

**SWATARA TOWNSHIP**  
**REGULAR MEETING II      BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS      MARCH 14, 2018**

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Call to Order: The Regular Meeting II of the Swatara Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Connolly at 7:02 p.m., on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at the Township Administration Building, 599 Eisenhower Boulevard, Swatara, PA 17111.

Pledge of Allegiance: President Connolly led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: Commissioner Troxell gave the invocation.

Roll Call: Commissioners Boudier, Varner, Zubeck, Troxell and Connolly were present. Also present: Solicitor Wyland, Secretary Bowser, Sergeant Karcesky, Township Manager, Finance Director and Treasurer Fosselman, Fire Marshall Ibberson.

Motion to Approve Agenda: Commissioner Troxell moved to approve tonight's agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Boudier. Approved unanimously.

Motion to Approve Items on Consent Agenda: The Board has reviewed the following Consent Agenda items and is ready to take action on approving these routine requests and matters:

Monthly Departmental Reports  
Committee Reports  
Codes Report  
Police Ride-Along Request of Jeremy DeLacruz

Commissioner Boudier moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as listed above. Commissioner Troxell seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Presentation of Life Saving Awards: Officers Tyler Margeson, Scott Gibson and Shawn Moore received Life Saving Awards. On December 12, 2017 the Police Department was dispatched to 5058 Lilac Lane, the residence of Mr. Dominic Bartholomeo. On arrival they found Mr. Bartholomeo had gone into cardiac arrest and was non-responsive, they proceeded to perform CPR on him, after which he regained consciousness. On January 2, 2018 the department received a phone call from Sandy Bartholomeo, his wife, saying the Mr. Bartholomeo had survived. Mr. Bartholomeo is here with us tonight.

Silver Life Saving Awards: Presented to Mary Klaus, Lon Anderson Sr., Gene Lucas and Nate Zeigler of the fire department for also responding to Mr. Bartholomeo's call and performing CPR.

The Bartholomeo family thanked everyone involved. Commissioner Connolly thanked everyone for doing such a great job.

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Presentation by Chief Mark Cholach, West Webster Fire Department: Past Chief Cholach extended his congratulations to those who received the Life Saving Awards. He is from upstate New York outside of Rochester. On Christmas Eve Morning, December 2012, a gunman started a fire to lure firefighters to the scene, shot at fire fighters and wounded several firefighters, killing two. They received so much support from around the nation. The first phone call received was from Lawnton Fire Company asking what can Swatara Township do for you? On December 30<sup>th</sup>, the day before the service for the fallen firefighters, Lawnton arrived with people, t-shirts, support and lots of love. Mr. Cholach came personally to present a plaque to Fire Marshal Ibberson to thank the Township.

Chief Ibberson said when they made the trip to support them, they were welcomed with open arms. The community came together and donated rooms for all the fire fighters. Firefighters attended from all over the country. Last month when the service for the U.S. Marshall was held his wife formed a group of wives to get hotels for police officers coming in from all around the country for the service. Thank you Chief Cholach for coming down from New York for this presentation.

Consideration of Minutes – Regular Meeting I – March 7, 2018:  
Commissioner Boudier Moved to approve these minutes as presented.

Commissioner Connolly had a question for Solicitor Wyland regarding page 7, attached to the record, which was Commissioner Zubeck's statement on the Stormwater Plan.

Solicitor Wyland said there are no direct guidelines on the attachment. It should be part of the permanent record relating to the meeting. Commissioner Zubeck said her statement was accurate. She felt that her statement should be made part of the permanent record.

Commissioner Varner asked if his comments could be added regarding stormwater. His comments concerned the Sewer Authority sending out the stormwater fee invoice late, and if the Sewer Authority would consider some kind of relief to residents.

Commissioner Connolly made a motion to accept the Regular Meeting II minutes of March 7, 2018 without the written text from Commissioner Zubeck. Commissioner Troxell seconded the motion; motion passed three to two with Commissioners Zubeck and Varner voting no.

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Visitors' Request and Comments: Dori Barry 8613 Haslynn Avenue. She had one comment about the discussion that she just witnessed. Christine Zubeck read that statement, she read it during the meeting, and it should be part of the minutes. She did not feel the Board was following Roberts Rules.

Elizabeth Long, 490 48<sup>th</sup> Street: On September 11, 2016 a property very close to her home burned down. It is now 18 months later, and the majority of the home is still standing. She is concerned with children having access to the property. Commissioner Connolly said that address is on the agenda for tonight.

Reports:

Manager's Report: Manager Fosselman read the Manager's Report. He made a motion to obtain an Architectural/Engineering proposal for evaluation of the police and highway departments, office space, equipment failure, and to remodel the existing building or build another building.

Commissioner Connolly made a motion to have a professional evaluate space in the existing building to solve some immediate needs. Commissioner Troxell seconded the motion. Motion carried three to two with Commissioners Zubeck and Varner voting no.

Commissioner Connolly said between now and the next meeting Commissioner Zubeck should give Mr. Fosselman some dates she is available.

Manager Fosselman requested an approval for a loan for the Swatara Township Fireman's Relief Association for air packs and three vehicles. Savings to the tax payers would be \$75,000, with a pay back in one to two years. Commissioner Troxell made a motion to approve \$168,000 for the purchase of three vehicles for the fire service, taking the money from the Capital Reserve Fund. Commissioner Boudier seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Troxell made a motion to expend \$334,217.16 from the Capital Reserve Fund to be use for the purchase of air packs for our fire service. Commissioner Boudier Seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board asked if the Authority could extend the payment for current Stream Preservation Fee to April 30, 2018 before a late fee is assessed. Manager Fosselman will speak with the Authority Manager.

Commissioner Troxell made a motion to approve hiring a Stormwater Technician to act as a dedicated actual consultant to the Township on Stormwater. Commissioner Boudier seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

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Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Fosselman had nothing, it will be with next month's report.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Wyland had nothing to report.

Fire Services Report: Fire Service Director Ibberson read the fire services report showing total calls for service during the month of February (with average personnel turnout per incident):

Bressler	25 (5)
Lawton	45 (2)
Rutherford	53 (4)
Swatara	41 (7)
Chambers Hill	19 (6)

A copy of the detailed report is posted on the bulletin board in the lobby.

Chief Ibberson and some other chiefs received training on the river. The boat should be ready by next month. The fire trucks are all done with mounting. Drivers are still going through training.

Chief of Police Report: Sergeant Karcesky reported that for the month of February 2018 his officers handled a total of 1,020 service calls. A breakdown of calls is shown on the monthly report posted on the bulletin board. Our first K-9, Kix has been purchased and will begin training with Officer Gibson. Training lasts for five weeks, and then he will be certified for use on the street.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions: Chief Reider was advised by the Civil Service Commission that they need an alternate on their committee to assure that they have three members available for meetings. He would like to submit longtime Township resident Craig Powers as a person to serve on the Civil Service Commission as an alternate. Commissioner Connolly made a motion to have Craig Powers serve as an alternate on the Civil Service Commission. Commissioner Troxell seconded the motion; carried unanimously.

Consideration of Traffic Safety Improvements Around Swatara Middle School: Commissioner Connolly asked Solicitor Wyland to help him with the Traffic Safety Improvements around Swatara Middle School. Solicitor Wyland said we will adopt the recommendations of the Chief. Commissioner Varner asked if residents will still be able to park where they currently do. Commissioner Connolly said they are just being moved back 75 feet. They will still be able to park.

Commissioner Connolly made a motion to accept Chief Reider's traffic safety improvements around Swatara Middle School. Commissioner Troxell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously

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Subdivision/Land Development Plans:

Commissioner Troxell made a motion to appoint Robert E. Ihlein as the Township Floodplain Administrator. Commissioner Connolly second the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Fee Schedule Resolution R-2018-16: Commissioner Troxell moved to approve Resolution R-2018-16, amending Resolution 2018-01 containing the Township Fee Schedule and establishing fees for the filing of applications, permits, licenses and other fees for service for the Township of Swatara. Commissioner Boudier seconded the motion.

