

MINUTES

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SWATARA TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING II

APRIL 12, 2023

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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1. **Call to Order:** President Zubeck called the Regular Meeting II of the Swatara Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2023. The meeting was held at the Swatara Township Municipal Building, 599 Eisenhower Boulevard, Harrisburg, PA.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** President Zubeck led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Moment of Silence**
4. **Roll Call:** Commissioners Christine Zubeck, Shaela Ellis, Michael Tuckey, and Jeff Varner were present. Commissioner Richard Boudier was absent. Also present: Manager Jim Fosselman, Assistant Manager Kim Kaufman, Solicitor Kevin Hall, Deputy Chief Tom Stauffer, Director of Planning and Zoning Robert Ihlein, Director of Public Works Todd Webb, and Secretary Karen Alleman.
5. **Announce Executive Session:** An executive session was held to discuss traffic safety and litigation.
6. **Visitors Requests and Comments:** Susan Bailey, 651 Georgian Place: Would like the Board to amend the ordinance to eliminate the need for five acres to have chickens at a residence.
7. **Motion to Approve Agenda:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Varner. Motion carried unanimously.
8. **Motion to Approve Items on Consent Agenda:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Varner. The motion carried unanimously.
  - A. Monthly Departmental Reports
  - B. Committee Reports
  - C. Codes Report
  - D. Approval of Educational Incentive Request for Ryan Gartland
  - E. Approval of Hiring Two Seasonal Summer Employees for Recreation Department
  - F. Approval of Request for Tower 91 to Attend the National Fallen Firefighters Event in Emmitsburg, Maryland
  - G. Approval of Retainer Agreement with Herbert Rowland and Grubic for Rutherford Yard Culvert Hydrologic Analysis

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9. **Consideration of Minutes: April 5, 2023:** Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the April 5, 2023, Regular Meeting I minutes, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Tuckey. Motion carried unanimously.

10. **Reports**

- A. **Manager's Report:** No report.
- B. **Treasurer's Report:** After reading the report, Commissioner Ellis asked Mr. Fosselman for the amount of liquid fuels received last year. He was not sure of the exact amount, but the amount received this year was significantly greater than last year. Commissioner Ellis asked why there was a transfer from the Growing Greener Grant Fund. Mr. Fosselman said the grant has been closed out and money transferred to the general fund. Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the March 2023 Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Commissioner Tuckey. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. **Solicitor's Report:** Solicitor Hall discussed the following: 1) Last month the potential appeal of Smith Land Development was discussed. Smith Land has appealed to Commonwealth Court. We are awaiting the briefing schedule from Commonwealth Court. 2) A recent lawsuit has been dismissed with prejudice.
- D. **Swatara Rising Comprehensive Plan:** Director Ihlein presented his report to the Board. Things are moving along with the PennDOT I-83, Eisenhower Boulevard and Route 322/Chambers Hill Road projects. Mitigated properties are being demolished. The sidewalk on Paxton Street between McDonald's and Faulkner has now been completed, which is a safety improvement. The Planning Commission is discussing short term rentals and is reviewing Derry Township's ordinance. If the Board would like the Planning Commission to review the current chicken regulations, he could have a draft within the next couple of months. The Codes Department has had its largest month in the last six years due to large building projects.
- E. **Fire Services/EMS Report:** Fire Chief Brenden Orth presented the fire report this evening on behalf of Fire Chief Ibberson. Average response time was 4 minutes and 34 seconds. A cancer prevention grant was awarded. Fire services will be participating in the Senior Fair on April 26. Mr. Joel Hocking, Deputy Chief, Life Team, announced that he has accepted another position, and this would be his last report to the Board. There were 341 total calls, Life Team responded to 303 calls, mutual aid was provided 38 times. Average response time was 9.30 minutes.
- F. **Public Safety Report:** Deputy Chief Stauffer presented his report to the Board. A Senior Fair will be held on April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the LCBC Church on Chambers Hill Road. Coffee With a Cop will be held tomorrow at 9 a.m.

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11. **Consideration of Resolution: Banner Display Over Derry Street for Bressler Fire Company:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the request of Bressler Fire Company to hang a banner across Derry Street for their upcoming annual picnic. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution R-2023-22
12. **Consideration of Resolution: Special Purpose Parking Area for 864 Highland Street:** Commissioner Ellis made a motion to allow the installation of a special purpose parking area for 864 Highland Street. Commissioner Tuckey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution R-2023-23
13. **Consideration of Resolution: Special Purpose Parking Area for Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to allow a special purpose parking area for Trinity Evangelical Church, seconded by Commissioner Varner. Commissioner Ellis asked if the Church's current loading zone could be utilized as a handicap parking area due to limited parking on the street for residents. Deputy Chief Stauffer said the loading zone does not have a curb cut for handicap access. Deputy Chief Stauffer will ask the Church if residents could park in the area when the Church is not in use. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution R-2023-24
14. **Consideration of Resolution: Special Purpose Parking Area for 498 Kelker Street:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve a special purpose parking area for 498 Kelker Street, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution R-2023-25.
15. **Subdivision/Land Development Plans:**
  - A. **Acceptance of 2022 Planning Commission Annual Report:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the 2022 Planning Commission Annual Report, seconded by Commissioner Varner. Motion carried unanimously.
  - B. **Consideration of Plan 2022-02C: Eisenhower Boulevard Center Revised Plans for Triple Crown Corporation:** Triple Crown Corporation, and their engineer, Pennoni Associates, Inc. have submitted a revised Final Land Development Plan for the construction of a 78,000 S.F. office with accessory storage building between Eisenhower Boulevard and Highspire Road. The previous plan received approval from the Planning Commission and Board of Commissioners and work commenced on site. Due to challenges obtaining a PennDOT highway occupancy permit for the proposed driveway on Eisenhower Boulevard, work on-site ceased, and a revised plan was submitted with a reversed site configuration and the proposed driveway relocated to Highspire Road. Under Section 253-13.O, changes to a final land development plan must be resubmitted to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

Public Works Director Webb had concerns regarding tractor trailer traffic on Highspire Road due to no weight restriction on the roadway. Dawood and Pennoni both agreed core samples should be taken to be sure the roadway can handle tractor trailer traffic. The requirement for core samples has been added to the list of Township conditions for the plan.

Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to conditionally approve the revised preliminary/final land development plan of Triple Crown for Eisenhower Business Center. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. **Announcement of Zoning Hearing Board Hearings on May 18 for George Williamson, G.W. Signs and Jared Knaub, Knaub Rabon Enterprises:** The Zoning Hearing Board will conduct two hearings on May 18 beginning at 7:00 p.m. for George Williamson of G.W. Signs for dimensional variances needed to construct a building on a vacant property; and Jared Knaub of Knaub Rabon Enterprises for a variance needed to construct a new building in the 1100 block of Eisenhower Boulevard.

16. **Visitors Requests and Comments:**

- A. **Tom Connolly, 345 North Harrisburg Street:** Spoke about the recently completed sidewalk on Paxton Street. Pedestrian safety has been greatly improved in the area.

17. **Possible Stormwater Violations for Investigation:** Nothing at this time.

18. **Commissioners Requests and Comments:**

- A. **Commissioner Ellis:** Local Government Day will be held on May 3 this year. Thanked everyone who participated and helped at the Egg Hunt on Saturday. The tenth annual Earth Day clean-up will be held on Sunday, April 23 from 10:30 to noon.
- B. **Commissioner Tuckey:** Reminded everyone of the Senior Fair that will be held on April 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at LCBC Church on Chambers Hill Road. He thanked everyone who has been planning the event.
- C. **Commissioner Varner:** Recyclables were not collected again on Chambers Street. Assistant Manager Kaufman will look into the matter.
- D. **President Zubeck:** Reminded everyone of Local Government Day on May 3. Thanked staff and everyone who put their time and effort into planning and carrying out the Egg Hunt. Reminded everyone of Coffee with a Cop tomorrow at 9:00 a.m.
19. **Adjournment:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

  
Karen Alleman, Township Secretary