

TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MEETING MINUTES
TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
August 4, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 6:30 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 – July 7, 2016

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

Bill List and Payroll from July 2016

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

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

Glenn Esterlund of 200 Clearview Drive provided copies of the deed restrictions for the Skyview Acres private subdivision in which he lives. He feels that the Township should enforce Section 9, which refers to keeping roads in good condition. He claimed that the Township enforces the rest of the sections. Chairwoman Kleintop explained that the Township had sent letters to Kenneth George, the developer and owner of that road, in order to address the travel of Township garbage trucks on it. There has been no response. The letter gave a deadline of August 15 before garbage collection pickup locations would be changed. Solicitor Nanovic explained that the Township has no jurisdiction over private roads. Supervisor Seifert stated that current roads in subdivisions must be built to our Township's specifications but such was not the case when Mr. George was developing land. It's a private road and the issue is between him and the owners of Clearview properties. Vice-Chairman Newman suggested that a letter be drafted to Representative Doyle Heffley, expressing that for the health and safety of residents, emergency vehicles and safety personnel, to determine if there are any State laws addressing private road conditions. These roads do not belong to the Township, Mr. George owns them. It's a

Civil Court issue and the Township has no legal standing. Chairwoman Kleintop expressed concern for the garbage collection crews on the back of the truck as they collect garbage and also damage to the trucks. Supervisor Seifert stated that “time is of the essence”. Additional residents of Clearview Drive include Nancy Esterlund, Tim & Nancy Evert, Dane & Debra Grammes, Cheryl Zechman, commented, expressing concern over legal scenarios. It was suggested that Clearview residents join with the residents of another Kenneth George subdivision, Kennetta Lane, where there are similar road issues.

Chuck Laviolette provided information on current activities at the Palmerton Area Library including new electronics and computer equipment. There is an upcoming basket raffle, book sale and golf outing.

PLANS AND SUBDIVISIONS

Herbert Vollman Reverse Subdivision: Known as Sleepy Hollow Estates, this property’s owner lives in North Carolina and marketed it for sale as a single lot, not a subdivision. The Planning Commission recommended conditional approval to the Board of Supervisors. Lehigh Engineering requested a waiver for the plan scale. Ownership Certification must also be signed and notarized and the Notice of Intent statement signed by the owner prior to plan recording. Township Engineer Greg Haas has no issues with the plan.

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to approve the scale waiver, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to conditionally approve the plan, pending signatures, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Pipeline Update from *Save Carbon County*: August report provided by Paul Shinsec. Members of *Save Carbon County* will meet at the Fire Company on August 2 at 6:30 p.m. There will also be a public hearing at Penn’s Peak on August 15th, starting at 6:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Township Audit of Financial Statements received from Kirk, Summa & Co.: Chairperson Kleintop reported the audit as satisfactory.

“Violation of Burn Ban” Ordinance: This ordinance addresses penalties/fines to residents who violate a burn ban when put into effect in the Township. Notifications will not be addressed in the ordinance. Solicitor Nanovic will adjust language pertaining to fireworks, open fires and recreational fires, as discussed and re-draft the Ordinance.

Carbon County is currently under a Drought Watch. Vice-Chairman Newman asked any resident having issues with their water to contact the Township office. He is also asking the Planning Commission to brainstorm drought issues.

ROAD MASTER REPORT

The Roadmaster report was read aloud by Chairperson Kleintop.

Residents may email questions or concerns to the Roadmaster: ttroad@ptd.net

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Karl Rolappe reported that he is meeting with an agent to work on procuring a grant for extermination services for the Greenzweig School. Country Junction is donating \$150.00 toward paint for the building.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

None.

ZONING OFFICER REPORT

There is a hearing with the District Magistrate on August 25, 2016.

SEO REPORT

Available in Township office

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Liaison Eric George reported that the Fire Company received a \$7,500 matching grant from the DCNR for forestry and personal protection materials and equipment. There will be a Community Picnic on September 24 from noon to 7:00 p.m. for Township residents, free, with donations accepted. The Fire Company is still awaiting the results of the PPL energy audit/in-house survey.

Ratify Fire Co. participation in escorting the Moving Wall into Palmerton on July 21, 2016 and out of Palmerton on July 25, 2016.

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to ratify, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approve Fire Co. participation in the August 13th Nesquehoning Hose Company Parade and the September 5th Labor Day Celebration in Pen Argyl.

Motions: Supervisor Guy Seifert made Motions to approve participation in both events, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Jeremy Haydt reported on the nine calls for the month of July. Also, on behalf of the Fire Company, he thanked the Supervisors for issuing Shell Fuel cards for all of the fuel needs. He stated that the level of cooperation is encouraging.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Report is available in Township office

CORRESPONDENCE

OFFICIALS

The Supervisors encouraged residents to attend the Carbon County Fair being held August 8-13.

Chairperson Kleintop stated that the Towamensing Township Volunteer Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary is looking for volunteers.

Zoning Office Hours for August 2016: Tuesday, August 2; Wednesday, August 10; Wednesday, August 17; Wednesday, August 24 and Wednesday, August 31 - 5 p.m. to 7 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 Guy Seifert made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman. All in favor. Motion carried.

8:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda L. Drew