Commissioner Zubeck read a statement for the Public Record regarding Item No. 2018-16, Consideration of Fee Schedule Resolution. Solicitor Wyland said her statement would be attached to the minutes. Commissioner Connolly has no problem adding this statement to the March 14, 2018 minutes.

Commissioner Connolly would like to make a statement that the fees that were increased were increased to eat the expense that cost the tax payers of this Township. The fees are paid by the people who are getting the service. In the planning office there was a \$35,000 gap in what we bring in when they do projects such as sidewalks, or put in a Chick-Fill-A. We are trying to cut that gap, why would you want to pay a fee for your neighbor's project. One or two people on the board did not want to see that happen. Commissioner Zubeck did have all the information to make a good decision. The public was informed.

Motion passed three to two, with Commissioners Zubeck and Varner voting no.

Improvement Guarantee Reduction for McNaughton Company:

Commissioner Troxell made a motion to approve the final reduction and full release of the M & T Bank Letter of Credit No. 911266001 in the amount of \$495.00 that was being held for the McNaughton Company. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion; carried unanimously.

Discussion for Possible Funeral Home Zoning Change:

Commissioner Connolly made a motion to hold a public hearing on April 4, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. to consider a possible zoning change to permit a funeral home. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Possible Condemnation of Structure, 440 North 48<sup>th</sup> Street: The Building and Codes Department requests that the Board authorize it to expend the sums necessary to demolish the remaining structure at the Basonic Property, clear the lot and make all conditions for the public welfare. Commissioner Troxell made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.

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Visitors Requests and Comments: Joseph Donato, 701 South Harrisburg Street:  
Regarding the house at 440 North 48<sup>th</sup> Street. The property went up for Sheriff Sale last September for old taxes plus the current rate. All liens, mortgages and anything against that property was not listed there. The starting bid is at \$500.00. If it's not sold, you can make an offer to the County.

Any possible Stormwater Violations We Need to Investigate: No Stormwater violations to report.

Commissioners Request and Comments, Additional Business and Correspondence:

Commissioner Zubeck: Nothing at this time.

Commissioner Boudier: An Easter Egg Hunt will be held this Saturday at 12 Noon at the Township Building. In addition, former Commissioner Robert Spandler's mother passed away.

Commissioner Troxell: Thanked everyone for coming out this evening.

Commissioner Varner: Asked that deer crossing signs be placed on Siegfried Street, near Midland Cemetery. The trash on Highland Street by the Bowling Alley needs to be picked up. The property is owned by Harbour House.

Commissioner Connolly: The Easter egg hunt is rain or shine. There will be music, an appearance by the Easter bunny and pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Commissioner Connolly thanked the Recreation Advisory Board for their commitment to the Township. He thanked Assistant Manager Kaufman and the recreation staff for meeting with the organized sports associations and working out a Spring and Summer field use and maintenance schedule.

He asked Mr. Ibberson to thank our volunteer firefighters for responding to multiple incidents and accidents over the past few weeks.

Mr. Connolly welcomed the newest member of our Police Department, K-9 Kix, handled by Officer Gibson.

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Mr. Connolly stated that by voting to not increase fees to their actual cost to the township, Commissioners Varner and Zubeck would have taxpayers funding private projects. Mr. Connolly was thankful Commissioners Boudier and Troxell joined him in passing the motion to save taxpayers money.

Mr. Connolly thanked everyone for attending and thanked Mr. Fosselman for his financial planning that resulted in saving over \$200,000.00 in recent weeks.

Adjournment: Commissioner Connolly moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Troxell and carried unanimously. The Regular Meeting II adjourned at 10:05PM

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Earline Bowser, Township Secretary