

Supervisors Meeting – August 16, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Sugarloaf Township Supervisors was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. at the Municipal Building, 858 Main Street, Sugarloaf, PA 18249. The meeting was duly advertised in the Standard Speaker on December 15, 2021.

Attendance: In attendance were Chairman Rick Weaver, Supervisor Richard Yost, and Supervisor Joseph DiSabella. Also in attendance were Atty. Joseph Baranko, Township Office Manager Elizabeth Tolan, and Township Zoning Officer Henry Mleczynski.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment: There was no public comment on the agenda items.

Bids- 2005 International 7400 4x4 dump truck: Chairman Weaver asked if there were any outstanding bids. The bids were duly advertised in the Standard Speaker on 7/26/22 and 8/2/22. There was only one bid submitted. The bid was opened and reviewed by Supervisor Yost for completion. A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to award the bid received from Bobby Gerhart's Truck World for the amount listed in their proposal of \$57,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Chairman Weaver asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 19, 2022. A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella to approve the minutes of the Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously, and copies were placed on the front table for public review.

Bills: Supervisor Yost read the Income and Expense Report of the General Fund from July 2022. A motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to approve the bills as read, and to pay any and all bills in all funds that become due before the next regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously, and copies were placed on the front table for public review.

Financial Statement: Chairman Weaver mentioned that the financial statement is attached to all agendas. A motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to dispense reading and approve the financial statement as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Supervisor Yost signed the Financial Statement.

Police Department:

1. Chairman Weaver reviewed the police activity report for July 2022. There were 132 calls for service.
2. Magistrate fines collected for July 2022 amounted to \$966.28. A check was also received in the amount of \$40.00 from Luzerne County Probation Services for restitution.
3. Resolution No. 20 of 2022 regarding applying for a grant in the amount of \$2,800.00 through the National Rifle Association for materials to allow the Sugarloaf Township Police Department to participate in the Eddie Eagle GunSafe® program in local schools was presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval. A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to proceed with this grant application. The motion passed unanimously.

Fire Company: Fire Chief Duane Hildebrand reviewed the activity report for July 2022. There were 24 Fire and Rescue calls and 48 EMS calls for a total of 74 calls for service.

1. **Request for a change to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and Fire Code in regard to the color and connection standards of fire hydrants:** A motion was needed to approve the draft ordinance for the SALDO amendment and to send to the Planning Commission for consideration. Also, to schedule a public hearing to be held at 5:45 PM prior to the regular Board of Supervisors meeting on September 20th, 2022 at 6:00 PM for comment. A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to proceed to move forward to the Planning Commission and to advertise the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Road Department:

Chairman Weaver reviewed the road department report for July 2022. Resolution No. 19 of 2022 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval of submission of a Luzerne County LSA Grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 to be used for the purchase of a new work truck and a new freightliner for the Road Department. A motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to proceed with this grant application. The motion passed unanimously.

Zoning Report: The zoning officer read the Zoning Report for July 2022. There were 9 permits approved and 1 denied. Chairman Weaver placed the Zoning Log for July 2022 on the front table.

1. There is a Zoning Hearing Scheduled for August 22, 2022, at 7:00 PM for the continuation hearing for the application appeal of Curtis Pick in regard to a setback variance and for the zoning application appeal for G&D Capital Investments LLC for a 6-foot wide by 3-foot-high sign on property located at 466 State Route 93.
2. A request has been received regarding Pamela Salata et al. to Wister Yuhaz Rezoning Request. The applicant is requesting that the Board of Supervisors rezone the properties in question from R-1 to C-2 so that the properties are both in the C-2 zone. A motion is needed to proceed with a zoning amendment change, including advertising a public hearing, submission of request to the Township Planning Commission and County Planning Commission, posting of the property for purposes of the public hearing, and notice to adjoining. A motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor Yost to table this application request. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Resolution No. 18 of 2022 was presented to the Board of Supervisors to vacate the appointment of Alternate Member Robert Luchi to the Zoning Hearing Board due to Mr. Luchi not being a resident living in the Township. A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to approve Resolution No. 18 of 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Emergency Management: Mr. Mundie was not present to give the EMS report due to a drill exercise being held at the time of the meeting. Resolution No. 16 of 2022 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for adoption of the 2022 Radiological Response Plan. A motion was made by Supervisor DiSabella, seconded by Chairman Weaver, to approve Resolution No. 16 of 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Sugarloaf Recreation Board (Larock Field): The recreation committee did not meet in July due to lack of quorum.

