

**TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY  
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
September 12, 2019  
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 Brinton asked everyone to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

Commissioner Brinton turned the proceedings over to Ms. Cathy Bonaskiewich, Township Manager.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members Present:**

Debra Brinton, President  
James Seagreaves, Vice-President  
Joanne Ackerman – EXCUSED  
Rodney Conn

**Staff Present:**

Cathy Bonaskiewich, Township Manager  
Sandy Nicolo, Assistant Township Manager/Code Enforcement Director/MS4 Coordinator  
Paul Ziegenfus, Finance Director  
John Andreas, Director of Public Works  
Kevin Soberick, Chief of Police  
Cynthia Sopka, Director of Planning & Zoning  
John Ashley, Esquire, representative of Davison & McCarthy, Township Solicitor  
David Tettermer, representative of Keystone Consulting Engineers, Township Engineer

**NOTIFICATION**

Ms. Bonaskiewich 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 commented related to non-agenda items will be taken after the agenda has been satisfied. Ms. Bonaskiewich reminded everyone of the three-minute rule and asked that anyone who wishes to speak, come to the podium, announce oneself, and sign-in with name and address so as to assist Township administration with follow-ups.

Ms. Bonaskiewich introduced State Representative Jeanne McNeill who presented retired Chief of Police, Allen Stiles, with a House Citation in recognition of his years of service.

**APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF BILLS PAYABLE**

**Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to approve the list of Bills Payable for the periods 8/17/2019-9/6/2019, broken down as follows:**

\$617,048.79 = GENERAL  
\$1,477.28= FIRE  
\$0 = LIBRARY  
\$103,002.97 = WATER  
\$111,731.14 = SEWER  
\$122,006.65 = REFUSE & RECYCLING  
\$35,942.80 = HIGHWAY AID  
\$5,000.00 = CAPITAL GENERAL  
\$4,700.00 = SUBDIVISION & ESCROW  
**\$1,000,909.63 = GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS**

**Roll Call:**

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – EXCUSED  
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES  
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES  
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES

**The Motion passed by 3-0.**

**MINUTES**

**August 22, 2019**

Commissioner Brinton declared the Minutes of August 22, 2019 accepted as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCES**

None.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution to Appoint Chief of Police**

Ms. Bonaskiewich stated that after a thorough search for the new Chief of Police, the Township is prepared to move forward with the appointment of Acting Chief Kevin Soberick to the position, effective September 13, 2019. She commented that Acting Chief Soberick has accepted the Township's offer, but it is contingent on a vote by the Board of Commissioners.

**Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to adopt Resolution No. 09-2019-1647, appointing Mr. Kevin Soberick as Chief of Police.**

**Roll Call:**

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – EXCUSED  
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES  
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES  
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES

**The Motion passed by 3-0.**

Chief Soberick was sworn in by District Judge Michael Pochron. Chief Soberick thanked the Board, his family and Township staff for their support.

**Resolution to Appoint Fire Services Director.**

Ms. Bonaskiewich stated that in an effort to implement some strategies recommended in the Emergency Service Study concluded earlier this year, the Township would like recommend the appointment of Mr. Dustin Grow to the newly created position of Fire Services Director, effective September 13, 2019.

Mr. Grow provided the Board with a brief synopsis of his background and thanked the Board for their support.

**Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to adopt Resolution No. 09-2019-1648, appointing Mr. Dustin Grow as Fire Services Director.**

**Roll Call:**

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – EXCUSED  
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES  
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES  
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES

**The Motion passed by 3-0.**

Mr. Dustin Grow was sworn in by Attorney Ashley.

**MOTIONS**

**Motion to Approve Waiver Request for Grading Plan – 2740 Old South Pike Avenue.**

Mr. Tettermer stated that the property owner is constructing a single-family home on a pre-existing lot and is requesting a waiver to SALDO Section 1003.7, which requires the grading plan be approved by the Conservation District. He explained that the Township has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Conservation District that allows for very small projects to be under the Township's determination as to whether or not it needs to go to the Conservation District. Mr.

Tettemer noted that he will be reviewing the plans, but since the requirement is in the SALDO, the property owner needs an official waiver to that request.

**Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to approve the Waiver Request for Grading Plan at 2740 Old South Pike Avenue.**

**Roll Call:**

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – EXCUSED  
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES  
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES  
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES

**The Motion passed by 3-0.**

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Chief Soberick noted that the Police Department is implementing a ride-along program at the end of September with a recovering addict who will act as an advocate to deal with some of the drug problems the department encounters on the street level.

Attorney Peter Lehr, Solicitor for the Borough of Fountain Hill, was present to update the Board on the negotiations between the Township and the Borough concerning the sewer transmission agreement. He explained that transmission agreement allows the Township, or parts of the Township, to transmit their waste through the Borough's sewer system to the treatment processing plant in Bethlehem. Attorney Lehr commented that the agreement provided for rate increases but had expired in 2006, so negotiations began last year to discuss amending the agreement in order to share costs associated with the system. He noted that the Borough presented a proposal where each municipality would share the costs of sewer transmission in accordance with the gallons per day flow that results from the respective systems. Attorney Lehr alleged that the Township will only consider only minor incremental rate increases, and stated that if an agreement cannot be reached on the framework, negotiations will end and the Borough will continue to the next phase.

Mr. Dave Harrington of Lower Milford Township introduced himself to the Board as a candidate who is running for an at-large position with Lehigh County.

Ms. Bonnie Thomasick of 1145 Lehigh Avenue was present to express concerns about Ueberroth Street and again requested to make it a one-way street from East Susquehanna Street. Chief Soberick noted that Officer Losagio, the Department's Traffic Enforcement Officer, looked at the area and believes it would be feasible to make it one-way for one block. Mr. Tettemer noted that he will check to make sure a traffic study is not needed only because a state road is involved.

Commissioner Brinton inquired if the Township would have to consult with the residents prior to making a decision. Attorney Ashley stated that the Board can make the decision, but the Township should put the item on an upcoming agenda to encourage residents to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Seagreaves commented that he lives in the area and believes there to be a better solution to the problem other than making Ueberroth one-way. Mr. Tettemer noted that if a street

goes from two ways to one, the Township would have to post the route with detours, guiding motorists around. He stated that the Township should go by PennDOT requirements, which would help with liability issues. Ms. Bonaskiewich commented that there will be an internal dialogue and then issue will be placed on an upcoming Workshop agenda for public discussion.

Mr. David Giering of 1221 Salisbury Road expressed concerns regarding motorists running the stop sign at Gaskill Avenue and Salisbury Road. Chief Soberick noted that he will follow-up with Officer Losagio. Mr. Giering also expressed concerns about emergency equipment maneuvering on Salisbury Road due to the parking on the road.

Representative Jeanne McNeill commented that her staff now has office hours at the Borough of Fountain Hill on Fridays from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and welcomed Township residents to come in with any legislative business. She also announced that there will be an electronics recycling and paper shredding event at Harry S. Truman Elementary School on November 16, 2019. Representative McNeill noted that the shredding will be free, but there will be a fee for some of the electronics. She commented that she will provide the Township with a fee schedule as soon as it is ready.

Commissioner Briton stated that there will be an Executive Session held after the Workshop regarding personnel matters.

Mr. Joshua Wells, Fire Chief of Western Salisbury Fire Department, announced that the Department will be holding Community Day at Green Acres Park on Saturday, September 14 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Conn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves. The time was 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Bonaskiewich  
Township Secretary

These constitute the official minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on September 12, 2019.

Approved and certified on this date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathy Bonaskiewich

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEAL