

TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MEETING MINUTES
TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
September 8, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Towamensing Township Meeting Minutes – August 4, 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 August 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.

George Karas, resident of 30 Beltzville Drive, Lehighton, thanked the Roadmaster, Crew and Township Engineer for cleaning up and repairing the erosion on his road.

George White, resident of 1055 Deer Lane, Lehighton, also thanked the Roadmaster and Crew for the repaving of numerous bad spots on his road.

Mary Ann Lewellyn, resident of 180 Vaughn Acres Lane, Lehighton, asked for information pertaining to the Township Noise Ordinance and who was in charge of enforcing it. Woods Campground, which is one mile from her home, is making loud noise and loudly blaring music at all hours, every weekend. Supervisor Seifert stated that the Zoning Officer is in charge of enforcement of the Ordinance but that he himself would make a call on September 9th to address the issue.

Kenny George, resident of 630 Snyders Road, Palmerton, and developer of numerous subdivisions in the Township, stated that roads within the Township have fallen into disrepair. He is upset that the newspaper reported that the roads in his subdivisions, which he and his family are responsible for maintaining, haven't

been touched in two years. He acknowledged that the Township did some blacktopping on Snyders Road though it's a partial repair with poor workmanship. He would like Supervisor Seifert to take a look at it. He also mentioned issues on West Stagecoach Road and Hickory Road. He questioned why more money wasn't spent on road improvements and reminisced about the days when he was a Supervisor and Roadmaster. Supervisor Seifert stated that the Township uses outside professionals because they do a better job, but it is more costly. He also stated that the Township has a fifteen year plan and is dedicated to spending a lot on paving to catch up and get roads resurfaced.

PLANS AND SUBDIVISIONS

Herbert Vollman Reverse Subdivision: Engineer Greg Haas stated that the Supervisors had given conditional approval last month but there were issues of the order of reviews.

Motion: Supervisor Guy Seifert made a Motion to rescind the original conditional approval, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

Richard Morrissey Reverse Subdivision: Request for additional 60-day time extension to December 5, 2016.

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

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

George White referenced an article in today's Times News in which Carbon County Commissioners submitted a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission encouraging them to withdraw its environmental impact statement. In FERC's July draft statement, they determined that the proposed 118-mile natural gas pipeline would have a "less than significant level of impact" on the numerous natural resources in the area. George discussed the amount of tourism our area attracts, especially to Jim Thorpe. He also stated that he has submitted comments to FERC regarding the agricultural impact that the proposed pipeline would have on our area.

Advertising of "Violation of Burn Ban" 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 to approve Solicitor Nanovic's advertising of the Ordinance's adoption, seconded by Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Update on conditions of Clearview Drive: There has been some work done and the garbage trucks are continuing to pick up garbage on the road.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ROAD MASTER REPORT

The Roadmaster report was read aloud by Supervisor Seifert.

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

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Vice-Chairman Newman discussed the ongoing need for extermination and various repairs. Supervisor Seifert asked to table further discussion until all three Supervisors were in attendance.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

A design photo of the proposed new sign for the Recreation Field was circulated.

ZONING OFFICER REPORT

Available in Township office.

SEO REPORT

Available in Township office

FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Fire Chief Jeremy Haydt reported on the ten calls for the month of August.

Supervisor Seifert applauded the turnout of seventeen men for a 3:00 p.m., September 7th mutual aid call. He stated that the Fire Co. is doing a great job. He also reminded residents to come out to the Community Picnic being held on September 24th from noon to 7:00 p.m. The Fire Co. will then monitor the fireworks display at the Palmerton Rod & Gun Club at 8:30 p.m.

Pioneer Challenge/Black Bear Triathlon - Status of donations: Nothing received. Supervisors asked Solicitor Nanovic to send a letter to the organization.

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

Approve Fire Co. participation in the annual Carbon County Veterans Day Parade in Palmerton on Sunday, November 6, 2016

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

Ratify additional duties of the Fire Co. for various events and duties at the Carbon County Fair on August 12, 2016.

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

All in favor. Motion carried.

Eric George stated that Lana Kuehner requested that the Fire Co. provide fire truck rides and fire prevention education at the Jerusalem United Church of Christ's annual Apple Fest on October 1, 2016.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Report is available in Township office

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OFFICIALS

Zoning Office Hours for September 2016: Tuesday, September 6; Wednesday, September 14; Thursday, September 22; and Wednesday, September 28 - 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: Vice-Chairman Thomas Newman made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Guy Seifert. All in favor. Motion carried.

7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda L. Drew