

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF
JUNE 12, 2025**

PAGE ONE

A. CALL TO ORDER TIME: 7:04

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Robert Sax

Swearing in of Commissioner Patricia Sluhocki

C. ROLL CALL: Peter J. Biscontini, Ciro Cinti, Robert Sax, Thomas Shubilla, and Patricia Sluhocki

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:** Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting of May, Plains Twp. Recreation Board Meeting minutes for May and June. Plains Twp. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes, Sewer Authority Meeting Minutes and the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority Meeting Minutes for April **Monthly Reports:** of the Police Department; Fire Department, EMA and DPW for May, Zoning Permits and Contractor licenses Issued and Secretaries Report for May. **Payrolls** of the Administrative and Zoning Office, Department of Public Works, and Recreation Department. The **Treasurers Report for May:** General Fund Receipts in the amount of **\$4,303,471.20** General Fund Disbursements **\$1,398,211.68**; Total Ending Balance in the General Fund as of **05/31/2025 \$4,114,310.06**. **BY: Shubilla 2ND: Sluhocki All for, motion carried**

E. CORRESPONDENCE – None

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE – Mark your calendars August 5, 2025 is National Night Out. We just completed Civil Service Testing. We had 8 new applicants take the test. We will be upgrading and replacing the computers in the police vehicles to the newest technology to make the township safer.

FIRE – 107 fire calls and 50 captain's incidents for a total of 157 calls. Fire department will install smoke detectors free of charge, just contact the department. They would also like to remind residents of the ordinance against open burning. I would like to thank EMA Coordinator Michael VanLuvender on his work on the County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

DPW – Pot hole repairs are being done. Yard waste drop off site is open on Saturdays from 9-12.

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF
JUNE 12, 2025**

PAGE TWO

RECREATION – Kids camp started today and will run through 7-31 they get about 60-70 kids a day so there will be a lot of kids running around up at the park so please be careful if you are driving up there.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE – This is something that Commissioner Yozwiak started and I will do it but not as good as he would. The JLW Mountain Laurel Lions are celebrating their 25th anniversary this month they are the first women's lions club here in Plains Twp. so I want to congratulate them.

Commissioner Cinti – Mr. Chair they are the organization that does the flowers at the Vet's Park every year, they are a great organization

G. OLD BUSINESS – None

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to authorize payment of the **General Fund Bills** consisting of the **Utility Bills \$27,017.56; Regular Bills \$293,753.06; Total \$320,770.62. (Cinti abstain for Assured Partners Bill)** **BY: Biscontini 2ND: Shubilla All for, motion carried**

2 Motion to ratify the hiring of Matt Egidio and Max Gregor as of May 26, 2025, Leo Aponte and Joe Meager as of June 6, 2025 for Recreation Department summer help and Susan Yozwiak as Zoning Clerk effective June 1st 2025.
BY: Cinti 2ND: Biscontini. All for, motion carried

3. Motion to award the 2025 - 2026 back-up salt bid to Cargill Salt for the low bid of \$97.31 per ton. **BY: Sluhocki 2nd: Cinti All for, motion carried**

I. SOLICITORS REPORT

4. Motion to list Fire Department strobe lights and lenses on the Municibid website.
BY: Biscontini 2nd: Shubilla All for, motion carried

5. Motion to authorize the Solicitor to advertise the Ordinance for Controlling Feral and Stray Cats. **BY: Cinti 2nd: Sluhocki All for, motion carried**

6. Motion to request a police traffic study for No Parking and speed limit signs on Bear Creek Blvd. **BY: Sluhocki 2nd: Biscontini All for, motion carried**

7. Motion to ratify the acceptance of the Collective Bargaining Agreement by and between the Plains Township Fire Fighters Local 840 and Plains Township for the years January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2029 subject to review and approval of Township Solicitor. **BY: Shubilla 2ND: Cinti All for, motion carried**

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF
JUNE 12, 2025** **PAGE THREE**

ANNOUNCEMENTS – The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on July 10th at 7:00 P.M. The Administrative and Zoning Offices will be closed on Friday July 4th, DPW will be closed on Monday July 7th in observance of the 4th of July Holiday. Residents with Monday trash pick-up will be picked up on Tuesday July 8th. All other schedules will remain the same.

J. TAXPAYERS (Time limit 5 minutes taxpayers must sign in).

Scott Stefanski - Crescent Drive

I am here to express my concerns on the property at 16 Crescent Drive and its detrimental impact on the neighborhood's quality of life. This property has been an ongoing nuisance with its excessive noise particularly at night time hours. Additionally, the properties lack of maintenance is creating an eyesore for the neighbors and violating property code. I have examples I would rather not get into but if anyone has any questions. I implore you to make this stop.

Commissioner Biscontin – How long has this been going on? Do they own or rent.

Stefanski – This will be their 2nd summer they own. The amount of construction they have done is staggering. It should come to your attention.