The Tomhicken Playground Association: There was a meeting held on July 20, 2022. The minutes have been received. The request was made to have the Handicap Walkway reinforced and also to have grass mowing done on a Friday rather than Saturday.

Planning Commission: The August Planning Commission Meeting was held August 1, 2022. The minutes have been received. The next scheduled Meeting of the Planning Commission will be September 6, 2022, at 7:00 PM.

Subdivision, Lot Consolidation and Land Development:

1. **Lands of Book:** The final plans have been approved and signed by the Planning Committee. They were presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval. A motion was made Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to approve Lands of Book final plans. The motion passed unanimously, and the plans were signed after the meeting and turned over to the engineer for the project to record.
2. **Crossroad XOX, LLC:** The zoning hearing for this applicant has been changed to September 26, 2022.
3. **Bolus Land Use Appeal:** A notice has been received from Atty. Karpowich advising of a Notice of Land Use Appeal, Writ of Certiorari, and Certificate of Service. Copies of documents requested have been provided to the Township Solicitor for further action.

Old Business:

1. **Mountain Drive (c-38):** Atty. Baranko has sent correspondence to Shannon Crake Lapsansky, Esquire to obtain an update as to where the township stands procedurally for the process of taking over the portion of Mountain Road designated as County Road 38. Atty. Baranko reported that the matter is in front of Luzerne Council now for any comment, and that there will be a resolution presented to the Board of Supervisors to accept the dedication of the road at the September Supervisors Meeting.

2. **Electronics Recycling Event:** A check has been received in the amount of \$2,982.50 (50% vendor costs and 80% advertising costs) reimbursement for the 2022 Electronics Recycling Event held in Sugarloaf Township in June of this year.

New Business:

1. The next scheduled meeting of the Supervisors will be held on Tuesday September 20, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.
2. A check in the amount of \$5,921.94 was received for Realty Transfer Tax Distribution for July of 2022.
3. United Concordia Dental sent their renewal rates for 10/1/22 to 9/30/24. Their rates are not increasing.
4. **Service Electric Semi-Annual Franchise Fee Payment:** Service Electric Semi-Annual Franchise Fee payment in the amount \$16,730.88 was received for the Calendar Period of January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022. This is \$601.01 less than last year's payment for January through June.
5. **2023 Financial Requirement and Minimum Municipal Obligation:** The financial firm of Thomas J. Anderson and Associates has prepared the 2023 Annual Report for both pension plans. The MMO for the Uniformed Pension Plan is \$55,697.00 and the MMO for the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is \$42,867.00 based on the projected annual payroll. A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella to approve the MMO budget for both plans as presented. The motion passed unanimously, and the plan was signed immediately following the meeting.

Correspondence received since the last meeting: Correspondence received since the last meeting was reviewed.

Public Comment:

Mrs. Luchi inquired about the lawsuit involving the Bolus Denial. She asked if there was anything further, she as a citizen could do to influence the judge in regard to upholding the Township's decision. Atty. Baranko explained that she could obtain her own legal counsel who could help her to file a notice of intervention.

Mr. Passon stated that the Turkey Path was in very poor shape and needed paving.

Mr. Catina agreed that the Turkey Path needed paving and also mentioned concern regarding speeding vehicles. He is concerned that someone will get hurt.

Adjournment: With no further business to attend to, a motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 P.M. The motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that all reports or correspondence mentioned during this meeting were available for review at the front table, copies to be provided, upon request, after the meeting.

