

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING HELD
December 16, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Butler Township Board of Commissioners was held on December 16, 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. James Lokhaiser, and Commis. Fred M. Vero. Commis. Wiest was absent.

Also present were Manager Tom Knights, Asst. Manager Cheryl McNeill, Zoning Officer Jesse Hines, Dir. Of Public Works Dave Meeder, Engineer Jonathan Garcewski, Police Chief John Hays, Solicitor Larry Lutz, and Student Reps. Alex Kurnava and Mikayla Tillery.

Pres. Zarnick stated that anyone taping the meeting is required to state their name and address at the beginning of the meeting.

Pres. Zarnick asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the prior meetings; there being none the minutes will stand as approved.

Student Rep. Tillery discussed their student report and the survey they are working on. Tillery stated that they are working with the principal on getting the survey out to the students during the school day.

Comm. Veo reported on the final presentation at Slippery Rock University students that he attended along with Pres. Zarnick and Tannor Williams. He stated how impressed he was with the students work and showed the work they completed. He also wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Comm. Lokhaiser had nothing to report besides wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and happy New Year.

Pres. Zarnick reported that he attended the county recreation meeting on Dec. 10th. He also discussed the census meeting that took place on Dec. 12th, the meeting at the Eagle on the 13th, and finally wishing everyone a safe and healthy new year. Pres. Zarnick also stated that the board will be going back to suit and tie for the first meeting of the year.

Vice-Pres. Zurzolo reported on the recycling meeting that will be held on Dec. 19th at the Butler Township Municipal building. He also attended the ceremony at the North Cemetery. He also wished everyone a safe holiday.

Asst. Manager McNeill reported on donations that were received for Preston Park. The first donation was anonymous in the amount of \$250 in thanks to Tony Stagno for

the walking tour he conducted and the second donation was for \$50 from the Town and Country Gardening Club also thanking Tony Stagno for the tour and the talk that he gave.

Chief Hays reported on the Shop With a Cop program taking place on December 20th. The second item he reported on was the Citizens Police Academy that will be starting on January.

Dir. Of Pub. Works Meeder reported on the calls, sign maintenance, tree trimming, and general maintenance that was completed by the Road Department in the month of November.

Manager Knights reported on agenda item #4 being removed, as well as several resolutions and ordinances to go through during the meeting.

Solicitor Lutz reported that as of January 1st, 2020, the new name of their firm will be Lutz, Pawk & Black.

Engineer Garcewski had nothing to report.

Zoning Officer Hines had nothing to report.

There were no public comments on agenda items.

Zoning Officer Hines presented the Kraynik Planning Module Resolution. The property is located at 414 McCalmont Rd. He stated this is an existing single family dwelling that does not have access to public sewage. He is wanting to install an onsite small float treatment plan. Everything is in order.

Motion by Comm. Vero to pass a resolution for final approval of the Kraynik Planning Module Resolution contingent upon the payment for the \$500 escrow. Seconded by Comm. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried

Zoning Officer Hines reported on the KFC Bond Release. The project is now completed and open. They made a request to have their improvement bond release in contingent with their maintenance bond. Gateway Engineers inspected the site and sent a letter of recommendation to release the bond.

Motion by Comm. Vero to release the KFC bond in the amount of \$402,277.26 contingent upon release of an 18-month maintenance bond in the amount of \$54,856. Seconded by Comm. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried

Zoning Officer Hines reported on a Zoning Hearing Board Appointment. Heather Starcher's appointment is up and she does not wish to be reelected. There is a letter from Brent Thomas, 326 Sawmill Run Rd., who is saying he is willing to serve on the zoning hearing board for a 3-year term to expire January 2023.

Motion by Pres. Zarnick to approve the Zoning Hearing Board Appointment. Seconded by Vice-Pres. Zurzolo. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Zoning Officer Hines recommended sending a letter to Heather Starcher to thank her for serving on the Zoning Hearing Board.

Manager Knights presented information regarding the BASA Board Member Reappointment. He stated that commissioners should be in receipt of receiving a letter from Paul Sybert requesting to be reappointed to the Butler Area Sewer Authority Board for another 5-year term. His first term started in 2015, and he also included a copy of his resume along with the letter.

Motion by Pres. Zarnick to approve the reappointment of Paul Sybert to the BASA Board. Seconded by Comm. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried

Chief Hays presented information regarding the 2020 Vehicle Towing Rotation List. Hays requested that the commissioners reissue the tow list for the rotation of 2020.

Motion by Vice-Pres. Zurzolo to approve the Towing Rotation List and add a 1-year extension to the list. Seconded by Pres. Zarnick. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried

Manager Knights presented information regarding the Award for the Preston Park Building Demolition Contract. The township was in receipt of 3 bidders. Gateway Engineers vetted the candidates and contact with CRS Contracting LLC who was the apparent low bidder. Gateway recommended to award the contract to CRS Contracting LLC in the amount of \$39,800.

Motion by Commis. Lokhaiser to award the bid to CRS Contracting LLC. Seconded by Comm. Vero. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried

Manager Knights presented information regarding the 2020 Budget Approval. There were no changes made from the original hearing that was held to the public.

Motion by Pres. Zarnick to approve the final 2020 Budget. Seconded by Vice-Pres. Zurzolo. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried

Manger Knights presented information regarding the 2020 Property Tax Ordinance. The total millage rate remains at 11.25 mils. The ordinance calls for 7.64 mils for general purpose, 2 mils for fire protection service, and 1.61 mils for debt service.

Motion by Pres. Zarnick to approve the property tax ordinance. Seconded by Comm. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manager Knights presented information regarding the Act 511 Resolution. This is in regards to the Act 511 taxes, which had no changes to it from last year.

Motion by Comm. Lokhaiser to approve the Act 511 Resolution. Seconded by Commis. Vero. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manager Knights presented information regarding the 2019 Auditor Resolution. The chosen auditor is Maher Duessel of 503 Martindale St., Pittsburgh, PA.

Motion by Comm. Lokhaiser to approve the 2019 Auditor Resolution. Seconded by Pres. Zarnick. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manager Knights presented information regarding the Police Pension Plan Contribution Resolution. The recommendation by our actuarial has the Police Pension Plan contribution at 0% based on their funding. A resolution will need to be passed indicating that the Police will have no contribution towards their pension plan.

Motion by Comm. Vero to approve the resolution regarding the Police Pension Contribution. Seconded by Vice-Pres. Zurzolo. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manager Knights presented information regarding the Employee's Pension Plan Contribution Resolution. Based on funding percentage and our ordinance which requires a 4% contribution, the actuaries have recommended a 3% contribution percentage.

Motion by Comm. Vero to approve the Employee's Pension Plan Contribution Resolution. Seconded by Pres. Zarnick. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manger Knights presented information regarding the Authorization of the Police Civil Service Testing Advertisement. Authorization tonight is to advertise dates for the physical examination and the written testing.

Motion by Vice-Pres. Zurzolo to authorize the advertisement for the Police Civil Service Testing. Seconded by Pres. Zarnick. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manager Knights presented information regarding the 2020 Fee Resolution. All departments reported in on examining their fees as they were. A couple fees were added and revamped to include minimum bases.

Motion by Pres. Zarnick to authorize the advertisement for the Police Civil Service Testing. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manager Knights presented information regarding the PA Small Water Grant Application Resolution. The resolution increases our grant application amount up to \$407,830.

Motion by Pres. Zarnick to approve the PA Small Water Grant Application Resolution. Seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Asst. Manager McNeill highlighted the Bills for the month of November.

Motion by Commis. Lokhaiser to approve the bills as submitted. Seconded by Commis. Vero. The vote was Vero: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes. Motion Carried.

Pres. Zarnick asked for public comment on any item of concern. There were none.

Questions from the media were taken.

Steve Ferris, Butler Eagle, asked if Manager Knights could remind him what the previous amount was for the PA Small Water Grant. He also asked if he could have a copy of the fee resolution. Lastly, he asked about the Police Civil Service Testing.

Motion by Pres. Zarnick to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commis. Lokhaiser and carried unanimously.
