

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING HELD
April 15, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Butler Township Board of Commissioners was held on April 15, 2019 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. James Lokhaiser, Jr. and Commis. Fred M. Vero. Pres. Zarnick called the meeting to order followed by a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Also present were Manager Tom Knights, Assistant Manager Cheryl McNeill, Solicitor Rebecca Black, Zoning Officer Jesse Hines, Chief John Hays, Public Works Director Dave Meeder, Township Engineer Dan Deiseroth and Student Representative Joe Atkinson.

Pres. Zarnick stated that anyone taping the meeting is required to state their name and address at the beginning of the meeting. No one taped the meeting.

Pres. Zarnick asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the April 1, 2019 meeting, there being none the minutes will stand as presented.

Pres. Zarnick noted receipt of the monthly Road, Police and Zoning Department Reports.

Commis. Vero had nothing to report.

Commis. Lokhaiser reported that he, Commis. Zarnick, Zurzolo and Vero attended the 30th anniversary celebration for the Butler Transit Authority on April 11th.

Commis. Lokhaiser reported that the final Butler Township Volunteer Fire District fish dinner will be held on Friday, April 19th.

Commis. Zurzolo reported that leaf collection in the Township will be held the week of April 29th.

Commis. Wiest had nothing to report.

Commis. Zarnick reported that April is National Volunteer Month. He thanked all of the volunteers that help to make Butler Township a great place in which to live.

Chief Hays had nothing to report.

Public Works Director Meeder reported on the work of the department.

Student Rep. Atkinson reported that his local government presentations will begin to be presented during some of the Social Studies classes at the high school. He will also have an informational packet available for the students to read in the event any of the scheduled presentations are not able to take place due to scheduling conflicts.

Asst. Manager McNeill had nothing to report.

Solicitor Black had nothing to report.

Engineer Deiseroth had nothing to report.

Zoning Officer Hines had nothing to report.

Manager Knights had nothing to report.

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

Dustin Starr, Maher Duessel, CPA, reviewed the results of the 2018 Financial Statements Audit.

Public Works Director Meeder presented his request to attend a Public Works Management Training Class on May 30, 2019 in Westmoreland County at a cost of \$185.00.

Motion by Commis. Wiest to authorize Public Works Director Meeder to attend the Public Works Management Training Class on May 30, 2019, as presented. Seconded by Commis Zurzolo. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Chief Hays presented his request for authorization for Patrolman Jason Gueck to participate in the Camp Cadet Program through the Pennsylvania State Police Troop D from August 4 – 9, 2019.

Motion by Commis. Zurzolo to authorize Patrolman Jason Gueck to participate in the Camp Cadet Program through the Pennsylvania State Police Troop D from August 4 – 9, 2019. Seconded by Commis Vero. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Solicitor Black noted for the record that she serves on the Board of Directors for Camp Cadet. No legal opinion has been requested of her and no statement has been made, in the event of any conflict.

Commis. Zarnick noted that Scott Fehl, from the Road Department will once again be speaking during the Connecting to Tomorrow Career Day at St. Andrew's Church.

Engineer Deiseroth presented the request for the release of the Gaiser Addiction Center Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$15,024.74. He recommends full release of the bond.

Motion by Commis Vero to release the Gaiser Center 18-Month Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$15,024.74. Seconded by Commis Wiest. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Chief Hays presented the request for authorization for an officer to attend the Top Gun Training sponsored by the PA Narcotics Officers Association May 5 – 11, 2019. This

training is offered free of charge through the co-sponsoring agency, City of Pittsburgh Police Department. Meals and lodging is also provided.

Motion by Commis. Zurzolo to authorize the attendance an officer to the Top Gun Training sponsored by the PA Narcotics Officers Association May 5 – 11, 2019, as presented. Seconded by Commis Wiest. Commis. Zarnick asked for public comment on this none agenda item. There was none. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – 7:00 P.M. – Sheetz Liquor License Transfer

Solicitor Black noted that it is now 7:00 p.m. It is the time and place set forth for the Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing testimony and public comment regarding the request by Sheetz, Inc. for the transfer of Restaurant Liquor License R-10477. The license will be coming from Evans City Borough. The license would be used at an existing Sheetz store at 499 Evans City Road. The request was introduced at a prior meeting and was duly advertised in the Butler Eagle. A court reporter was present for the proceedings. Anyone who wished to speak or testify on this matter was sworn in.

Mark Kozar, attorney with Flaherty & O'Hara, representing Sheetz, Inc., presented the request for a resolution which would permit an inter-municipal transfer of a liquor license currently located outside of the municipality due to the fact that there are no restaurant liquor licenses or eating place liquor licenses available in Butler Township. The license will be coming from Evans City Borough. The license would be used at an existing Sheetz store at 499 Evans City Road. Mr. Kozar presented to the Board the various policies and protocols that Sheetz follows concerning the sale of alcohol in the stores.

Commis. Zarnick, representing a township resident that was unable to attend the hearing, asked why Sheetz feels the need to sell beer and wine. Mr. Kozar stated that it is a convenience to the customer and they would be at a competitive disadvantage if they didn't sell it. Food sales is what drives their business and adding this service would complement those sales.

Commis. Zarnick asked if they will continue the policy of two beers and no wine for on premise consumption. Mr. Kozar stated that if Sheetz continues to permit on premise consumption that would be their policy.

Commis. Zarnick asked if Mr. Kozar is aware of any increase in vehicle accidents or disturbance calls near their locations since permitting liquor sales in the Sheetz stores. Mr. Kozar stated that he has not been made aware of these issues by any of the regional managers or area Chiefs of Police.

Questions were taken from the Board.

END HEARING – 7:17 p.m.

Motion by Commis. Vero to pass Resolution No. 19-08, authorizing the transfer of Restaurant Liquor License No. R-10477 from Evans City Borough into Butler Township for the Sheetz located at 499 Evans City Road. Seconded by Commis. Wiest. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Wiest: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion carried.

Manager Knights presented information on the Savvy Citizen App as a way of getting information out to residents more efficiently. There would be a monthly fee of \$249.00 for this service. Commis. Zarnick stated that Butler County will be coming out with an alert application, Code Red, which would be available for free to Butler Township residents. A discussion followed. The manager was asked to meet with various companies that provide these applications to gather additional information to present to the Board before a decision is made.

Asst. Manager McNeill reviewed the bills report and the following totals were noted: General Fund - \$172,000.48; Highway Aid Fund - \$17,031.89; Park Development Fund - \$575.00; General Fund (added after March Bills Report) - \$19,742.71; Payroll Fund (prior month) - \$267,691.69.

Motion by Commis. Zarnick 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.

Paula Painter, announced her candidacy for the Butler County Prothonotary position.

Larry Speeder, 237 Grandview Blvd., commented on the noise level from the shooting range on Litman Road that is used by the City of Butler. Chief Hays was asked to contact the City Police Department to see what can be done to decrease the noise level in the area.

Motion by Commis. Zarnick to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m., seconded by Commis. Zurzolo and carried unanimously.

Theresa Gessler