

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING HELD  
April 16, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Butler Township Board of Commissioners was held on April 16, 2018 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. Joseph A. Wiest, Commis. James Lokhaiser, Jr. and Commis. Fred M. Vero.

Also present were Manager Edward Kirkwood, Asst. Manager Cheryl McNeill, Solicitor Larry Lutz, Zoning Officer Jesse Hines, Township Engineer Dennis Flynn, Public Works Superintendent Tom Knights, Fire Marshal Chris Switala and Chief of Police John Hays.

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

Pres. Zarnick stated that anyone taping the meeting is required to state their name and address at the beginning of the meeting. There was none.

Pres. Zarnick asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the April 2, 2018 meeting. There being none, the minutes will stand as presented.

Pres. Zarnick noted receipt of the monthly Fire/Zoning Report.

Commis. Vero thanked Asst. Manager McNeill and the staff for their efforts towards the Local Government Day event on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Commis. Lokhaiser reported that the Township has received a request from Eagle Scout candidate Ryan Jones for permission to construct ten to fifteen Blue Bird Houses at Preston Park for his Eagle Scout Project. Dave Heltzell, Preston Park Volunteer Coordinator, will be the contact person during this project. The project would be completed by October 1<sup>st</sup>. It was requested if the Township could donate any used sign posts to be used for this project. Commis. Zarnick noted that there is currently a pile of old sign posts at Preston Park that can be gone through to see if they can be used.

Commis. Zurzolo welcomed Fire Marshal Chris Switala to the Township.

Commis. Zurzolo thanked Assist. Manager McNeill, the staff, Recycling Committee and Preston Park Volunteers for their efforts on the Local Government Day Event. He also thanked Butler Eagle and WISR for their coverage of the event.

Commis. Zurzolo reported that leaf burning is permitted in the Township until April 30<sup>th</sup>. Leaf bags are also available for purchase at the Municipal Building to be placed out at the curb for recycling.

Commis. Wiest reported that Road Department Secretary Barb Moran's husband recently passed away.

Commis. Wiest reported that hopefully the snow is done and the department can start putting the snow equipment away and get prepared for spring road work.

Fire Marshal Switala reported on his acclimation process in his new position and thanked Fire Marshal Christy and the staff for their assistance. He plans on attending the upcoming Fire Department training sessions to give him the opportunity to meet some of our volunteer firefighters. He looks forward to working with them in the future.

Public Works Superintendent had nothing to report.

Chief Hays reported that all of the officers have received their annual updates through MPOETC. The department will be starting their qualifications once the weather breaks.

Asst. Manager McNeill thanked everyone for their help with the Local Government Day Event on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Zoning Officer Hines had nothing to report.

Township Engineer Flynn presented information and recommendations on the following stormwater and landslide issues in the Township: Evans Road Landslide, Ski Slope Culvert Washout, Evans Road Storm Sewers, Aubrey Drive Storm Sewers, Litman Road Landslide, and Old Dump Site Landslide. Manager Kirkwood stated that the Aubrey Drive Storm Sewer work and normal storm sewer repair was calculated in the 2018 Budget. The other issues occurred after the budget was completed. A discussion followed. A suggestion was made to make application to the State for grant money towards these repairs.

Solicitor Lutz had nothing to report.

Manager Kirkwood had nothing to report.

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

Zoning Officer Hines presented information on the Dittmer Subdivision. The referenced Subdivision Plan is located along Whitestown Road in the R-1 (Single Family Residential) Zoned District. The plan proposes to consolidate tax parcel 54-27-C50A1 with adjoining Parcel A and Parcel B. Solicitor Lutz presented information on the consolidation concerning one of the parcels which is designated as a "Reserve" on the deed. He stated that the issue does not have any effect on the consolidation request. Zoning Officer Hines recommended approval contingent on approval for an odd shaped lot.

Robert Dittmer, owner of the property, explained the reasoning for his request.

Motion by Commis. Vero to grant a modification for odd shaped lots in the Dittmer Subdivision. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

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

Zoning Officer Hines presented information on the Winters Subdivision. The referenced Subdivision Plan is located along Old Plank Road in the R-1 (Single Family Residential) Zoned District. The plan proposes to subdivide existing tax parcel 51-46-8 into

Lot 1 and Lot 2. He recommended approval contingent upon DEP approval for an on-lot system.

