

**COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 02, 2020**

The Covington Township Board of Supervisors held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 02, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., at the Covington Township Municipal Building, Moffat Estate, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township, PA. Public participation was through the Zoom online meeting platform.

There were present: John Brostoski, Vice Chairman; Joseph Setta, Supervisor; William Fells, Supervisor; Melissa Kearney, Supervisor; Kate Tierney, Secretary / Treasurer; Douglas A Hein, Secretary/Asst. Treasurer and Joel M. Wolff, Esquire. Also present were David Lamm, Building Inspector, Ronald Donati, Zoning Officer; and Mary Lou Butler, Township Engineer. Thomas M. Yerke, Chairman was not present.

The meeting was opened with a Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Brostoski.

Because the meeting was held via Zoom, Mr. Hein had a roll call so the public knew which Board members were present.

AGENDA: *ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Fells), and carried to approve the agenda as presented.*

ANNOUNCEMENT: *Vice-Chairman Brostoski announced that an Executive Sessions were held on May 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss litigation followed by an Emergency Meeting. An Executive session was also held on June 2, 2020 at 6:40 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel issues.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: *No public comment was made on agenda items.*

MINUTES: *ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Fells), and carried to accept the minutes of the May 7, 2020 Regular meeting and the May 9, 2020 Emergency meeting.*

BILLS: *Supervisor Kearney asked if the extra charge for Microsoft was for the new laptop; Mr. Hein said it was. Supervisor Kearney asked if Solicitor Wolff's invoice could be submitted for reimbursement under the emergency COVID declaration; Mr. Wolff said it possibly could be reimbursed. Supervisor Kearney asked which building was the Community Center for the electric invoice and was informed it was the old senior center. Supervisor Kearney asked if the Township would receive a refund from the cancellation of the current Secretary/Treasurer's bond upon her retirement; she was told the Township would. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Fells), and carried to pay the bills. Mr. Hein asked for a second motion to pay an invoice for Eureka Quarry that came in after the bill pack was completed. ON MOTION duly made (Fells), seconded (Setta), and carried to pay the additional bill.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: *ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Fells), and carried to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted.*

PLANNING COMMISSION: *Vice-Chairman Brostoski stated the Planning Commission held a meeting June 1, 2020 to consider a conditional use permit for Wanda Andreoli and review a request for improvements to Langan Road. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Fells), and carried to accept the report.*

BUILDING INSPECTOR: *Building Inspector David Lamm reviewed his monthly report. ON MOTION duly made (Fells), seconded (Setta), and carried to accept the Building Inspector's report.*

ZONING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: *Zoning Office Ronald Donati reviewed his monthly report. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Fells), and carried to accept the Zoning Officer's report.*

ENGINEER: *Mary Lou Butler, Township Engineer stated she was applying for a PennDOT Multi-Modal Grant for a Langan Road project and needed Board approval to do so. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Fells), and carried to authorize Township Engineer to apply for the grant. Discussion was held about the possibility of various road projects. Ms. Butler said she believed a meeting should be held to discuss this and Mr. Brostoski said he would talk to DPW on Wednesday.*

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS: *Mr. Brostoski read Mr. Yerke's DPW report and reviewed the vehicles sold at auction. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Fells), and carried to accept the DPW report.*

POLICE DEPT: *Vice-Chairman Brostoski read the May 2020 report. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Fells), and carried to accept the May 2020 Police report. Mr. Brostoski read a letter requesting a donation of \$150 to the Lackawanna County Drug Task Force. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Fells), and carried to make the donation.*

RECREATION COMMITTEE: *No meeting was held.*

SEO REPORT: *Vice-Chairman Brostoski reviewed the March-May 2020 SEO report. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Fells), and carried to accept the March-May 2020 SEO report.*

SOLICITOR: Attorney Wolff updated the Board on the RGM Hardwoods, Inc. litigation stating he should have the order from the court by the July meeting. ON MOTION duly made (Fells), seconded (Setta), and carried to accept the Solicitor's report as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

- Mr. Brostoski read Resolution 2020-05 Updates to Personnel Manual. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Fells), and carried to approve Resolution 2020-05.
- Mr. Brostoski read Resolution 2020-06 to appoint Township Secretary/Assistant Treasurer as liaison between the Board of Supervisors and Berkheimer for EIT and LST. ON MOTION duly made (Setta), seconded (Fells), and carried to approve Resolution 2020-06.
- Mr. Brostoski read Resolution 2020-07 authorizing the Chairman to sign Lackawanna County Community Re-invest grant application for \$5,000 grant toward purchase of a police vehicle. ON MOTION duly made (Kearney), seconded (Fells), and carried to approve Resolution 2020-07.
- Authorization was given Mr. Hein to advertise Floodplain Ordinance 2020-02.
- Authorization was given Mr. Hein to advertise PMRS Changes Ordinance 2020-03.
- No discussion was held on preparing Township office for reopening.
- Emergency Declaration of April 22, 2020, extended to June 3, 2020 was further extended to July 7, 2020.
- The Board of Supervisors June 30, 2020 work session was cancelled.

NEW BUSINESS: The 2019 Liquid Fuels audit was accepted. Mr. Hein stated there were no findings. ON MOTION duly made (Fells), seconded (Setta), and carried to accept the Auditor's report as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

- WC Insurance Audit recommended formation of a safety committee. Mr. Brostoski asked how many people would need to be on the committee. Mr. Hein said he would investigate and have an answer for the July meeting. Mr. Hein stated the Township would save 5% on the premium, or approximately \$1,400 per year. The Board agreed to move forward.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

SUPERVISORS COMMENT: Supervisor Kearney stated she was told the leaking roof in the mansion was now causing water problems on the first floor. It was said quotes need to be gotten; Mr. Yerke's DPW report states he spoke with four contractors, three were interested and he has yet to meet with them. Mr. Brostoski said he would speak to Mr. Yerke. Supervisor Kearney asked if her neighbor who hauls stone from his property with big trucks should put up warning signs in the road; the Board felt it would be a good idea. Ms. Butler said they should first get a PennDOT manual for signage in order to put up the correct signs and don't face liability.

PUBLIC COMMENT: David Lamm stated he was told Comcast has special rates for seniors and the Township would have to inquire on behalf of them. Attorney Wolff instructed Mr. Hein to review the cable franchise agreement. At this point (7:52 p.m., the Zoom meeting platform timed out.)

ADJOURNMENT: ON MOTION duly made (Fells), seconded (Setta), and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas A. Hein, Secretary

APPROVED: