

THE TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
May 8, 2017

The May 2017 Regular Meeting of the Tobyhanna Township Board of Supervisors was held on May 8, 2017 at the Tobyhanna Elementary Center, 398 Old Route 940, Pocono Pines, Pennsylvania 18350.

Present were Supervisors Anne Lamberton, John Holahan, III, Heidi A. Pickard, Brendon Carroll and John E. Kerrick, Solicitor Jonathan J. Reiss, Esquire and Township Manager John Jablowski Jr.

1. Chair Anne Lamberton called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. It was determined that a quorum was present.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. John Jablowski Jr. welcomed the students of the Tobyhanna Elementary Center's Fourth Grade and gave them a brief description of what would take place at the Board of Supervisor's Meeting they were witnessing.
4. Heidi Pickard moved to accept the meeting minutes for the April 3, 2017 Work Session and the April 10, 2017 Regular Business Meeting. John Holahan seconded. Vote: All in favor; Minutes accepted.
5. Treasurer's Report - \$456,502.97

Brendon Carroll moved to approve the Treasurer's Report in the amount of \$456,502.97. Heidi Pickard seconded. Vote: three in favor, John Kerrick abstains due to business relationships; Anne Lamberton abstains due to employment relationship; Motion carries.

6. Solicitor Report
 - A. Public Hearing - Proposed Ordinance amending Park Rules Ordinance No. 531 would remove the prohibition of people having alcohol in the township parks.

John Holahan III made motion to open the public hearing, Brendon Carroll seconded. Vote: All in favor; public hearing open.

No questions or comments.

Heidi Pickard made motion to close public hearing, John Kerrick seconded. Vote: All in favor; public hearing closed.

John Holahan III made motion to adopt Ordinance No. 531 amending the park rules Section 99-4.A to remove the prohibition of alcohol in township parks. John Kerrick seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.

- B. Public Hearing - Proposed Zoning Ordinance increasing height restrictions in the low density residential district and in the R2 medium density residential districts.

This was advertised for public hearing today and has been sent to the Township Planning Commission and the County Planning Commission for review and comments.

John Holahan III made motion to open the public hearing, John Kerrick seconded. Vote: All in favor; public hearing open.

No questions or comments.

Heidi Pickard made motion to close the public hearing, Brendon Carroll seconded. Vote: All in favor; public hearing closed.

John Holahan III made motion to adopt Ordinance No. 532 amending Chapter 155 Zoning for height restrictions Sections 155-13.F and 155-14.F increasing the height restriction to 38 feet for R1 and R2. Heidi Pickard seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carried.

- C. Public Hearing - Proposed Zoning Ordinance No. 533 - Amends the commercial district zones and the commercial industrial district zones so that any commercial development of 3,000 sq. ft. or less that complies with the Tobyhanna Township's architectural and design guidelines would be exempt from the land development process.

This was advertised for public hearing today and has been sent to the Township Planning Commission and the County Planning Commission for review and comments.

Brendon Carroll made motion to open the public hearing, John Holahan III seconded. Vote: All in favor; public hearing open.

No questions or comments.

John Holahan III made motion to close the public hearing. Heidi Pickard seconded. Vote: All in favor; public hearing closed.

John Holahan III made motion to adopt Ordinance No. 533 - which amends the commercial district zones and the commercial industrial district zones so that any commercial development of 3,000 sq. ft. or less that complies with the Tobyhanna Township's architectural and design guidelines would be exempt from the land development process. Brendon Carroll seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.

- D. Public Hearing - Proposed SALDO Ordinance No. 534 amendment that allows the waiver of land development for commercial and industrial improvements under 3,000 sq. ft. so long as the Tobyhanna Township guidelines are followed and it also adopts those guidelines.

This was advertised for public hearing today and has been sent to the Township Planning Commission and the County Planning Commission for review and comments.

John Kerrick made motion to open the public hearing, John Holahan III seconded. Vote: All in favor; public hearing open.

No questions or comments.

John Holahan III made motion to close the public hearing. Heidi Pickard seconded. Vote: All in favor; public hearing closed.

John Holahan III made motion to adopt Ordinance No. 534 - Chapter 135 of the SALDO that amends the commercial district zones and the commercial industrial district zones so that any commercial development of 3,000 sq. ft. or less that complies with the Tobyhanna Township's architectural and design guidelines would be exempt from the land development process. John Kerrick seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.

7. Manager Report

John Jablowski Jr thanks the student for all their letters that were sent to him and appreciates the opportunity to be with them today at the Tobyhanna Elementary Center. Mr. Jablowski gives the students an explanation of what they just witnessed during the public hearings in adopting of ordinances, and what ordinances are. Explains to the students that this is part of how government works.

8. Reports:

PMREMS - Heidi Pickard presents that calls for Tobyhanna Township for this month was 99 and for the region was 449. Year to date calls are 1874. Tobyhanna Township is up 3% for the month and 13% for the year. The fundraising subscription drive for the year is \$75 per family. There will be a fundraiser at Sky Top Lodge on September 7th for \$75 will include a pig roast and entertainment by Snake Oil Willie.

PMRPC - Presented by John Jablowski states the Regional Police Department covers five different municipalities and continues to be very busy.

Open Space - Heidi Pickard states that there is a meeting May 15, at 5 p.m. at the Blakeslee Natural Area with discussion planned on Hike & Bike Trails. All are welcome.

Overlay Committee - Presented by John Holahan III presents the vision of Blakeslee area which is now a flea market, diner and gas station to be turned into an area that is more pedestrian friendly with shops, skate park, ice cream store, etc. There will be a meeting on June 1st at the Blakeslee Community Center.

9. Old Business

A. Results of May 1, 2017 Board of Supervisor's Work Session:

1. A donation was made to the Tobyhanna Township Business Association.
2. Approval of request for waiver of land development from the BCRA and Kalahari Water Service for auxiliary tank.
3. Approval of BCRA rerating of the waste water treatment plant due to increased flows from Tobyhanna Township.
4. Approval of Resolution 2017-010 extending the expiration of the Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone within a specific geographic area within the township.
5. Approved Pennoni Engineering for \$6,000 to do an aerial survey of the Pocono Park location.

10. New Business

- A. Locust Lake Property Owner's Association would like to do fireworks on September 3, 2017. Zoning Officer Maureen Minnick confirms that all requirements have been met.

Heidi Pickard made motion to approve the Locust Lake Village Property Owner's Association fireworks display on September 3, 2017. John Holahan III seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.

- B. Hunter T. Barabas, Eagle Scout receives proclamation from Tobyhanna Township recognizing his hard work and service to the community. Hunter, who is part of the Minsi Trail Troop 80, worked diligently in creating a trail around the AWSOM property, clearing brush, constructing benches along the trail and raising funds for supplies. The Township proclamation acknowledges Hunter's achievement in obtaining the highest rank within the scouting organization, the Eagle Scout. Hunter has earned 62 merit badges, been a senior patrol leader, and has attended National Jambo in West Virginia and a high adventure trip to the Florida Keys.

John Holahan III made motion to approve proclamation recognizing Hunter T. Barabas, Eagle Scout and his service to the community. Heidi Pickard seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.

- C. John Holahan III made motion to adopt Resolution 2017-011 the Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) agreement. John Kerrick seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.
- D. Consideration of Resolution 2017-012 DCED greenway trails and recreation program grant application and authorize JDM Consultants LLC contract for grant writing.

John Jablowski presents that this is an opportunity to apply for a grant of up to \$100,000. We are going to engage a grant consultant to write the grant and an engineer to do the engineering. Mark Spatz will be giving Mr. Jablowski a proposal for the forthcoming meeting.

John Holahan III made motion to adopt Resolution 2017-012 authorizing the submission of the greenways, trails and recreation program grant application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority. Heidi Pickard seconded. Vote: All in favor, motion carries.

- E. PSVFC request for the waiver of festival permit fee.

John Kerrick made motion to deny PSVFC's request for the waiver of festival permit fee at the present time. Brendon Carroll seconded. Vote: All in favor; Request denied at this time.

- F. Pension Plan - Heidi Pickard presents that the actuary consultant made a recommendation that the Township lower assumption of the returns on investments from 7% to 6.75%. Current funding is over funded and this would allow us to maintain state aid.

Heidi Pickard made motion to reduce the interest rate assumption for the township pension plan from 7% to 6.75%. John Kerrick seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.

- G. Consider Cook Geologic, LLC Proposal - Well Drilling & Pump Testing

John Jablowski requests that the Board have a special meeting to discuss all economic development.

Board decides to table for now and agrees to schedule a special meeting to discuss economic development.

H. Consider RKR Hess Proposal - Hydrogeologic Investigation & Feasibility Study.

Board decides to table for now and will discuss at special meeting regarding economic development.

I. Mark Spatz from HRG Engineering discusses proposal to assist and strategic planning on the grant application to DCED for the Route 940 trail improvements as well as a proposal to assist in the development of the Blakeslee Natural Area trail section.

Heidi Pickard made motion to approve JDM Associates to do grant writing. John Holahan III seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.

John Kerrick made motion to approve HRG's proposal for additional services in the amount of \$2100. John Holahan III seconded. Vote: All in favor; motion carries.

Board agrees to schedule a special meeting to discuss the remainder of HRG's proposal fees.

J. Board agrees to schedule a special meeting to discuss sign ordinance changes. Special meeting scheduled for May 11, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

11. Board of Supervisors Report

John Jablowski congratulates Anne Lamberton being appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to serve on the state board.

12. Public Questions - Questions posed by students:

A. Will the new trail distract the High School Students?

No.

B. Will there be cabins on the trail?

No but maybe some shelter for bikers.

C. How long is the trail?

28 miles.

D. Could the township give some attention to the softball team?

Yes, we are actually working on that right now.

- E. Will you have to cut down trees? It is possible but we will be completing this project with the least amount of environmental impact. For any trees that need to be taken down we will replant trees in the area.
- F. Can you hunt or fish on the trail?
No hunting but you can fish.
- G. Will there be a gift shop there?
Maybe. That is a good suggestion.
- H. Will there be bike racks?
Yes.
- I. If someone on the trail needs help, with there be someone patrolling or EMS there?
Yes.
- J. Can you rent equipment at the trail?
Yes.
- K. Will there be water fountains along the way?
Yes.
- L. Will there be a snack bar?
Maybe. That is a great idea.
- M. Will there be picnic tables?
Yes.
- N. Will there be bathrooms?
Good point. Will consider that.
- O. Will there be gates to keep the wild animals safe?
No because wild animals like to roam.
- P. Well there be a recycling team to clean up the trail regularly?
Yes, absolutely.

13. John Holahan III made motion to adjourn meeting at 10:38 a.m.
Heidi Pickard seconded. Vote: All in favor; Meeting adjourned.

Minutes recorded by Debra S. Jean.