

**TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MEETING MINUTES**  
**TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**October 13, 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-absent; Brenda Drew, Secretary; Carl Faust, Zoning Officer-absent; Greg Haas, Engineer.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Towamensing Township Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2016

**Motion:** Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman. Chairperson Penny Kleintop abstained due to last month's absence.

Motion carried 2-0.

Bill List and Payroll from September 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.

Mary Ann Lewellyn, resident of Vaughn Acres Lane, Lehigh, read a letter on behalf of her neighbor, Patricia Kramer, resident of Vaughn Acres Lane. Chairperson Kleintop suggested that Kramer contact the Zoning Officer.

Michael Sauers, resident, discussed that he is hoping to begin nature walks for children on his property. He has contacted the Zoning Officer and is awaiting definitive answers. He wants to know whether it is permitted on his private property. It will involve 7 to 10 children and an additional adult. He has parking, a restroom and insurance. He has also undergone background checks due to his status as a retired teacher. It was determined that no permits are needed. Sauers also thanked the Township for cutting the grass shoulders rather than spraying them. With reference to the Lakeview Estates Subdivision, he asked who is responsible for verifying that the required trees have been planted, tree maintenance, damaged stop signs, street sweeping and whether the swales are in place. Greg Haas stated that the trees and swales are in place and that all maintenance operations are the responsibility of the property owners.

Mary Beth Beers, resident, reminded attendees of the October 15<sup>th</sup> Craft Fair and Basket Social being held at Towamensing Elementary School. The Historical Commission will raffle off donated baskets to raise funds for the renovation of the Greenzweig School.

## **PLANS AND SUBDIVISIONS**

Frank R. Potoczak Reverse Subdivision: Engineer Greg Haas explained that this is a simple two-lot reverse subdivision on Deer Lane which combines the owner's two adjacent lots.

**Motion:** Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion for Final Approval, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Richard Morrissey Reverse Subdivision: Township Engineer, Greg Haas and Tim Wentz, Engineer for the subdivision explained that this is the combining of the lots of the current subdivisions Beltzville Panorama B and C. It involves combining thirty-one lots to become one parcel of approximately thirty acres. Haas has concerns about the operation and maintenance of the easement driveway which serves some neighboring parcels. He has met with Solicitor Nanovic concerning some questions and language clarification. There is to be a meeting of Nanovic, Haas, a Supervisor and Alan Young, Attorney for Morrissey, early next week. Waivers are being requested for three items: 1) Plan Scale - "The Plan shall be drawn at one of the acceptable scales. The Plan is shown at 1 inch equals 100 feet", 2) "Bearings, distances and curve data for all existing lots shall be provided on the Plan", and 3) "Monuments shall be set at all exterior property corners currently without a found monument or marker".

**Motion:** Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to grant the three requested waivers, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

**Motion:** Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to table the Plan, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Chairperson Kleintop will contact Solicitor Nanovic who will contact Attorney Young in order to meet next week. She stated that there is "every intention to work it out".

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Pipeline Update from *Save Carbon County*: October report provided.

Paul Shinsec reported, summarizing the October report, stating that the pipeline is a year behind schedule and will tentatively be in operation in 2018.

Adopt Burn Ban Violation Ordinance: This ordinance addresses penalties/fines to residents who violate a burn ban when put into effect in the Township.

**Motion:** Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion for adoption, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

The Roadmaster has ordered "Burn Ban In Effect" signs to place on main roadways. Bans would be posted on the Fire Co. marquis, Township's Facebook page and website, in the glass case on the municipal building and at the County Communications Center.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Set date and time for Trick or Treat Night: October 31, 2016 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

Set date and time for Supervisor Seifert to meet with Secretary to review and finalize 2017 Budget: Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

## **ROAD MASTER REPORT**

The Roadmaster report was read aloud by Supervisor Seifert.

The Township has received the “Notice of Estimated Allocation” for Liquid Fuels 2017: \$290,559.84 – Liquid Fuels and \$3,080 - turnback allocation – read aloud by Chairperson Kleintop.

Residents may email questions or concerns to the Roadmaster: [ttroad@ptd.net](mailto:ttroad@ptd.net)

## **HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Report from Chairman: Karl Rolappe discussed the historical background of the Commission and those he referred to as the “big three”; Tom Newman, Roy Christman and Kurt Beers, who were instrumental in the founding of the organization. The Supervisors had previously accepted the 1892 Greenzweig School and signed a \$1.00 lease with the Kuehner family.

Remarks from Members: Roy Christman praised Albertine Anthony’s hard work at preserving her farm in perpetuity. It is one of the oldest barns in our Township and is unique because it is a bank barn in which you drive into the third floor rather than the second floor. This Preserved Farm can never be developed but the PennEast Pipeline has the property listed on its proposed pipeline route. Roy also discussed the customs of other countries in the world that deem specific citizens “national treasures”. In his opinion, Albertine should be designated as our “Township Treasure” for her spirit and hard work.

Awarding of the Annual Historical Preservation Award to Albertine Anthony:

Karl Rolappe presented the award, which honors a resident who maintains and/or restores a property on the Township’s Historical Index. She has been instrumental in helping to identify historical properties for the Index. Albertine’s Preserved Farm is located on Stagecoach Road East.

Vice-Chairman Newman stated that no taxpayer funds are to be used for repairs to the Greenzweig School. The Township pays for the insurance on the structure. Newman has contacts experienced in carpentry who are willing to assess the needs of the structure and work out a schedule for repairs, beginning with the exterior siding. There are pledges from various local businesses for some materials. Supervisor Seifert has donated the roof repairs, which were recently completed.

Rolappe explained the proposals from Seitz Brothers to exterminate the building and the quoted costs. An initial treatment for powder post beetles will cost \$795.00, with a one-year guarantee. The service contract covering quarterly extermination of insects and rodents will cost \$126.00 per quarter as an annual contract.

**Motion:** Vice-Chairperson Thomas Newman made Motion to approve funding the extermination for one year, seconded by Supervisor Guy Seifert.  
All in favor. Motion carried.

## **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

### **ZONING OFFICER REPORT**

Available in Township office.

### **SEO REPORT**

Available in Township office

### **FIRE COMPANY REPORT**

Fire Chief Jeremy Haydt reported on the seven calls for the month of September. He also reported that the Community Picnic held in September was a success, with a large turnout and many donations. The manpower roster has doubled. There has been lots of training and equipment maintenance occurring. There are now two Assistant Fire Chiefs – Bobby O’Donnell and Ryan Snyder. The 1986 tanker had a catastrophic engine failure and quotes for repair are being sought.

Liaison Eric George reported that the fundraising committee has been meeting. There have been discussions about once again organizing bingo. They are currently updating hall rental documents. They will also be presenting a fire-prevention program at Towamensing Elementary School in November. The Craft Fair scheduled for November has been cancelled.

Chairperson Kleintop presented a check in the amount of \$31,182.76, representing the 2016 Commonwealth State Aid Allocation, to the Towamensing Township Volunteer Fire Relief Association. This allocation is based on Township population and Real Estate Market Value as compared to the State average. Chief Haydt stated that the funds would be used to purchase turnout gear.

Vice-Chairman Newman thanked Doyle Heffley’s office, specifically Tim Berger for investigating the status of the Fire Co.’s liquor license and ServSafe certification. He stated that they were currently in a 2-year safekeeping status.

Approve Fire Police participation in the Palmerton Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 16, 2016, at 4:00 p.m.

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

Approve Fire Police participation in traffic control at the Waldorf Hotel haunted house located on Interchange Road, October 15 and October 22, 2016.

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

## **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

Vice-Chairman James Shafer reported that the Planning Commission has reviewed the Morrissey Reverse Subdivision.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Chairperson Kleintop discussed the letter received from the Palmerton Area Library requesting that the Township once again include the library's annual fund drive letter in the 2017 garbage bill mailing. Chuck Laviolette expressed his appreciation for allowing this and will provide volunteers to stuff envelopes in December.

## **OFFICIALS**

Township Engineer Greg Haas' daughter Abby was welcomed to the meeting. Her attendance was due to a school assignment from her Government class. She was to observe government in action and report back to her teacher. Chairperson Kleintop completed her necessary paperwork.

Supervisor Seifert stated that Towamensing Township Volunteer Fire Co. is looking for kitchen personnel and support staff.

There will be basket raffles held at the Jerusalem UCC and Jerusalem Lutheran Churches in the near future.

Zoning Office Hours for October 2016: Thursday, October 6; Wednesday, October 12; Wednesday, October 19; and Wednesday, October 26 - 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](mailto:bmisinspector@gmail.com)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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

8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brenda L. Drew