Commis. Zarnick disclosed that Ken Winters is his brother-in-law and Dave Winters is his nephew. He discussed this issue with Solicitor Lutz and was informed that there is no reason why he would not be able to vote on this issue.

Motion by Commis. Vero to grant a modification for odd shaped lots in the Winters Subdivision. Seconded by Commis. Zurzolo. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Commis. Vero to grant final approval of the Winters Subdivision, contingent upon DEP approval for an on-lot system. Seconded by Commis. Wiest. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Officer Hines presented information on the K. J. Frenchak Plan No. 2 Subdivision. The referenced Subdivision Plan is located along Oliver Drive in the R-2 (Multi-Family Residential) Zoned District. The plan proposes to consolidate the existing Lot 1 and Lot 2. He recommended approval.

Motion by Commis. Vero to grant final approval of the K. J. Frenchak Plan No. 2 Subdivision. Seconded by Commis. Wiest. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Dustin Starr, Mayer Duessel, presented the 2017 Audit Report.

Manager Kirkwood presented information on the request by Peoples Natural Gas Company for an easement to install a regulator station at Preston Park.

Ron Dillon, 375 North Shore Drive, Pittsburgh, Senior Land Agent for Peoples Natural Gas Co. was present and answered questions from the Board.

Dave Heltzell, 100 Marion Drive, questioned the actual placement of the site in reference to the Carnegie Property and Carnegie Trail entrance and would it be better to move the site to allow access to the Carnegie Property.

Additional questions were taken. Manager Kirkwood commented on the chain of events that must take place before the easement is finalized. Commis. Zarnick requested that Peoples Natural Gas Company send someone out to physically mark where the proposed regulator would be placed.

Motion by Commis. Lokhaiser to table the request by Peoples Natural Gas Company for an easement for the installation of a regulator station at Preston Park until the next public meeting. Seconded by Commis. Wiest. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Manager Kirkwood stated that with the retirement of Larry Christy it is necessary to appoint a new Emergency Management Coordinator. He recommended appointing Christopher Switala to the position.

Motion by Commis. Lokhaiser to appoint Christopher Switala to the position of Emergency Management Coordinator. Seconded by Commis. Vero. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Chief Hays presented the request to send one of his patrolmen to Southwest Regional Police Crisis Intervention Team Training, June 25-29, 2018. There is no cost for this training and it will be held at Family Pathways, 100 Bergh Avenue, Butler. A \$500 stipend is offered to the municipality to help offset the cost of a replacement officer during this week of training.

Motion by Commis. Zurzolo to authorize a patrolman to attend the Southwest Regional Police Crisis Intervention Team Training, as presented. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Chief Hays presented the request for Patrolman Jason Gueck to assist at Pennsylvania State Police - Troop D Camp Cadet for the week of August 5 – 10, 2018.

Motion by Commis. Zurzolo to authorize Patrolman Jason Gueck to assist at Pennsylvania State Police - Troop D Camp Cadet for the week of August 5 – 10, 2018. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Manager Kirkwood stated that the term of Anthony Stagno on the Police Civil Service Commission is expiring at the end of April and Mr. Stagno has expressed interest in being reappointed to the Commission. Manager Kirkwood recommended reappointment.

Motion by Commis. Vero to reappoint Anthony Stagno, 106 Holland Drive, to the Police Civil Service Commission for a six year term to expire in 2024. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; and Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Manager Kirkwood reviewed the bills report and the following totals were noted: General Fund - \$189,478.37; Highway Aid Fund - \$12,513.02; Park Development Fund - \$485.29; General Fund (added after March Bills Report) - \$20,316.97; Highway Aid Fund (added after March Bills Report) - \$13,546.99; Payroll Fund (prior month) - \$255,450.79

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

There was no correspondence.

Commis. Zarnick asked for public comment on any item of concern. There was none.

Questions were taken from the media.

Motion was made by Commis. Zurzolo to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser and carried unanimously.

Theresa Giesler