

MINUTES

SWATARA TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING I

December 6, 2023

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1. **Call to Order:** President Zubeck called the Regular Meeting I of the Swatara Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 6, 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. **Invocation:** Pastor Gary Lathrop led the audience in prayer.
4. **Roll Call:** Commissioners Christine Zubeck, Jeff Varner, Shaela Ellis, Michael Tuckey and Richard Boudier were present. Also present: Assistant Manager Kim Kaufman, Solicitor Kevin Hall, Director of Public Safety and Sergeant-at-Arms Darrell Reider, Deputy Chief Tom Stauffer, Director of Planning and Zoning Robert Ihlein, Fire Chief Michael Ibberson and Secretary Karen Alleman.
5. **Announce Executive Session:** An executive session was held to discuss real estate and potential litigation.
6. **Swearing-In of K-9 Soul:** Magisterial District Justice Michael J. Smith swore in K-9 Soul with handler Matthew Kieselowsky. Soul's name was chosen by Barbara Barksdale of the Historical Midland Cemetery in honor of the souls laid to rest there. State Representative Dave Madsen was also present for the swearing-in ceremony. Representative Madsen was instrumental in securing funding to purchase Soul.  
  
Mr. Jeff Painter, President of the Lawnton American Legion presented several checks this evening. He presented four \$1,000 checks to the fire departments, \$2,500 to the Township for fire services, \$2,500 for the police department, and \$20,000 to procure the next K-9. President Zubeck thanked Mr. Painter on behalf of the Board for the Legion's long-standing support of the Township.
7. **Presentation of Awards:** Director of Public Safety Darrell Reider and Deputy Chief Tom Stauffer presented the following police officers with awards:
  - A. Cpl. Brandon Pokrop: Award of Merit – Corporal Pokrop, for the past decade, has organized the Annual 5K Hero Run which contributed significantly to the K-9 unit. Cpl. Pokrop, through the Hero Run, raised over \$180,000 for the Police K-9 Fund.
  - B. Ofc. Mick Snyder: Life Saving Award & Award of Merit
  - C. Det. Pat Corkle: Award of Merit & Team Achievement Award
  - D. Ofc. Francisco Gonzalez: Award of Merit & Team Achievement Award
  - E. Ofc. Dominic Payne: Team Achievement Award

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- F. Ofc. Kevin Porter: Team Achievement Award
- G. Ofc. Chase Tillman: Team Achievement Award
- H. Cpl. Jason Lex: Team Achievement Award

8. **Visitors Requests and Comments: Brian Beistline, Manager of WalMart, Grayson Road:** Shop With A Cop will take place this Saturday beginning at 9:00 a.m. WalMart donated \$12,000 for 120 underprivileged children to shop. Six or seven police departments are helping the children shop for Christmas presents for their family members. Mr. Beistline invited Township officials to attend the event. He thanked the Township for its continued support of the program.
9. **Motion to Approve Agenda:** President Zubeck removed and tabled Item 10A, Approval to Proceed With Oberlin Project, from the agenda until additional information is provided. Commissioner Boudier made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Commissioner Tuckey. Motion carried unanimously.
10. **Motion to Approve Items on Consent Agenda:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the consent agenda item, as amended, seconded by Commissioner Varner.
  - A. Approval of 2023-24 PennDOT Municipal Winter Agreement
11. **Consideration of Minutes: Bid Opening for Solid Waste and Recycling on November 6, 2023 and Regular Meeting II of November 8, 2023:** Commissioner Boudier made a motion to approve the minutes from the Solid Waste and Recycling Bid Opening and Regular Meeting II of November 8, 2023, as presented. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
12. **Consideration of Resolution: Community Landmark Sign Easement Agreement:** The McNaughton Company has agreed to provide the land on which a Community Landmark sign structure will be constructed by way of a perpetual easement to the Township. Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to sign the easement agreement, seconded by Commissioner Varner. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution R-2023-52
13. **Consideration of Resolution: Community Landmark Sign Outdoor Advertising Lease Agreement:** This is a lease agreement between the Township and Free Solo Media for an Outdoor Advertising Community Landmark Sign located along the southside of Route 322 (Paxton Street) near the entrance to McNaughton Family Park. Commissioner Boudier made a motion to approve the lease agreement, seconded by Commissioner Tuckey. Motion carried unanimously. This is Resolution R-2023-53. Commissioner Tuckey pointed out there is no expense for this sign by the Township.

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14. **Consideration of Bids for Solid Waste and Recycling:** One bid was received from Penn Waste for solid waste and recycling removal. Waste Management submitted a letter notifying the Township of their decision not to bid on this contract. The bid prices are as follows:

Regular Collection	2024	\$385.80 per year	\$96.45 per quarter
	2025	\$405.09 per year	\$101.27 per quarter
	2026	\$425.34 per year	\$106.33 per quarter
	2027	\$446.61 per year	\$111.65 per quarter
Low Volume	2024	\$325.80 per year	\$81.45 per quarter
	2025	\$342.09 per year	\$85.52 per quarter
	2026	\$359.19 per year	\$89.79 per quarter
	2027	\$377.15 per year	\$94.28 per quarter

Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the Penn Waste bid for solid waste and recycling, seconded by Commissioner Varner. Motion carried unanimously.

15. **Consideration of Approval: Fire Vehicle Policy:** Commissioner Ellis asked if the Fire Services Board reviewed the policy. President Zubeck said they have not, but they will have an opportunity to review it. Commissioner Ellis asked if after review by the Fire Services Board, the policy could be revised. President Zubeck said they could come to the Board of Commissioners and changes could be made. Commissioner Ellis asked what vehicles this policy pertains to. President Zubeck said it pertains to all chief vehicles. Commissioner Ellis said not all chief vehicles are owned by the Township. President Zubeck said the Fire Services Board will be able to review the policy and make recommendations. Commissioner Ellis would have liked the Fire Services Board to review the policy first, then make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Ellis asked if this policy would affect response times. President Zubeck said the Solicitor reviewed that, and it will not affect response times.

Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the fire vehicle police, seconded by Commissioner Varner. President Zubeck asked for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Ellis	No
Commissioner Boudier	No
President Zubeck	Yes
Commissioner Tuckey	Yes
Commissioner Varner	Yes

Motion carried.

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16. **Visitors Requests and Comments: Wendy Schaeffer, 1071 Third Avenue:** Would like to see more items accepted for recycling. Assistant Manager Kaufman will look into the recycling program. Information will be placed on the website.
17. **Possible Stormwater Violations for Investigation:** None
18. **Commissioners Requests and Comments:**
- A. **Commissioner Ellis:** There was a Day of Thanks Clean-up held at Midland Cemetery on Thanksgiving Day in preparation for the Wreaths Across America event on December 16 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. She thanked everyone involved with the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony held last evening. She thanked the Lawnton Legion for their generous donation to the Township.
  - B. **Commissioner Boudier:** Thanked all Township employees who worked on the tree lighting ceremony and placement of decorations outside.
  - C. **Commissioner Tuckey:** Thanked everyone who attended the tree lighting ceremony. He thanked the Lawnton Legion and WalMart for everything they do for the Township and children.
  - D. **Commissioner Varner:** He is glad the advertising sign has been approved. It will be an asset to the Township to get information out to residents and visitors.
  - E. **President Zubeck:** Thanked staff and everyone for the Christmas decorations placed around the municipal building and the tree lighting ceremony. This is a great community and there is a lot of good going on here. She is proud to live in this community and be on the Board.
19. **Adjournment:** Commissioner Boudier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.



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Karen Alleman, Township Secretary