

**TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 26, 2015
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM**

The Public Meeting of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners was held on the above date in the Township Municipal Building located at 2900 South Pike Avenue, Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Brown asked everyone to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a short period of silence and reflection.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Brown turned the proceedings over to Randy Soriano, Township Manager.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

James Brown, President
Debra Brinton, Vice-President
Robert Martucci, Jr.
James Seagreaves, President Pro-Tempore
Joanne Ackerman

Staff Present:

Randy Soriano, Township Manager
Cathy Bonaskiewich, Assistant Township Manager/Finance Director
John Andreas, Director of Public Works
Allen Stiles, Chief of Police
Cynthia Sopka, Director of Planning & Zoning
John Ashley, Esquire, Township Solicitor
David Tettermer, representative of Keystone Consulting Engineers, Township Engineer

NOTIFICATION

Mr. Soriano informed the attendees that all sessions of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners regular meetings are recorded electronically for the purpose of taking the Minutes. All public comments on agenda items will be taken prior to the vote. All public comments related to non-agenda items will be taken after the agenda has been satisfied.

Mr. Soriano announced that the Township records the meetings and archives its tapes and records are available pursuant to the Right-to-Know Law, if requested.

Mr. Soriano reminded everyone of the three minute rule and asked that anyone who wishes to speak come to the podium, sign in, announce oneself, and speak clearly into the microphone. Mr. Soriano added that the speaker can choose not to list his/her address; however, it is preferred that the speaker announce if he or she is a Township resident. He noted that if a resident does not divulge his or her address, it will impair the Township administrative follow-ups on a particular issue.

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND LIST OF BILLS PAYABLE

Mr. Soriano presented the unaudited Financial Report and the list of Bills Payable.

Commissioner Martucci inquired about an item in the Capital Equipment Budget for the Police Department because the year-end actual amount is greater than the budgeted amount. Chief Stiles explained that the items in question are the Global Data Terminals and the money was reimbursed by the Casino Grant from Lehigh County.

Motion by Commissioner Ackerman, seconded by Commissioner Martucci, to approve the unaudited Financial Report for the period ending February 28, 2015 and the list of Bills Payable for the period 3/7/15-3/21/2015, broken down as follows:

\$339,285.82 = GENERAL
\$15,850.49 = FIRE
\$0 = LIBRARY
\$24,579.19 = WATER
\$29,677.19 = SEWER
\$0 = REFUSE & RECYCLING
\$42,763.53 = HIGHWAY AID
\$452,156.22 = GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

MINUTES

March 12, 2015

Commissioner Brown declared the Minutes of March 12th, 2015 accepted as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

Adoption of New Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. Soriano reminded the Board that the Township held a Public Hearing at the last meeting, which met one of the conditions required prior to adoption of the Ordinance. Mr. Soriano noted that he and the Solicitor have discussed the setback issue in regards to beekeeping, and while there may be a need to amend the section in the future, it is their recommendation that the Board pass the Ordinance as-is.

Attorney Ashley clarified that any resident who currently has a beehive and meets the current setback requirements is considered “grandfathered” and therefore does not have to comply with the new standards. He reiterated that the Board may change any sections of the new Zoning Ordinance at any time.

Ms. Janet Keim of 11 Pine Street was present to address the Board in regards to the beekeeping section of the new Ordinance. She requested that the Board to change the Ordinance now so that the issue does not get lost in the shuffle.

Ms. Jill Stanley of 2741 South Pike Avenue also expressed concerns about the beekeeping setbacks.

Commissioner Brown commented that the topic can be put on the Workshop Agenda for the next meeting. Commissioner Ackerman suggested that the President of the Lehigh Valley Beekeepers Association be present for that meeting so the Board can have feedback from a professional.

The Ordinance reads as follows:

**TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

Ordinance No. 03-2015-595

(Duly Adopted March 26, 2015)

*AN ORDINANCE REPEALING THE CURRENT EXISTING ZONING
ORDINANCE CODIFIED IN THE SALISBURY TOWNSHIP CODE OF
ORDINANCES, CH. 27, IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ADOPTING A NEW
ZONING ORDINANCE*

*WHEREAS, the principal purpose of the New Zoning Ordinance is to address
obsolete sections of the prior Ordinance, bring the Ordinance up-to-date with changing
State and Federal requirements and to reflect the changes made in the new Salisbury
Township Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2012; and*

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners, after careful review and consideration, desires to adopt a new Zoning Ordinance as prepared and submitted by the Planning Commission with the assistance of the firm Urban Research and Development Corp., the professional consultant;

*NOW, THEREFORE, be it **ORDAINED** and **ENACTED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Salisbury, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, that the Township hereby adopts the new Salisbury Township Zoning Ordinance in the form attached to this Ordinance, effective immediately.*

***DULY ORDAINED** and **ENACTED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Salisbury, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania this 26th day of March, 2015, in lawful session duly assembled.*

*BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY*

James A. Brown, President

Attest:

Randy Soriano, Secretary

Motion by Commissioner Martucci, seconded by Commissioner Brinton, to adopt Ordinance No. 03-2015-595, which repeals the current existing Zoning Ordinance codified in the Salisbury Township Code of Ordinances, Chapter 27, in its entirety and adopting a new Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

Utility Billing Rate Changes – First Reading.

Mr. Soriano stated that due to advertisement constraints, the Township was unable to meet the deadline imposed by the newspapers. Therefore, a first reading is needed and the actual adoption of the Ordinance will take place at the April 9th meeting. Mr. Soriano explained that the Township wishes to restate the standardized language for setting charges for sewer, water and refuse, and provide standardized language governing the billing and collection cycle for each category. He noted that the new collection cycle eliminates what was previously called the “discount” period and is replaced by a Gross 30, Net 15 and Penalty period.

Mr. Soriano commented that the total amount of the billing charges should remain the same for water and sewer, but decrease for refuse and recycling because of the new contract with Republic Services.

Ms. Bonaskiewich requested the Board give a consensus on the matter at this juncture because the timing of the Ordinance coincides with the mailing of the utility bills.

Mr. Soriano noted that the Board can vote on the first reading if it so chooses because it would provide an official approval of the Draft.

Motion by Commissioner Brinton, seconded by Commissioner Martucci, to approve the First Reading of the Utility Ordinance as presented.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Delegating Signature Authority to the Township Manager for the Execution of the Agreement of Authorize Electronic Access to PennDOT Systems.

Mr. Soriano stated that the Resolution will authorize himself to execute the agreement to authorize electronic access to the PennDOT system. He noted that this step is a requirement in order to do anything with PennDOT.

Motion by Commissioner Seagreaves, seconded by Commissioner Ackerman, to accept the Resolution delegating signature authority to the Township Manager for the execution of the agreement to authorize electronic access to PennDOT Systems.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

Proclaiming the Month of April 2015 Volunteer Month.

Mr. Soriano stated that each year, the Commissioners proclaim the month of April as Volunteer Month in order to recognize individuals who have dedicated his or her time to the community.

He noted that a ceremony and dinner hosted by the Board will be held on April 29th, 2015 where the nominees will be presented with a certificate.

Motion by Commissioner Ackerman, seconded by Commissioner Martucci, to adopt the Resolution that proclaims the month of April as Volunteer Month.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

MOTIONS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Soriano announced that the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 28th, 2015 at 10:00 am at Lindberg Park.

Mr. Soriano stated that he is planning to bring forth the Resolution for the CDBG Grant Application at the next Regular meeting on April 9th.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Paul Ressler of 604 E. Lynnwood Street expressed concerns about sump pump discharge from neighbors and requested that an Ordinance be created to regulate it. It was the consensus of the Board to look into the matter.

A resident inquired about a schedule for pothole repairs. Mr. Andreas commented that the Department of Public Works has been patching potholes over the past several weeks and noted that residents can call the Township at any time to address a specific issue.

Ms. Jane Benning of 3111 Douglas Road thanked the Public Works Department for the snow clearance during the winter. She also expressed concerns about the condition of Douglas Road.

Mr. Soriano introduced Mr. Joe D’Aniello, the Division Manager for Republic Services. Mr. D’Aniello provided the Board with a brief background about the company and encouraged residents to contact him with any issues they may encounter. Mr. Soriano commented that there is a contractual matter which needs to be discussed in an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ackerman made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Brinton. The time was 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Soriano
Secretary

These constitute the official minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on March 26, 2015.

Approved and certified on this date:

Randy Soriano

Date: _____

SEAL