

**TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 23, 2023
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 stated that an Executive Session will take place after the approval of the Bills List and Minutes to discuss personal matters.

Commissioner Brinton turned the proceedings over to Ms. Cathy Bonaskiewich, 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
Sandy Nicolo, Assistant Township Manager/Code Enforcement Director/MS4 Coordinator
Paul Ziegenfus, Finance Director
James Levernier, Director of Public Works
Donald Sabo, Chief of Police
Jason Ulrich, Esquire, representative of Gross McGinley, LLP, Township Solicitor
Charlie Myers, representative of Barry Isett & Associates, Township Engineer
Genny Baillie, Recreation Director

NOTIFICATION

Ms. Bonaskiewich 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. Ms. Bonaskiewich 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.

APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF BILLS PAYABLE

Motion by Commissioner Karol, seconded by Commissioner Conn, to approve the list of Bills Payable for the period 3/4/23–3/17/23, broken down as follows:

\$162,471.74 = GENERAL
\$4,3647.38 = FIRE
\$0 = LIBRARY
\$25,014.62 = WATER
\$14,077.18 = SEWER
\$1,780.69 = REFUSE & RECYCLING
\$12,659.95 = HIGHWAY AID
\$804.20 = CAPITAL GENERAL
\$51,504.50 = SUBDIVISION ESCROW FUN
\$272,606.26 = GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays.

MINUTES

March 9, 2023

Commissioner Brinton declared the Minutes from March 9, 2023 accepted as presented.

***At this time, the Board convened into an Executive Session and then reconvened at 7:10.**

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

None.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Consenting to Western Salisbury Volunteer Fire Company's Fire Station Renovation Project and Authorizing Township Assistance and Action as Necessary.

Attorney Rich Campbell of King, Spry, Herman, Freund & Faul, LLC, acting as counsel for Western Salisbury Volunteer Fire Company, stated that as part of the IRS code, a TEFRA hearing was held earlier this evening, and now the Board must pass a Resolution that states the project supports the health, safety and welfare of the Township. He noted that there is no obligation to the Township, and the Township is not guaranteeing the debt; it is just satisfying the IRS requirement.

Motion by Commissioner Patnaik, seconded by Commissioner Conn, to adopt Resolution No. 03-2023-1779, consenting to Western Salisbury Volunteer Fire Company's Fire Station Renovation Project and authorizing Township assistance and action as necessary.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

MOTIONS

Motion Appointing Mr. Michael Ciamacco to the Building Code Board of Appeals.

Ms. Bonaskiewich noted that there has been a vacancy on the BCBOA since January 1, 2023. She stated that Mr. Ciamacco will act as the Third Ward representative to the Board, so Commissioner Brinton should make the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Brinton, seconded by Commissioner Conn, to appoint Mr. Michael Ciamacco to the Building Code Board of Appeals.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

Motion Appointing Detectives from the Promotional Eligibility List.

Motion by Commissioner Patnaik, seconded by Commissioner Conn, to promote Mr. Diano Reavis to the rank of Detective/Corporal.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Lipkin, to promote Mr. Thomas Sabulsky to the rank of Detective/Corporal.

Motion Authorizing Township Personnel to Proceed with Salisbury Township Police Training Facility Plans.

Commissioner Brinton inquired about installing ballistic safety baffles to prevent rounds from leaving the range due to accidental discharge. Chief Sabo stated that he has spoken to the engineer and they are doing research to find out what the industry standard is as well as what is permitted.

Commissioner Brinton also inquired about fencing. Chief Sabo stated that proposed is an eight-foot high, chain-link fence with plastic inserts that will help with noise absorption and should move the sound upward. He noted that the fencing will be installed on top of the 16-foot high berms and will go around the entire perimeter of the facility.

Commissioner Karol inquired if this is the last time the Board will see this project. Ms. Bonaskiewich explained that this Motion represents the Board deciding to move forward with the project, or not, but if it does move forward, then it will go before the Planning Commission as a Land Development Plan.

Motion by Commissioner Karol, seconded by Commissioner Lipkin, to authorize Township Personnel to proceed with the Salisbury Township Police Training Facility Plans.

The Board voted: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Chief Sabo stated that last March, the Police Department applied for the Casino Local Share Grant and they were just awarded \$120,518 for upgrades of technology, which includes body cameras, car cameras, and other technological advancements.

Ms. Jennifer Conrad of 1783 New York Avenue expressed concerns about deer hunting at Franko Park. She noted that last fall, she witnessed hunters in the tree line of the soccer field and found arrows on the fields at both Franko and Dodson Parks as well as in the batting cage at Franko. She suggested working to find a plan that still allows deer hunting, but not right next to the sports fields.

Commissioner Brinton inquired about utilizing the field at Laubach. Mr. Levernier replied that until the Master Site Plan is completed at Laubach, the field is only set up for football, and the field crosses two of the outfields of the baseball fields. In addition, there are no goals in place at Laubach for soccer. He explained that when the renovations at Laubach done, there will be a football/soccer field across the bottom of the park, but as of right now, it would not be feasible to have both soccer and baseball sports there.

Chief Sabo stated that he met with the PA Game Commission at Franko and there are several feasible options. He noted that because Franko is Township property, the Township can post zones of no hunting, which could be behind the soccer field. Commissioner Brinton inquired as to who would enforce those zones. Chief Sabo stated that the other thing they spoke about was renewing the MOU with the Game Commission for their enforcement to include Franko. He commented that doing so would give the Game Commission the ability to enforce more ordinances and laws that are Township regulations, in addition to the state laws. Chief Sabo noted that as of now, there are no zones or signage because of the way the Ordinance reads, and he suggested determining those no hunting zones before next hunting season.

Ms. Conrad also expressed concerns regarding speeding on Park Avenue and requested a speed limit sign be posted so it can be enforced. Chief Sabo stated that just because there is no speed limit sign posted, does not mean there is no speed limit. He commented that Park Ave is not listed on the 25 mph roads so the speed limit would be 35 mph. Chief Sabo noted that in order for the Police Department to even issue a citation, the vehicle must be traveling at a minimum of 10 mph over the speed limit, which is 45 mph. He explained that there is no way to do speed timing other than a stop watch and white lines painted on the street with the 100-foot distance needed. Chief Sabo stated that the NRAD laser cannot be used there because the street is too short.

A discussion ensued regarding the Radar Bill. Commissioner Brinton inquired if the Township controls the speed limit on Park Avenue. Chief Sabo stated that it does and the Ordinance would have to be amended to Park Avenue on the list of 25 mph streets. A discussion ensued regarding the intersection of Emmaus Avenue, Broadway, Seidersville Road and East Susquehanna Street.

Commissioner Patnaik commented that if the Ordinance is changed to make Park Avenue 25 mph, two speed limit signs would be needed and he inquired if that street is long enough for two signs. Mr. Levernier stated while there is a maximum distance between signs, they could be closer.

Ms. Karin Holliday of 2005 Church Road reiterated the comments about deer hunting at Franko. She noted that she has also found an arrow on the soccer field.

Mr. Bruce Burchard of 2025 Church Road requested that the Police Department develop a policy and procedure for the police training facility, detailing when it can be used, who will be allowed there, etc. Commissioner Brinton stated that Chief Sabo will follow-up on the idea.

Ms. Baillie stated that the Egg Hunt will be held on April 1st at 10:00 am at Lindberg Park. She announced that Salisbury Night at the Iron Pigs will be Thursday, June 29th. Ms. Baillie noted that she is in the process of collecting playground counselor applications for the Summer Playground Program and they are due by March 31st. Ms. Baillie commented that the pickleball courts at Green Acres Park as well as the tennis courts at Devonshire are finished. She stated that the Laubach tennis courts are striped for pickleball and River Road Park has gone through a total transformation. Ms. Baillie also announced that a tree has been planted at Franko Park for a Christmas tree lighting event in December.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Patnaik made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lipkin seconded the motion. The time was 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Bonaskiewich
Township Secretary

These constitute the official Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on March 23, 2023.

Approved and certified on this date:

Cathy Bonaskiewich

Date: _____

SEAL