

TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MEETING MINUTES
TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
October 8, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Penny Kleintop, Chairperson/Treasurer; Thomas Newman, Vice-Chairman; Guy Seifert, Supervisor; Thomas Nanovic, Solicitor; Brenda Drew, Secretary; Carl Faust, Zoning Officer; Greg Haas, Engineer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Towamensing Township Meeting Minutes – September 3, 2015 Board of Supervisors' Meeting

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Bills List and Payroll from September 2015:

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to approve the Bills List and Payroll, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report from September 2015:

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - 5 MINUTE LIMIT - Please sign the book if you would like to address the Board.

Resident Tracy Carey of 640 Beers Lane discussed her neighbor's property, located at 660 Beers Lane, which is being used by the owner as a weekend rental instead of a single-family residence. There have been incidences of noise, trespass and excess vehicles. She is requesting an ordinance to control transient uses such as this. Supervisor Seifert stated that the township will investigate and take her concern under advisement. It was also suggested that the resident research how other municipalities near the shore address this type of use.

Resident Paul Shinsec distributed the October Report and discussed the recent meeting pertaining to the PennEast Pipeline project.

Jeff George spoke on behalf of his father Kenneth George, who in the past created many subdivisions in the township. He attended the meeting to discuss the interruption of garbage collection in his Dad's development located on privately owned Clearview Drive. The township delivered letters to the residences stating that the garbage truck and township employees would not drive on the road until the road was repaired and tree branches cut. This is the safety policy for garbage collection on all privately-owned roads in the township.

Jerry George, also a son of Kenneth George, commented on township road repairs. He stated that the road repairs, especially Wintergreen Road, took too long to get done. Supervisors informed him that the projects were bid out and that the repair timeline was established by the paving companies. Jerry also mentioned that the oil and chip repairs needed some cleanup.

Resident Cheryl Zechman of 230 Clearview Drive stated that a 30 day notice should have been given to residents rather than just stopping garbage pickup or having everyone pile it on the township road entering their neighborhood. Supervisors stated that if a private road is dangerous for our crew and equipment, it is the township's decision to avoid driving on it. They also reminded residents that anyone wanting to hire a private hauler can do so as long as the township receives an annual copy of the alternative garbage hauling contract for that property.

Resident Ricky Rodgers of 357 Hickory Road asked why his property was always the last place to be treated for snow and ice. It happens to be located near the end of a snow plowing route. Ricky and his wife Barbara also asked who bought the motorcycle that the township repossessed to cover delinquent garbage bills in the past and how much the township received. The Rodgers did not turn over the title to the motorcycle. Supervisors stated that the residents could come to the township office for proof of the sale and also reassured them that the debt which was cancelled was far more than the amount received for the motorcycle, which was sold for parts. Supervisors also assured the public that this is not a policy followed by the township and that the employee responsible for this action no longer works for the township.

Resident John Wasilowsky of 120 Pine Lane, a private road in the township, expressed his concern about his road, maintained by the five residents, which is being used by other residents. These residents are using Pine Lane to access their adjacent lands instead of building their own access roads.

PLANS AND SUBDIVISIONS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve Fire Police for the Palmerton Halloween Parade to be held on October 18, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion for approval, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Set date for Trick or Treat Night in the Township as Saturday, October 31, 2015 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion for approval, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Matthew George reported that the committee plans to finish working on the infield. The dugout drawings are to be completed by Carl Faust and then stamped by Mike Tirpak. He also made a suggestion to have a security system and motion sensors installed to deter vandals. A resident suggested that the ball clubs apply to WalMart for grants that are readily available to help such neighborhood organizations.

ROAD MASTER REPORT:

A report is available in the township office and was read aloud by Supervisor Seifert. The tar and chip projects are complete. The paving project is underway.

Residents may email questions or comments to: ttroad@ptd.net

HISTORICAL COMMISSION:

No report. Supervisor Seifert stated that he has worked on repairs to the Greenzweig School roof twice.

ZONING OFFICER REPORT:

Available in township office.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT:

Available from Fire Company Personnel.

SEO REPORT:

Available in township office

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:

Available in township office.

Member James Shafer mentioned that the input requested by Vice-Chairperson Newman for the development of Pipeline impact ordinance was professionally beyond the scope of knowledge of the Planning Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

OFFICIALS:

Chairperson Penny Kleintop requested that a workshop be set to review and finalize the Zoning and SALDO Fee Schedules. The Supervisors, Greg Haas, Carl Faust and Thomas Nanovic were all requested to attend.

Zoning Office hours for October 2015 –Tuesday, October 6; Wednesday, October 14; Wednesday, October 21; & Wednesday, October 28 - 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Carl Faust, Towamensing Township Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer, can be reached by calling: 570-943-2577 or 610-681-4202. Email: bmisinspector@gmail.com

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: Supervisor Seifert made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Newman.
All in favor. Motion carried.

8:58 p.m.

RE-OPEN MEETING: 9:05 p.m.

Motion: Supervisor Seifert made a motion to re-open the meeting to address an issue, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Newman.
All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion: Supervisor Seifert made a motion to require that the Towamensing Township Volunteer Fire Company provide an accounting of how the State Fire Relief Allocation Funds were used for the years 2012, 2013 and 2014. Motion seconded by Chairperson Kleintop. Vice-Chairperson Newman abstained.
Motion carried.

Supervisor Seifert then requested that the Secretary draft a letter to mail to Fire Chief Wayne Knirnschild asking that he comply with this request by the next Board of Supervisors Meeting on November 5, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: Supervisor Seifert made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Newman.
All in favor. Motion carried.

9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda L. Drew, Secretary