

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING HELD
July 18, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Butler Township Board of Commissioners was held on July 18, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Butler Township Municipal Building, 290 S. Duffy Road, Butler, PA 16001. The following commissioners were present: Pres. Dave Zarnick, Vice-Pres. Sam Zurzolo, Commis. Joe Wiest, Commis. Charles M. Nedz and Commis. James Lokhaiser, Jr.

Also present were Manager Ed Kirkwood, Assistant Manager Cheryl McNeill, Solicitor Larry Lutz, Zoning Officer Jesse Hines, Police Chief John Hays and Township Engineer Dan Deiseroth.

Commis. Zarnick called the meeting to order followed by a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Commis. Zarnick asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the July 6, 2016 meeting. There being none, the minutes will stand as presented.

Commis. Zarnick noted receipt of the monthly Fire/Zoning Department report.

Commis. Nedz had nothing to report.

Commis. Lokhaiser reported that Commis. Zarnick, Commis. Zurzolo and he attended the dedication ceremony at Butler Township Volunteer Fire District 3 (BTVFD 3) on Saturday. They dedicated their new Engine and Rescue Truck. Also in attendance were Butler County Commissioners Kim Geyer and Kevin Boozel, State Representative Brian Ellis and United States Congressmen Mike Kelly. He thanked BTVFD 3 President Bob Cordray for the invitation and BTVFD 3 Lieutenant Joe LaDue for planning the event.

Commis. Lokhaiser reported that the next Fire Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 20th and is open to the public.

Commis. Lokhaiser reported that Hob Nob Theatre will be presenting "The Taming of the Shrew" at Preston Park on July 22nd, 23rd and 24th and July 29th, 30th and 31st. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased at www.hobnobtheatre.com/tickets.

Commis. Zurzolo also thanked BTVFD 3 for the invitation to their dedication ceremony. It was a very enjoyable event. He thanked the volunteer fire departments for their service.

Commis. Zurzolo reported on the recycling event held at the township building on July 9th. He thanked Commis. Lokhaiser and Commis. Zarnick for their assistance. It was a very successful event.

Commis. Zurzolo commented that with recent events he asked that the police department be extra cautious while on patrol.

Commis. Wiest reported that the paving projects will begin on July 19th. The first five streets to be completed are South Duffy Road, Colleen Street, Steelton Avenue, Mellon Street, Weir Avenue. Seventeen streets are scheduled to be paved this year. The Road Department has been busy and the Seal Coat Projects are also scheduled to begin this week.

Commis. Zarnick reported that he attended the Butler Transit Authority meeting. He also attended the Pennsylvania Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team demonstration at BC3. South Butler Volunteer Fire Department members also participated in the event.

Commis Zarnick wished the twelve year old Butler Township baseball team well in their tournament.

Commis. Zarnick gave congratulation to Chris Smith, son of Kevin Smith, for achieving a world record for his age group in weight lifting. He is eighteen years old.

Manager Kirkwood reported that he received the Butler County-City Connoquenessing Creek Flood Control Authority Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2015. He has reviewed the report and everything is in order.

Manager Kirkwood reported that on August 4th negotiation meetings will commence with the Road Department Union and the Police Clerks Union.

Assistant Manager McNeill had nothing to report.

Chief Hays reported on the McCalmont Road Railroad Crossing issue. He stated that he spoke with the railroad dispatcher about the incident who stated that unless they are contacted when an incident is occurring, they cannot address the issue. Chief Hays advised the residents and the board that if they witness an issue in the future, please call 911 and the township police department will be dispatched to investigate the incident.

Chief Hays commented on the police situation in Dallas and stated that the Butler Township Police Department has received an outpouring of support from the community and it is appreciated. He stated that the department has always received support from the community.

Commis. Zarnick asked Chief Hays to contact the coordinator of the local crime watch organization in the township to make arrangements to coordinate activities at Kiddie City for the annual "Night Out" event scheduled for Tuesday, August 2nd.

Solicitor Lutz had nothing to report.

Engineer Deiseroth had nothing to report.

Zoning Officer Hines had nothing to report.

Commis. Zarnick asked for public comment on agenda items. There was none.

Zoning Officer Hines presented information on the Stockman Subdivision on Oakdale Road. The plan proposes a lot line revision. The plan would require a

modification for an odd shaped lot. The Planning Commission recommended approval contingent upon razing of the accessory buildings within ninety days of approval. He recommended approval of the plan with this contingency.

Engineer Deiseroth and Solicitor Lutz gave no objection to the approval recommendation, as presented.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to grant a modification for an odd shaped lot. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to grant final approval of the Stockman Subdivision contingent upon razing of the accessory buildings within ninety days of approval. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Officer Hines presented information on the Roe/Rocco Subdivision on Meridian Road and Fontana Street. The plan proposes a lot line revision. It would require a modification for odd shaped lot. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the plan with this modification. He recommended approval with the modification.

Engineer Deiseroth and Solicitor Lutz gave no objection to the approval recommendation, as presented.

Motion by Commis Nedz to grant a modification for odd shaped lot. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to grant final approval of the Roe/Rocco Subdivision. Seconded by Commis. Zarnick. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Officer Hines presented information on the Gaiser Building Addition Land Development on Old Plank Road. The Gaiser Center went in front of the Zoning Hearing Board for approval for expansion of a non-conforming use on their parcel and a special exception approval for reduction of parking spaces. Both requests were granted. The Planning Commission recommended approval with contingencies. He recommended approval of the plan contingent upon compliance with Gateway Engineers' letter dated July 18, 2016, posting of financial security in an amount and form acceptable to the Township Solicitor, executed Developer's Agreement, and receipt of DEP approved planning module.

Engineer Deiseroth presented information on Gateway's letter dated July 18, 2016. He recommended approval of the plan with the contingencies.

Linda Franiewski, Director of the Gaiser Center, spoke concerning the need for the addition. The addition will allow the center to separate the men and the women while they are seeking treatment. The addition will be a separate facility for women with a maximum capacity of sixteen beds. The Gaiser Center has been serving the

community since 1971 and has been on Old Plank Road since 1974. They offer addiction recovery programs for up to a ninety day in-house program. A discussion followed.

Solicitor Lutz gave no objection to the approval recommendation, as presented.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to pass Resolution 16-26 granting final approval of the Gaiser Building Addition Land Development contingent upon:

1. Compliance with Gateway Engineers' letter dated July 18, 2016,
2. Posting of financial security in an amount and form acceptable to the Township Solicitor,
3. Executed Developer's Agreement, and
4. Receipt of DEP approved planning module.

Seconded by Commis. Zurzolo. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zamick: Yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Officer Hines presented the ninety day extension request by Keystone Ridge. He recommended approval.

Motion by Commis. Wiest to pass Resolution 16-27, extending the Keystone Ridge final approval until October 17, 2016. Seconded by Commis. Zurzolo. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zamick: Yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Officer Hines presented the ninety day extension request by Bright Hope Community Church. He recommended approval.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to pass Resolution 16-28, extending the Bright Hope Community Church final approval until October 17, 2016. Seconded by Commis. Wiest. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zamick: Yes. Motion carried.

Manager Kirkwood reported that the next agenda item was opening of bids for Janitorial Services. He stated that no bids were received. He suspects that no bids were received because of the requirement for bonding. He asked for direction from the board as to re-advertising with the bonding requirement removed. A discussion followed. The board gave approval to re-advertise for janitorial services with the bonding requirement removed.

Engineer Deiseroth requested the authorization for payment No. 6 to R. & B. Construction for work completed on the Storm Water Project for Cupps Road in the amount of \$144,218.43. Engineer Deiseroth gave an update on the Storm Water Project. A discussion followed.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to authorize payment No. 6 to R. & B. Construction for work completed on the Storm Water Project for Cupps Road in the amount of \$144,218.43. Seconded by Commis. Wiest. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zamick: Yes. Motion carried.

Manager Kirkwood presented information concerning the timeline for scheduling police interviews and the interview process for police officers. Based on his review of the budget, August 22nd is the date when a new officer can begin employment without negatively impacting the budget. A discussion followed.

Chief Hays presented information on the manpower factors to consider for maintaining the current number of police officers in the department. He believes additional officers would enable the department to be more proactive and continue to handle the requests and needs of the community. He also believes the current budgeted number of officers meets the needs and requests of the community at a minimum. A discussion followed. Commis. Zarnick requested that Manager Kirkwood and Chief Hays conduct research on local police departments to do a comparison to determine manpower needs for the department. The discussion continued.

Motion by Commis. Lokhaiser to begin the interview process to have an officer hired by August 22, 2016. Seconded by Commis. Nedz. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Manager Kirkwood reviewed the bills report and the following totals were noted: General Fund - \$145,504.94; Stormwater Capital Fund - \$3,748.75; Capital Equipment Fund - \$9,780.00; Highway Aid Fund - \$60,826.05; Park Development Fund - \$338.48; General Fund (added after June Bills Report) - \$16,800.60; Stormwater Capital Fund (paid after June Bills Report) - \$8,134.40; Payroll Fund (prior month)(3 pay month)- \$383,851.95.

Motion by Commis. Lokhaiser to pay the bills as per the bills report, seconded by Commis. Wiest. The vote was Lokhaiser: Yes; Nedz: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Commis. Zarnick asked for public comment on any item of concern.

Anne Marie Bogden, 114 Old Eberhart Road, thanked Commis. Zarnick and the board for fighting to keep the Lions Road Bridge open. She believes that closing the bridge would be a detriment to the residents in the area and emergency services in the township. Commis. Zarnick responded by saying that Manager Kirkwood and he are continuing to fight to keep the bridge open.

Helen Eisler, 109 Main Street, Lyndora, thanked the board and Zoning Officer Jesse Hines for their attention to the building at the corner of Main Street and Chesapeake. It has been cleaned up a lot. She requested that the condition of the house at 111 Main Street, Lyndora be addressed. Zoning Officer Hines stated that it is an abandoned house. Letters and citations have been sent out concerning grass ordinance violations. The owner lives in California. The township is still actively seeking compliance with the house. A dangerous and unsafe structure notice was mailed in March. Since then the house has been secured. The owner's intent is to fix the house up. At this time the zoning officer has not seen any activity, but he will continue to monitor the situation and continue to work through the process of bringing the property into compliance.

Karen Marshall, 208 North Duffy Road, asked if North Duffy Road is going to be resurfaced in the near future. Manager Kirkwood stated that he is currently in talks with PA American Water Company about repairing the road due to the water line installation project that they are conducting. A discussion followed. Commis. Wiest recommended that we revisit our ordinance in regards to requirements for repairing the roads after utilities make maintenance repairs to their lines.

Questions were taken from the media.

Motion was made by Commis. Zarnick to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM, seconded by Commis. Nedz and carried unanimously.

Theresa Giesler