Sax – Karen are you aware of this house

Zoning – We were there about garbage when they first moved in. But no one has made any reports to me recently about construction or garbage. I will check to see if they had any permits. I did discuss with them about an inground pool, but he said he was just grading the yard. I also told him the carport is not a storage unit.

Stefanski – That grading that she is talking about is them cutting the grass. The grass was knee high.

Karen – I will visit and cite them

Stefanski – do you need so many calls about the noise before they are cited? There are about 4 cars there all the time and about 3 others that show up on the weekends

Chief Binker – How many times have you called 911 about the noise sir?

Stefanski – I called once

Chief Binker – Since 2024 we have received one call for noise. Officer Remus responded and asked them to turn the music down and they complied. If it is at night you should call 911. If it is during the day you would have to come to court and testify. No one has called.

Stefanski – No one wants to call and deal with this.

Chief Binker – call anonymously.

Dave Drozda – we called the station.

Binker – you must call 911 we don't sit at the station and wait for calls.

Mrs. Drozda – We are concerned with how many people are living in the home. There is no parking. They are blocking everything up. We have to go all around the neighborhood to park.

Biscontin – We appreciate you bringing this to us. Karen will look into this.

Frank Holby – Iroquois Ave

Commissioner Sax – Just want to say great job on the wall.

Holby – Thanks – I have a couple of quick questions, this is about the zoning meeting of about two months ago, I live at 190 Iroquois so I have the quarry in my back yard. Maybe Mr. Menn could answer this - fraudulent testimony was made,

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF
JUNE 12, 2025**

PAGE FOUR

Menn – this is the zoning hearing board, I'm not there and I don't know what happened.

Holby -Yeah but I'm just asking a question, if you perjure yourself what is the protocol, what does the board do if they catch someone lying.

Menn – The board decides the truthfulness of the testimony when they make their decision.

Hobly – There were pictures of them using jackhammers and when they were asked if they used jackhammers they said they did not use them. It didn't affect Laura's decision at all that they were lying.

Menn – Well Laura does not make the decision, she just asked questions and acts as council. The board makes the decisions she doesn't have a vote.

Holby – They start operations at 5:30 am with 2 breakers and a separator and go till 12 midnight. I know that you are not aware of this.

Sax – during that meeting were operating hours set?

Holby – we tried to get someone to set hours. Laura said how long do you need to operate and he would not answer and when asked how long the operation was going to take they said 5 to 8 years and no one did anything. This is why we feel so helpless. They found 5+ million dollars worth of coal. They are operating a full blown quarry.

Menn – but they were not approved for that –

Holby – they mine rock – crush it and advertise to sell it and they do sell it. They found coal so if what we have can't stop them from doing what they are doing maybe we can set some rules before they start mining the coal and get some hours set.

Menn – they will have to go through DEP to get permission for mining.

Holby – we just want some conditions put on the hours and what they are doing. I just wanted to bring you guys up on what is going on up there

Menn – I don't know why they didn't put conditions on what they are doing up there.

Holby – If I could just mention one last thing, Bear Creek Blvd. was paved for somewhere around 3 million dollars, they are using this road for their trucks filled with rock, not all of the trucks but a lot of them, maybe you can get them to put a bond on the road so that when they are done 8 years from now and the road needs to be repaired they will have to cover it.

Joe Pistack – Is there a way to put a weight limit on the road? The first zoning board said they were not allowed to crush or process the rock. They missed their appeal and they brought in the equipment anyway. They 2nd hearing their lawyer stated that the crushing equipment is necessary. According to the zoning ordinance it has to be so far from the property line. Right now they are crushing 250 feet from the property line. The community asked that they remove the rock to have it processed and not do it on site. Is it possible to have a sign put up that says no jake brakes?

Sax – we will have to ask, it has to be a certain grade there are specifications for that.

Pistack – You have a jake brake ordinance. 24 hour blasting notice, we don't get that. The man from Main Drilling and blasting put a seismograph in to measure the blasts but he put it in the dirt instead of attaching it to the house, so their numbers come up better.

We are just asking that someone enforce the rules that can be enforced. This board seems far more interested and attentive then the zoning board that was present that night. I thank you for your concern.

**MINUTES OF THE PLAINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF
JUNE 12, 2025**

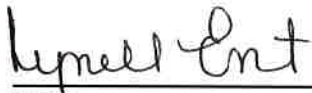
PAGE FIVE

Sax – we will go back up and visit them again we were up there about a month ago. We will pay them another visit and ask about hours. They notify the Twp an hour before they blast.

Pistack – These guys are really pushing the limit of when they can operate. I have also caused DEP because of the cloud of dust that is emitted when they blast which is not supposed to be. Thank you for your time.

K. ADJOURNMENT BY: Cinti 2ND: Sax All for, motion carried TIME: 8:06

Respectfully Submitted by:



Lynell Ent, Secretary

Accepted by:



Robert Sax, Chairman