

**TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
October 27, 2022
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM**

The Public Meeting of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners was held on the above date in the Township Municipal Building located at 2900 South Pike Avenue, Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Brinton asked everyone to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Brinton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Brinton turned the proceedings over to Mr. Sandy Nicolo, Assistant Township Manager.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Debra Brinton, President
Rodney Conn, Vice-President
Heather Lipkin, President Pro-Tempore
Alok Patnaik
Alex Karol

Staff Present:

Cathy Bonaskiewich, Township Manager – EXCUSED
Sandy Nicolo, Assistant Township Manager/Code Enforcement Director/MS4 Coordinator
Paul Ziegenfus, Finance Director
James Levernier, Director of Public Works
Kevin Soberick, Chief of Police
John Ashley, Esquire, representative of Davison & McCarthy, Township Solicitor
David Tettermer, representative of Keystone Consulting Engineers, Township Engineer

NOTIFICATION

Mr. Nicolo informed the attendees that all sessions of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners regular meetings are recorded electronically for the purpose of taking the Minutes. All public comments on agenda items will be taken prior to the vote. All public comment related to non-agenda items will be taken after the agenda has been satisfied. Mr. Nicolo reminded everyone of the three-minute rule and asked that anyone who wishes to speak, come to the podium, announce oneself, and sign-in with name and address so as to assist Township administration with follow-ups.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Chief Soberick presented a Life Saving Award to Mr. Ronald Diehl for his heroic actions after an aviation accident on September 28, 2022.

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND LIST OF BILLS PAYABLE

Motion by Commissioner Patnaik, seconded by Commissioner Conn, to approve the unaudited Financial Report for the period ending September 30, 2022, and the list of Bills Payable for the period 10/8/22–10/21/22, broken down as follows:

\$150,373.11 = GENERAL
\$1,978.56 = FIRE
\$0 = LIBRARY
\$11,911.91 = WATER
\$19,947.40 = SEWER
\$1,476.43 = REFUSE & RECYCLING
\$351,157.26 = HIGHWAY AID
\$25,363.47 = CAPITAL GENERAL
\$562,208.14 = GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER KAROL: YES
COMMISSIONER PATNAIK: YES
COMMISSIONER CONN: YES
COMMISSIONER LIPKIN: YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON: YES

The Motion passed 5-0.

MINUTES

September 22, 2022.

Commissioner Brinton declared the Minutes from September 22, 2022 accepted as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTIONS

Motion Awarding Bid for Cardinal Drive Sewer Pump Station Generator Upgrade Project to Billitier Electric in the amount of \$62,839, plus \$900 daily cost for Temporary Power Source.

Mr. Tettemer stated that three bids were received with Billitier Electric as the lowest responsible bidder. He noted that they have previously done work in the Township so he is recommending awarding the bid to them. Mr. Tettemer stated that the generator is only expected to be down for one to two days, at most.

Motion by Commissioner Karol, seconded by Commissioner Patnaik, to award the bid for the Cardinal Dive Sewer Pump Station Generator Upgrade Project to Billitier Electric in the amount of \$62,839, plus a \$900 daily cost for temporary power source.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER KAROL: YES
COMMISSIONER PATNAIK: YES
COMMISSIONER CONN: YES
COMMISSIONER LIPKIN: YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON: YES

The Motion passed 5-0.

Motion Accepting Time Extension Granted for Land Development at 3380 Lehigh Street.

Mr. Tettemer commented that the project was given recommendation of conditional approval by the Planning Commission, but the developer is finalizing some engineering comments on the plans and it will not be completed in time to meet the ordinance requirements. He stated a time extension is requested through March 31, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Patnaik, to accept the time extension granted for Land Development at 3380 Lehigh Street.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

Motion Accepting Time Extension Granted for Land Development at 1525 E Susquehanna Street.

Mr. Tettemer noted that the time extension request is through January 25, 2023, but the developer has indicated that they plan to resubmit to the Planning Commission for the November meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Patnaik, to accept the time extension granted for Land Development at 1525 E Susquehanna Street.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

ORDINANCES

None.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Authorizing Entering into Easement Agreement(s) with Property Owners along Lehigh Parkway North for Water Line Construction and Maintenance.

Mr. Tettemer stated that an agreement was made to install a 6" water line along with a fire hydrant to service five dwellings. He stated that this agreement will give the Township access rights to the existing easement in order to build the water line and maintain it.

Commission Patnaik inquired if the easement agreement ever expires. Attorney Ashley stated that the agreement is indefinite as long as there is a water line in case there is ever a problem with it.

Motion by Commissioner Lipkin, seconded by Commissioner Conn, to adopt Resolution No. 10-2022-1758, authorizing entering into Easement Agreement(s) with Property Owners along Lehigh Parkway North for Water Line Construction and Maintenance.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

Resolution Accepting the Retirement of Mr. Kevin J. Soberick.

Motion by Commissioner Patnaik, seconded by Commissioner Conn, to adopt Resolution No. 10-2022-1756, accepting the retirement of Mr. Kevin J. Soberick.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Firearms to Mr. Kevin J. Soberick.

Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Karol, to adopt Resolution No. 10-2022-1757, authorizing the transfer of firearms to Mr. Kevin J. Soberick.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Mr. John Gregory of 1302 Garden Avenue brought forth numerous concerns about the property at 1325 Garden Avenue. Chief Soberick and Mr. Nicolo both stated they are aware of the issues at the property and they will follow-up with his concerns. Mr. Gregory noted that he will also follow-up with animal control.

A resident brought forth a request to have a stop sign installed at the intersection of Van Vetchen and Garden Avenues. Mr. Levernier stated that in order to add a new stop sign, the Township Engineer would have to do a traffic study in the area and petition PennDOT for approval of the stop sign. He noted that they typically will not approve a stop sign if it is only being used for traffic enforcement like speeding.

Ms. Holly Weiss of 1250 Voortman Avenue expressed concerns regarding the speed of drivers on Van Vetchen Avenue, Garden Avenue and Voortman Avenue, especially during the elementary school dismissal time. Chief Soberick stated that the Police Department can do additional enforcement in the area.

Mr. Al Abrecht of 923 E Federal Street expressed concerns about the hiring process for the new Police Chief. He also thanked the Department of Public Works for their work on Tweed Avenue but expressed concerns about the length of time it took for them to complete the job.

Ms. Rose Mary Canon, mother of Chief Soberick, thanked the Board for their support of the Police Department.

Corporal Kevin Kress, Eastern Salisbury Fire Department Chief Ian Dodson and Sergeant Chris Casey all thanked Chief Soberick for his dedication, leadership and service.

The Board expressed their thanks and appreciation to Chief Soberick for his years of service.

Chief Soberick thanked the Board and the police officers for their support.

Commissioner Brinton stated that an Executive Session was held on October 26th to conduct interviews for Chief of Police, and she announced that Donald Sabo has been appointed to that position.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Conn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Karol seconded the motion. The time was 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Nicolo
Assistant Township Secretary

These constitute the official Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on October 27, 2022.

Approved and certified on this date:

Sandy Nicolo

Date: _____

SEAL