

MINUTES

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AUGUST 5, 2024

PRESIDENT PAUL CZAPRACKI, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00 PM AND STARTED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

ROLL CALL:

THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS ATTENDED MR. PAUL CZAPRACKI, MR. JOHN ZYLA, MR JOHN VISHNEFSKI, MR.MICHAEL ROKE AND MS.DEBORAH FORGACH ZALESKI. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WERE TOWNSHIP MANAGER, JOSEPH HILLAN, ATTORNEY CHRIS SLUSSER, AND FINANCIAL CONSULTANT JENNIFER POLITO.

MR. ROBERT FIUME, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LUZERNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY AND 3 MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF PRESENTED THE MICRO TRANSIT SYSTEM PLAN. ANTICIPATED IMPLEMENTATION WILL BEGIN OCTOBER 2024. A PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION FOLLOWED. MR.FIUME STATED THAT THERE WOULD BE MORE PUBLIC MEETINGS SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS THE SYSTEM.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

MS. PALMIRA MILLER INFORMED THE BOARD THAT THE MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY AUGUST 10TH AT THE MUNICIPAL GARAGE BEGINNING AT 11AM. MS MILLER ALSO THANKED THE NEWPORT TOWNSHIP FIRE POLICE FOR THE EXCELLENT TRAFFIC CONTROL JOB DURING THE EVENT.

MS DEBRA SCHAFFER EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT FLOODING FROM THE RECENT HEAVY RAIN IN THE DEPOT AND MARKET STREET AREAS.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MS.ZALESKI MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING FROM JULY 5TH BE APPROVED. MR. ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS.ZALESKI MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ROKE, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI "NAYS" NONE

REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS:

MR. HILLAN REPORTED CASH ON HAND AS OF JULY 31, 2024 AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	(FNCB)	\$614,079.16
CONTINGENCY FUND	(PLGIT)	\$750,479.69
CAPITAL PURCHASE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$36,052.47
RECYCLING FUND	(PLGIT)	\$37,277.32
REFUSE FUND	(FNCB)	\$34,096.30
REFUSE FUND	(PLGIT)	\$181,082.07
LIQUID FUELS	(PLGIT)	\$71,391.64
RECREATION USE FUND	(FNCB)	\$2,321.87

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF JULY 31, 2024 \$1,726,780.52

MR.VISHNEFSKI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT OF TOWNSHIP FUNDS. MS. ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS, VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI AND ROKE. "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF NON-RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING JULY 2024:

MR. HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF NON-RECURRING BILLS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF JULY TOTALING \$393,660.39. MR. ROKE MOVED THAT THE LIST BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. MR.ZYLA SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI AND ROKE "NAYS" NONE

APPROVAL OF RECURRING BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN AUGUST 2024:

MR. HILLAN PRESENTED THE COMMISSIONERS WITH A LIST OF BILLS DUE FOR PAYMENT IN AUGUST TOTALING \$53,376.36. MR.ROKE MOVED THAT THE LIST BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. MS.ZALESKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES: "AYES" MS. ZALESKI, MESSERS VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI AND ROKE. "NAYS" NONE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

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| a. STREET DEPARTMENT | MR. CZAPRACKI |
| b. POLICE DEPARTMENT | MR. ZYLA |
| c. CODE ENFORCEMENT | MS.ZALESKI |
| d. FIRE DEPARTMENT | MR.ROKE |
| e. PARKS & RECREATION | MR.VISHNEFSKI |

SOLICITOR IS REPORT:

ATTORNEY SLUSSER HAD NOTHING TO REPORT. ATTORNEY SLUSSER DID REQUEST AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONELL ISSUE.

FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT REPORT:

MS.JENNIFER POLITO REPORTED THAT THE INCOME YEAR TO DATE IS \$2,148,317.98 AND EXPENSES ARE \$1,749,326.76. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE AUDITOR HAS STARTED THE 2023 AUDIT AND THAT THE 2025 BUDGET PROCESS WILL BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT:

A. REFUSE COLLECTION UPDATE: 25 HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 13TH AT MAGISTRATE WHITTAKERS. COLLECTION RATE IS AT 99% FOR THE YEAR.

B. OFFICIALS FROM LUZERNE COUNTY TOURED THE RECREATION PARK ON MONDAY JULY 29TH TO REVIEW THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE \$395,738.50 ARPA GRANT. ADDITIONALLY COUNCIL MEMBERS TOURED THE VAST AMOUNT OF AVAILABLE LAND IN THE TOWNSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON THE PENDING COUNCILS AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE ACCESS VIA THE PROPOSED NANTICOKE/WEST NANTICOKE BRIDGE.

C. CVI (COMPUTER VISIONARIES INC) HAS INSTALLED SECURITY CAMERAS AT THE RECREATION PARK.

D. DEMOLITION UPDATE: 48 NEWPORT STREET AND THE GARAGE AT 69 WEST MAIN STREET ARE BEING ADVERTISED FOR BIDS FOR DEMOLITION. WE ARE EXPECTING TO RECEIVE THE QUIET TITLES FOR THE PROPERTIES WITHIN THE NEXT THIRTY DAYS. DEMOLITION WILL BE SCHEDULED AS SOON AS THE QUIET TITLES ARE SECURED.

E. THE TOWNSHIP RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF LUZERNE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THAT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 183,791.00 WILL BE MADE AVAILBLE FOR THE PAVING COMPLETION OF THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS: WATER STREET, NORTH MARKET AND RAILROAD STREET FROM NORTH MARKET TO DEPOT STREET.

F. WE ARE EXPECTNG DELIVERY OF THE NEW FIRE ENGINE BY AUGUST 16.

NEW BUSINESS

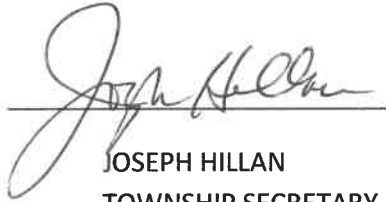
MR ROKE MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #8 OF 2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWPORT AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE ACQUISITION OF A 2024 PIERCE PUMPER TRUCK AND OTHER RELATED EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF UP TO \$203,639.00 THROUGH THE DELIVERY OF A LEASE-PURCHASE FINANCING AGREEMENT AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. MR. VISHNEFSKI SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING AYE AND NAY VOTES. "AYES" MS. ZALESKI MESSERS. VISHNEFSKI, ZYLA, CZAPRACKI AND ROKE "NAYS" NONE

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS, MR CZAPRACKI
ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 7:05 PM


JOSEPH HILLAN
TOWNSHIP SECRETARY

 *vice chairman*
PAUL CZAPRACKI
PRESIDENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS