

MINUTES

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SWATARA TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING I

AUGUST 2, 2023

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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1. **Call to Order**: President Zubeck called the Regular Meeting I of the Swatara Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:04 p.m. Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at the Swatara Township Municipal Building, 599 Eisenhower Boulevard, Harrisburg, PA 17111
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**: President Zubeck led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Moment of Silence**
4. **Roll Call**: Commissioners Christine Zubeck, Jeff Varner, Shaela Ellis, Michael Tuckey and Richard Boudier were present. Also present: Manager Jim Fosselman, Assistant Manager Kim Kaufman, Solicitor Kevin Hall, Lieutenant Dennis Krahling, Lieutenant David Milsteen, Fire Chief Michael Ibberson, Director of Building and Codes Robert Ihlein, and Secretary Karen Alleman.
5. **Announce Executive Session**: An executive session was held to discuss personnel, real estate, and a contract issue.
6. **Visitors Requests and Comments**:
  - A. **Stefanie Mihalcik, 127 Wilhelm Road**: She presented several motor vehicle safety concerns on Wilhelm Road to the Board. She emailed the police department with her concerns. Lt. Milsteen has preliminarily looked at Wilhelm Road, there is an active traffic study being conducted.
  - B. **Chris Fries, 3800 Brisban Street**: Yesterday was the one-year anniversary of the agreement for fire service in Paxtang. He believes the contract with Paxtang should be adjusted to better reflect the cost of providing fire services. He feels Swatara Township residents are paying more than Paxtang residents for fire services.
  - C. **Keith Flynn, 203 North Harrisburg Street**: He is hosting a Swatara High, Junior High and Middle School reunion next Saturday at Horner Park. He noticed there were horse rides at National Night Out this year, and last year he asked permission for horses at the reunion he hosts and was told he could not have them at the park. He wanted to know if he could have horses at the park this year. Mr. Ihlein was asked to look at the matter, as well as other staff, regarding horses at Township parks.
  - D. **Lyn Clark, Director, Food Pantry at Neidig United Methodist Church**: There are about 100 to 150 people stopping by every week for food. They are looking for volunteers to help with unloading trucks and manning the food pantry.
7. **Motion to Approve Agenda**: Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Varner. Unanimously approved.

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8. **Motion to Approve Items on Consent Agenda:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the consent agenda items, seconded by Commissioner Varner. Commissioner Ellis asked for a copy of the race route and amount of real estate tax refunds for this year. Unanimously approved.
  - A. Approval to Advertise and request Bids for Solid Waste
  - B. Approval for Ragnar Relay PA to Run a Relay Through the Township
  - C. Approval of Real Estate Tax Refund to Grand Prix Harrisburg LLC
  - D. Approval of Lease for Purchase of Public Works Trucks from Liquid Fuels Fund (approved in 2022 budget)
  - E. Approval of Educational Incentive Reimbursement for Officer Gartland
  
9. **Consideration of Minutes:**
  - A. **Regular Meeting II – June 14, 2023:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting II of June 14, 2023, as presented. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
  - B. **Regular Meeting – July 12, 2023:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of July 12, 2023, as presented. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
  
10. **Consideration of Ordinance: Repeal and Replacement of Fireworks Ordinance O-2019-01:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to repeal and replace Fireworks Ordinance O-2019-01. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion. Commissioner Ellis asked if the Board was going to waive the \$150 fee for its own fireworks display. Solicitor Hall said the Board would do that at the next meeting. She also had a question regarding Section 1, Subsection 30-03 (F) “No permission is granted by the Township to any person to ignite or discharge consumer fireworks on the streets or sidewalks in the Township or on any property owned or occupied by the Township...” Solicitor Hall said the section is regarding a “person”, he does not read that to infer the municipality. She wanted to know if the Township would submit an application for the display. Solicitor Hall said that was the intent. She wanted to know when the application would be submitted. Mr. Hall said the Township would have to work with itself to get that in. She asked for the safety plan. President Zubeck said that could be discussed later this evening, or next week. Motion carried unanimously. This is Ordinance O-2023-03
  
11. **Ratification of Resolution R-2023-33: Display Banner Over Derry Street:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to ratify Resolution R-2023-33 to display a banner over Derry Street for a fireworks display. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion. Commissioner Ellis asked why a consensus of the Board was not taken to vote on this matter. Solicitor Hall said he didn’t think it was a controversial topic, not in the

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resolution itself. She does not have an issue with displaying the banner. She asked when the decision was made, and who it was made by, she was never asked. She asked why a poll of the Board was not taken on this matter. President Zubeck said things have been ratified by the Board many times. Commissioner Ellis asked that, going forward, if something comes up between meetings, a consensus of the Board would be taken. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution R-2023-33

12. **Consideration of Resolution: Authorization to File Application for a Dauphin County Infrastructure Bank-General Loan in the amount of \$1,454,000 for Rupp Hill Road Reconstruction:** Mr. Fosselman said the Township applied for a \$300,000 grant from the County for the project, which would reduce the loan amount. Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to authorize the filing of an application for a Dauphin County Infrastructure Bank-General Loan in the amount of \$1,454,000 for Rupp Hill Road. Motion seconded by Commissioner Varner. Commissioner Tuckey asked for the loan percentage rate. Mr. Fosselman said it was 1.75% this past year, he does not have the exact number, but it is well below any loan we could get at any bank. Commissioner Ellis asked about the General Fund. Mr. Fosselman said it is the term Dauphin County uses to describe their account, it is not the Township's general fund. She asked if we have received funds from the County, Mr. Fosselman said funds have not been received yet. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution 2023-34
13. **Consideration of Resolution: Intent to Reimburse Funds Used for Reconstruction of Rupp Hill Road from the Dauphin County Infrastructure Bank - General:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to reimburse funds used for reconstruction of Rupp Hill Road from the Dauphin County Infrastructure Bank-General. Seconded by Commissioner Varner. This is Resolution 2023-35
14. **Consideration of Resolution: Lease of Public Works Vehicles:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the lease of two public works vehicles. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution R-2023-36
15. **Visitors Requests and Comments:** None.
16. **Possible Stormwater Violations for Investigation:** None
17. **Commissioners Requests and Comments:**
  - A. **Commissioner Ellis:** She asked Lt. Krahlung for the safety plan for the fireworks. He said the south side of Bishop Park is where the vendor will be located to set off

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the fireworks toward the most southern part of the park. The north side of the park will be used for event viewing. Traffic control will be in place for Highland Street, Eisenhower Boulevard, and Oberlin Square. She thanked everyone who attended National Night Out, Mr. Cassatt for bringing his horses, the police, public works and administrative staff. She has about eleven intersections to submit to the police department regarding site issues.

- B. **Commissioner Boudier**: He thanked Township employees who helped at National Night Out. He feels it was the best one in recent history.
- C. **Commissioner Tuckey**: Thanked the police department and all staff involved at National Night Out. He feels this Board has been doing everything correctly the past year and a half and wished everyone a nice evening.
- D. **Commissioner Varner**: Thanked everyone for a successful National Night Out.
- E. **President Zubeck**: Thanked staff, police department, public works and everyone who came out for National Night Out. She thanked fire police who did an excellent job directing traffic. Regarding site issues and stop signs, we always have to be cognizant of roadways and placement of intersections, it is a number one priority.

**Adjournment**: Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.



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Karen Alleman, Township Secretary