

**SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
January 23, 2024**

This Special Meeting of the Sugarloaf Township Supervisors for discussion on the use of Larock Field and for any other business was held on January 23, 2024 at 6:00 PM as duly advertised in the Standard Speaker on January 19, 2024.

Attendance: In attendance was Chairman DiSabella, Supervisor Yost and Supervisor Weaver. Also in attendance was Atty. Joseph Baranko and Township Office Manager Elizabeth Tolan.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Appointment of representation for Sugarloaf on the CSJMA: Gregory Orlander's term expired on 12/31/23. A motion was needed to appoint a representative for Sugarloaf for a five-year term. A motion was made by Chairman DiSabella, seconded by Supervisor Yost, to appoint Gregory Orlander to a five-year term on the CSJMA. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: At this point in the meeting, Chairman DiSabella went over the rules for public comment, and then opened the floor.

Jessica Wolfe: Reviewed the history of incidents and reports regarding calls to the police, parking issues, complaints, criminal activity, and rules that have been not followed on a consistent basis. She requested that there be a halt to playoff games being held at the park as they have become too large for the facility to manage without causing issues for local residents.

Leann Busch: Mrs. Busch stated that the people using the field were a disrespectful group of individuals. She reviewed vandalism in the past of the restrooms, public urination due to restrooms being out of order, pipes clogged with mud from cleats, and safety issues due to the lack of sufficient parking. Due to the lack of respect and lack of gratitude for the use of the facility, Mrs. Busch requested that the Board of Supervisors discontinue the games at the park. She also mentioned the lighting agreement which was not being followed and if that was not resolved legal action would be forthcoming.

George Keifer: Mr. Keifer is the new president of the Valley Chiefs. He apologized for past issues and expressed a willingness to collaborate with the residents and the Board of Supervisors to resolve ongoing issues with the use of Larock Field by the Valley Chiefs. He also mentioned that it is his intention to have players participate in cleaning up of the park and community service. He requested a copy of any agreements with the Chiefs and stated the new board's goal is to work together with residents to resolve the ongoing issues.

Aliyssa Nickelson: Mentioned that the Chiefs organization does not intend to host the playoffs this year.

Josita Hannen: Ms. Hannen has been the treasurer for the organization for two years. She expressed how hard the organization works for fundraising and expressed that they do clean up after the games, empty the trash and check the restrooms. She noted that one of the days in question in regard to volume was a result of a baseball field being flooded and the game being moved to Larock Recreation Field on the same day as a Valley Chiefs game. She said they had no notice that the field was going to be used by another sports team on the same day. She suggested placing gaps between games to allow for better flow of traffic. She reported that children's sports activities are dwindling, and they are working hard to keep this opportunity available for local youths.

Melanie Broyan: Reported that she has lived in the area for 54 years. She reviewed a letter she received in 2022 from Jessica Wolfe stating that the Valley Chiefs had done a good job of managing the use of the park. She stated that the organization does clean up trash. She noted that she had read in the meeting minutes of a Board of Supervisors meeting that the flooding in the bathroom was caused by tree roots clogging the pipes, not dirt from cleats. She stated that they cannot be responsible for all vandalization, as it has been an ongoing problem through the years and not necessarily all due to the Valley Chiefs use of the park. She indicated she was aware of the PA System rules, and only made an exception once to get the participants to clear the field for the evening. She stated that she has tried on numerous occasions to attend a recreation committee meeting, but they have been cancelled without notice each time due to lack of quorum. Ms. Broyan also stated that while the Valley Chiefs do work hard at fundraising and have been successful in that regard, that all the funds go back into the program for equipment and other needs.

Millini Skuba: Ms. Skuba indicated that her son was a Valley Chiefs player, and that she is also a member of the recreation committee, so she can see both sides of this issue. She suggested that a representative from the Chiefs come to the first meeting of the recreation board in 2024. She stated in the past, the organization and the residents have worked well together, but as leadership in the organization changes, she feels that the rules and guidelines for the field use are not passed down. She indicated that security, signs for parking, and other issues needed to be addressed. She also stated that the Recreation Committee needed COI and game schedules prior to the beginning of the season.

Melissa Moran: Ms. Moran stated that she is in charge of the concession stand, and asked for a list of issues that the board would like responses on for the February Meeting. She also noted that there is an issue with the electricity in the concession stand, and a problem with mice. She informed the board that the community needed

the Valley Chiefs to continue using the field, because without that, she felt the field would be neglected and fall to disrepair and vandalism.

The Board of Supervisors at this time asked for clarification and further information from the residents and the Valley Chiefs organization. It should be noted for record that this is not a complete recording of all conversation at the meeting, but a summary of main points of discussion.

A motion was made by Chairman DiSabella, seconded by Supervisor Yost, to table any decision regarding the use of the Larock Field by the Valley Chiefs until the February Board of Supervisors Meeting, at which time representatives from Valley Chiefs will present recommendations to the board in regard to the issues which were presented in the meeting, particularly parking, trespassing, and security/damage issues.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Chairman DiSabella, seconded by Supervisor Yost at 7:05 PM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard E. Yost". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.