

COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 7, 2022

The June 7, 2022 Monthly Meeting of the Covington Township Board of Supervisors was called to order with a Pledge of Allegiance at 7:01 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township, PA 18444, by Chairwoman Melissa Kearney.

Present: Chairwoman Melissa Kearney, Vice Chairwoman Vicki Williams, Supervisor Marshall Peirce, Supervisor William Willson, Attorney Samantha Hazen, and Secretary Melinda Musso.

Absent: Supervisor Wanda Andreoli, Attorney Joel Wolff

Also present: Police Chief Robert Bastek, Engineer Mary Lou Butler, Zoning Officer Ronald Donati, Building Inspector David Lamm, and Road Master Thomas Hall.

AGENDA:

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to add single audit for DCED regarding Bochicchio Boulevard and Moffat Drive road projects.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Peirce), and carried to accept the revised agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

OPEN BIDS:

Roller: No bids were received.

There was a discussion on since two bids have been completed, the township can just make the purchase. ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to purchase a roller not to exceed \$60,000.00.

Langan Road Project:

BIDDER	BASE BID	ADD ALTERNATE BID 1	TOTAL
Wayco, Inc.	\$969,583.00	\$114,402.00	\$1,083,985.00
Pioneer Construction Company, Inc.	\$1,135,070.00	\$176,235.00	\$1,311,305.00
James T. O'Hara, Inc.	\$1,060,150.00	\$190,460.00	\$1,250,610.00
American Asphalt	\$943,675.00	\$169,265.00	\$1,112,940.00

MaryLou Butler advised the base bids were all over the amount of the grant. There was a discussion on the grant amount, consulting with the treasurer and engineer to see if this project is feasible.

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to take the bids under review and arrange a meeting with Diana Patton, Mary Lou Butler, Marshall Peirce, and any other supervisors that are interested.

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to advertise for a special meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to address the bids for Langan Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

MINUTES: ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the minutes from March 29, 2022 Knox Box Hearing minutes, May 3, 2022 Meeting minutes, May 31, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes, and the May 31, 2022 Work Session minutes.

BILLS: ON MOTION duly made by (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to pay the bills.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Chairwoman Kearney commented on the amount listed for recycled materials from spring cleanup and then asked for a motion. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

Repository Sales re: Delbert Dr. CC-87, CC-91, CC-92; English Way DD-134: These are all from Big Bass Lake Community. ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Willson), and carried to approve the repository sales.

Hire full-time road laborer re: Donald Cook: There was a brief discussion. ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to hire Donald Cook as a full-time road worker at \$20.00 per hour.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Chairwoman Kearney read the Planning Commission's report.

Nammo Pocal, Inc. Lot Improvement with contingencies: Planning Commission recommended approval contingent upon submission of a Land Development Plan within three months and verification of setbacks abutting RR District. George Parker presented drawings and spoke on the property, then requested approval from the Board. There was a lengthy discussion concerning the contingencies, the possibility of showing progress over the next month on the Land Development Plan for approval prior to submission, and what things will be held up without having this Lot Improvement approval tonight. After a lengthy discussion, Supervisor Peirce and Attorney Hazen suggested following the Planning Commission's recommendations.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Peirce), and carried to table this until the July 5, 2022 meeting to consider approval after Mr. Parker comes back to show his progress on the land development.

Recommendation to hire Mindy Hughes as Planning Commission Secretary: There was a discussion on the salary compared to previous secretary's wages.

ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to hire Mindy Hughes as the Planning Commission Secretary at \$250.00 per month. Chairwoman Melissa Kearney abstained from the vote because Mindy Hughes is her sister.

ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Planning Commission's report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

David Lamm reviewed his monthly report. ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Peirce), and carried to accept the Building Inspector's monthly report.

ZONING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Ronald Donati reviewed his monthly report. There was a lengthy discussion on the status of the following properties: Sheridan property, DeMarco property, complaints on a property in Skyline Acres with a stagnant pool, the Hnatko property, and Knecht's property. Mr. Donati asked for guidance and the Board advised him to follow the Zoning Ordinance.

Roz Davis asked if complaints have been received about a woman on Route 502 that's blowing gravel and debris into the roadway while cars are passing. There was further discussion on if something can be done and it is a police matter.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Zoning Code Enforcement Officer's monthly report.

ENGINEER:

Mary Lou Butler reviewed her monthly report.

Multimodal Grant: Mrs. Butler advised the Multimodal grant is due on July 31, 2022 and asked for approval to present at the July meeting.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Peirce), and carried to allow Mary Lou Butler to prepare the application for the multimodal grant for A.M. Hughes Boulevard.

