Biscontini 2ND: Shubilla All For Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to accept a letter of retirement from Charles Krommes from the Plains Township Fire Department with his last day of work of April 30, 2021. **BY: Sax** Also thanked Captain Krommes for his many years of service on the fire department and as our emergency management coordinator. Wished him the best on his retirement and onto his next job. **2ND: Shubilla All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to increase the rate of pay of the part-time firefighters to \$12.00 per hour effective May 1, 2021. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to hire Joseph Hudak as a part-time firefighter at a rate of \$12.00 per hour subject to successful completion of a background check, physical and post-offer employment testing. **BY: Sax 2nd: Cinti Roll Call: B C SA SH Y**

Motion to appoint Jeff Gustinucci as DPW Director effective April 9, 2021 per the terms of the UFCW Local 1776 Collective Bargaining Agreement. **BY: Shubilla 2ND: Biscontini** Yozwiak commented that he started at the bottom throwing garbage bags and now he's in charge. **All For Motion Carried.** Biscontini also thanked Ron Wincek for his service to the Township. Board congratulated Jeff on his appointment. Pictures were taken with Gustinucci Family.

Motion to appoint Jon Minnick as DPW Assistant Director effective April 9, 2021 per the terms of the UFCW Local 1776 Collective Bargaining Agreement. **BY: Cinti 2nd: Sax All For Motion Carried.** Board Congratulated Jon on his appointment.

Motion to increase the rate of pay and benefits for the following Non-Union employees effective May 1, 2021 as follows: 3% to Pat Delesandro and Patty Neishel. \$1.00 raise to Lynell Ent, Tom Giebus, Robert Davis, Justin Reiser, Matt Westawski, Karen Rubasky and .50 raise to Lou Luchetti. Increase in clothing allowance for Tom Giebus to \$150.00, Robert Davis to \$150.00, Matt Westawski to \$100.00 and Justin Reiser to \$75.00. Karen Rubasky to five sick days annually and three more holidays of Presidents Day, Good Friday and the day after Thanksgiving. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Shubilla All For Motion Carried.**

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Motion to re-hire Lou Luchetti as a seasonal recreation laborer at a rate of \$10.50 per hour effective 3/22/2021. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to authorize payment application No. 3 of the Haines Street Drainage Improvements Project to Leeward Construction Inc. in the amount of \$24, 498.00. **BY: Shubilla 2nd: Biscontini All For Motion Carried.**

SOLICITORS REPORT

Read by Secretary in absence of Solicitor:

Motion to award the Back-Up Salt Contract bids for 2021-2022 to American Rock Salt for a bid price of \$80.00 per ton delivered. **BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to authorize the solicitor to advertise a Conditional Use Hearing on the application of Mitchell, Ross, Gary & Eric Kornfeld of 1073 Highway 315. **BY: Biscontini 2nd: Shubilla All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to adopt a proclamation recognizing April 2021 as Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month. **BY: Cinti 2nd: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS – By Yozwiak: The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held May 13, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.

TAXPAYERS None

ADJOURNMENT BY: Cinti 2ND: Yozwiak All For Motion Carried. TIME: 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted By,



**Patricia Sluhocki
Secretary**

Accepted By,



**Gerald J. Yozwiak
Chairman**