

MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF
SEPTEMBER 9, 2021 PAGE ONE

CALL TO ORDER TIME: 7:35 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Gerald Yozwiak

-Moment of silence observed in recognizing the 20-year anniversary of 9/11.

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.

GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion to accept: **Minutes:** Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting of August 12th **Monthly Reports:** Police Department for July and August; Fire Department for August; EMA Coordinator for August; DPW for August; Zoning Permits Issued for August and Contractor Licenses for August; Secretaries Report for August. **Payrolls** of the Administrative, Zoning Office, Department of Public Works and Recreation Departments. The **Treasurers Report for August** General Fund Receipts **\$894,963.21**; General Fund Disbursements **\$739,005.78**; Total Ending Balance in the General Fund as of **8/31/2021 - \$2,201,101.06**. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Biscontini For: Biscontini, Cinti, Sax, Shubilla, Yozwiak except abstain from Ben Yozwiak Recreation payroll. Motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE – Biscontini reported that the new school opened today and the police assisted directing traffic. Thanked the police for directing traffic. Reminded residents to keep their doors locked to prevent break-in's. If anyone has any questions, Chief Binker is present.

FIRE – Sax reported that the department had 174 calls for the month. We are still installing smoke alarms to residents who need them. Just give the department or office a call.

DPW – Shubilla reported Recycling for August: 50 tons. Thanked the DPW for assisting the Fire Department in pumping out basements after the most recent rain storm.

RECREATION – Cinti reported that the Plains Yankees youth football and cheerleading have started their season up at the park. Also the soccer association have started their season. All fields are up to where they should be. The Wolfpack are also using our tennis courts.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Continued

Yozwiak added that the gold bows that you see around the Township are in support of the Little Eric's Foundation to help fight pediatric cancer. They can be purchased at Michael's Restaurant for \$3.00. Welcome the new school. We are having recycling and dumping issues throughout the township and at the drop-off site with people dumping garbage. Our recyclers are threatening to take our recycling to the landfill. We are going to post signs at the recycling center that if caught, there will be a \$1,000 fine. We will be catching and fining people for dumping. It's a convenience for the people but is being abused. **Sax** reported about dumping throughout the township. We are going through the bags and they are not from residents of Plains. We have names and are sending citations out. **Yozwiak** reported that the dumpers were from Allentown and Parsons in Wilkes-Barre. **Sax** added that they dumped right across the street from the New High School.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to authorize payment of the **General Fund Bills** consisting of the **Utility Bills \$24,433.87; Regular Bills \$179,793.04; Total \$204,226.91. BY: Shubilla 2ND: Biscontini For: Biscontini, Cinti except abstain from Assured Partners Bills for business relations, Sax, Shubilla, Yozwiak. Motion Carried.**

SOLICITORS REPORT

Motion to solicit bids for garbage bags. **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Sax All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to enter into a 36-month agreement with Direct Energy as our electrical supplier at a cost of 0.05695 cents per kilowatt hour beginning January 1, 2022. Noted by **Menn** that we solicited bids and this was the lowest best option. **BY: Cinti 2ND: Shubilla Noted by Yozwiak** that our last contract was 24% cheaper. **All For Motion Carried.**

Motion to authorize the execution of the sewerage facilities module mailer for the Seven Tubs Recreation Area Site Improvements. **(It was determined this afternoon that this was not needed and therefore will be taken off the agenda)**

Motion to re-advertise for sale of the following vehicles: 2009 Dodge Durango with 64,737 miles and 2007 Mack Packer Model MR6885. **BY: Sax 2ND: Cinti All For Motion Carried.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS by Yozwiak The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held October 14, 2021 7:30 P.M.

TAXPAYERS

David Onufer - It's been 60 days that I have been here regarding the cat issue on Burke Street. Nothing was done. Nobody is being fined. His property is like a giant litter box. The person that was supposed to fix the cats, neuter them, came two weeks after the meeting and I haven't seen her since. Nothing has changed. **Yozwiak** I believe I missed that meeting. **Shubilla** said Brenda from Whiskers World was supposed to go there. **Onufer** did report that Brenda said she needs a two-week window. **Shubilla** will call her tomorrow to see what's going on. **Onufer** we have about 12-14 cats down there. **Yozwiak** we will get somebody there.

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Joe Parsnik - Lives up on Old Pittston Boulevard. Update on the problem we are having with tractor trailers coming down from Route 115. GPS tells them to go the back way. They could never get through the tunnel which is only 7 ½ feet high. **Yozwiak** thought we put signs up there. **Parsnik** replied that the State did put up signs but they are small. These drivers already passed through 4 sets of signs before they get to Plains Township. There is no where to turn around and they try to turn around on our properties and are doing damage. Then they try to back up a mile to Pittston Boulevard. Somebody is going to get killed. Would like a sign that says **No tractor trailers beyond this point**. He has seen them in other municipalities. **Menn** added that we probably are going to need Penn Dot permission. **Biscontini** asked how long has this been going on. **Parsnik** the tunnel road has been closed since Ida came. Had three trucks come down this week after the road was closed. **Chief Binker** added that the trucking company is supposed to inform the drivers of restrictions, but they are not doing that. **Biscontini** asked if we could call the state police to have a trooper there to tell these drivers. **Parsnik** responded that he is a retired trooper and that is not going to happen because of low manpower and the amount of accidents that happen on 115. **Yozwiak** we could put on the bottom of the hill which is in Plains Township and we will call Bear Creek could put up some signs as well. **Parsnik** also mentioned about the big trees that are down in the creek that can jam up the creek and create more flooding. It would help if someone could cut those trees.

Dave Willis added can you put signs on the bottom of the hill to alert those tractor trailers drivers. The truckers can't read the signs by his house.

ADJOURNMENT BY: Cinti 2ND: Yozwiak All For Motion Carried. TIME: 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,


Patricia Sluhocki
Secretary

Accepted By,


Gerald J. Yozwiak
Chairman