Single Audit re: Bochicchio Boulevard & Moffat Drive projects: Mrs. Butler advised the township treasurer is working on getting a CPA to complete the required audits needed from DCED on the Bochicchio Boulevard and Moffat Drive road project grants.

ON MOTION duly made (Peirce), seconded (Williams), and carried to allow a CPA to complete the single audits on grants received for DCED.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Engineer's monthly report.

SOLICITOR: Nothing to report

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Road Inspection: Mr. Peirce advised the road inspection was done by Tom Hall, Missy Kearney and himself. There was a discussion on road repairs with a rented tar buggy in the fall.

Sell Equipment: Mr. Peirce would like to put things on Municibid, with pictures and a description, where it won't cost the township anything and the bidder would pay a 9% buyer's premium. There was a discussion on advertising requirements for public auction. Attorney Hazen will look into this requirement and let the Board know.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to sell the items submitted by the Director of Public Works on Municibid after we receive the advertising requirements.

Millings: The township is having difficulty purchasing millings from PennDOT and is attempting to order 1,000 square yards of millings for \$5,000.00. There was discussion on sharing equipment with other townships and where the millings will be stored.

Union Mill Road billing for developer: Mrs. Butler is gathering information to be added regarding employee's time spent working there. Chairwoman Kearney advised the township treasurer is also working on this.

Patio stonework: There was a discussion regarding the original amount of the contract and the township saved money by paying it on an hourly wage. There was further discussion on continuing further repairs on the patio stonework at the hourly rate option.

Mr. Peirce advised the Knox Box was installed at the mansion.

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to accept the Director of Public Works monthly report.

ROADMASTER:

Thomas Hall reviewed his monthly report. ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Williams), and carried to accept the Roadmaster's monthly report.

MOFFAT MAINTENANCE:

Chairwoman Kearney read the Moffat Maintenance report. There was a discussion regarding bugs and ducks. Ms. Musso was asked to have Mr. Hallock call Mr. Peirce on the issue.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Peirce), and carried to accept the Moffat Maintenance report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Bastek reviewed his monthly report.

Breaching Equipment: Chief Bastek advised the equipment was sold out and would like to table this item for now.

Breathalyzer: Chief Bastek asked to purchase three breathalyzers at \$139.99 plus extra mouth pieces.

Trauma Kit: Chief Bastek asked to purchase four trauma bags at \$199.99 each.

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Peirce), and carried to purchase breathalyzers and trauma kits at the rate Chief Bastek stated.

Chief Bastek advised the Buckle Up enforcement has been completed. Roz Davis asked if the police department has head protection and Chief Bastek advised that they do, along with shields.

ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Police Department's monthly report.

RECREATION COMMITTEE: No report submitted

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Chairwoman Kearney read the Sewage Enforcement Officers report. ON MOTION duly made (Williams), seconded (Willson), and carried to accept the Sewage Enforcement Officer's monthly report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Letter dated 5/10/22 from Fire Chief Jones re: Ordinance 1997-02 enforcement: There was a discussion on meeting with Fire Chief Jones and working on a new ordinance.

May 31, 2022 Letter from Lackawanna County Assoc. of Township Officials re: convention, ad, and dues: Chairwoman Kearney announced the Annual conference is August 18, 2022. There was a discussion on the dues payment approved in the bill list, updating and renewing the half page ad, and R.S.V.P. by August 1st. Those interested in going need to let Ms. Musso know.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairwoman Melissa Kearney read a thank you note by the Covington Independent Fire Company. She announced the following correspondence with no further comment from the Board:

May 11, 2022 letter from Lackawanna County Conservation District re: 100 First Ave. expansion:

May 11, 2022 letter from PA DEP re: Al's Quick Stop:

May 11, 2022 memo from PA DEP re: Al's quick Stop:

Covington EMS Monthly Report – May 2022:

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

Supervisor Willson spoke about the North Pocono Public Library's fundraiser.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Roz Davis asked about the status of the Auditor's report. Chairwoman Kearney explained they were having trouble getting together to meet.

Roz Davis asked if the township received confirmation from the Governor regarding Mr. Willson as our EMA Officer. Chairwoman Kearney advised the township hasn't. Mr. Willson discussed not having time for the paperwork and having more time now.

Roz Davis mentions Ms. Kearney bringing up executive sessions needing to be announced with the subject matter, without stating any names. Ms. Davis asked if the Board would resume stating the topic and subject matter of their executive sessions to which the Board agreed.

ADJOURNMENT:

ON MOTION duly made (Willson), seconded (Peirce), and carried to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Musso, Secretary

Approved: