

**MINUTES
COLLIER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

WORKSHOP MEETING

September 12, 2022

7:00 P.M.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** President Chiurazzi called the workshop meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. ROLL CALL:

BOARD

Dawnlee Vaughn – Absent
Tim Young – Present
Debra Zymroz –Present
Mary Ann Cupples- Present
Wayne Chiurazzi, Esq.– Present

STAFF

Kate Diersen, Solicitor – Absent
Travis Stanczyk, Engineer – Absent
Craig Campbell, Police Chief – Absent
Bob Caun, Planning Director – Absent
Jeff Hinds, Finance Director – Absent
Tom Plietz – Bldg/Fire Codes – Absent
Bob Palmosina, PW Director – Absent
Josh Werner, Parks Director – Absent
George Macino, Twp. Manager – Present
Dana Slizik, Asst. Twp. Manager - Present
Valerie Salla, Twp. Secretary – Present

- C. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Was held prior to the meeting to discuss legal and personnel issues.

II. Board Discussion for Committees

A. Administrative/Public Affairs

Commissioner Zymroz reported the following:

1. *Communications.* We are updating all our communications systems and contacts.
2. *Events.* The Beer Fest has been cancelled until next year due to the lack of insurance issues. The Clarks will be playing on September 16th. The bus trip was cancelled. There will be a Collierfest Car Cruise.
3. *Engineers.* We have been building a new department with the engineering company and it has been going great.

B. Building/Codes

There was no report.

C. COG (Char West Council of Governments)

Commissioner Vaughn reported the following:

1. *Next Meeting.* Will be on September 15th at 6:30 p.m. at the Collier Community Center.

Mrs. Slizik, Assistant Manager, informed the Board the COG Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. A local business from Collier doing the catering. There are 20 communities that will be attending.

D. Finance

Commissioner Young reported the following:

1. *Real Estate Taxes.* We have received \$2 million 640 thousand, as of September 7, 2022. We project for paying early \$3 million six hundred and eighty thousand.
2. *Earned Income Tax.* We have received \$1million 114 thousand to date and should expect a higher number by the end of October.
3. *2022 Income and Expenses.* A report will be given next month.

E. Parks & Recreation

Commissioner Zymroz reported the following:

1. *CollierFest.* Will be held on September 23rd and 24th. On Friday night, September 23rd there will be cars, trucks and motorcycles from 5:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. There will also be vendors, a band and Friends of Collier will have baskets inside to raffle. On Saturday, September 24th from 3:00p.m. to 9:00 p.m. there will be bands, vendors, games for kids, train rides, basketball games, roller hockey tournament and fireworks. The train is a donation from our Public Works Department. The rides are free for the kids and it is a big hit for the kids.
2. *Flu Clinic* will on October 6th from 3:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. at the Community Center.
3. *Senior Luncheon.* Has increased to around 50 people.
4. *Flag Football.* Has 38 players signed up.
5. *Meeting with new Engineers.* Will be discussing a spray pad, pickleball courts and creating more fields.

F. Planning and Land Use Development

Commissioner Cupples reported the following:

1. *Planning Commission.* Will be held on September 15th for final PRD approval of a clubhouse and pool for Legacy Development.

G. Public Safety

Commissioner Young reported the following:

1. *Police Department.* Within the next month or two, the Civil Service Commission and the Police Chief will have all the reports done and can recommend two (2) police officers to be hired in Collier Township. Commissioner Young spoke to the Chief about Sergeants and Corporals.

2. *EMS*. On Tuesday nights there is training for the EMS. They have a doctor doing the training. His name is Doctor Trainer from St. Clair Hospital. He spoke about the drug Ketamine. The mobile EMS units are allowed to carry this drug now which is used for pain and to get people under control. The drug does not last that long.
3. *Fire*. Chief Wauthier of the Presto VFD informed the Board they have been busy this month. All three (3) fire departments trained together doing a pump drill, a hose advancement drill and some search and rescue drills. The daylight crew is doing very well. There are two (2) guys doing rotations throughout all the stations. They use Presto's duty truck. They start their day at Presto VFD and end their day at Presto VFD. Chief Wauthier will have a presentation for the board next month. Presto VFD has had 285 calls so far this year.

Commissioner Zymroz thanked the Presto VFD for putting together a picnic for the first responders.

Commissioner Cupples stated that the residents that live by Interstate 79 have talked about the noise at night coming from I79. The motorcycles, cars and trucks can be heard at night going 100 miles an hour. Commissioner Cupples knows it is a State road but was wondering if the Police Chief could have something done and ask the State Troopers to patrol there before someone gets hurt.

H. Public Works

Commissioner Vaughn reported the following:

1. *Rock the Quarry*. Helped with set up and take down for the Rock the Quarry event on the Panhandle Trail.
2. *Berm Cuts*. Grass cutting along roadway berms for bus company.
3. *Discovery Trail*. Finalized.
4. *Dek Hockey Nets*. Removed old nets and installed new nets for Dek Hockey Tournament.
5. *Presto Park*. Repaired wooden play structure.
6. *Steen Bridge*. Met with Engineer to evaluate bridge.
7. *Skvarca Park*. Painted Doors.
8. *Parks*. Completed routine maintenance. Cut and dragged all baseball fields.
9. *PA One Call*. Work completed.
10. *MS4*. Work Completed.
11. *Collierfest*. Setting up.

Commissioner Zymroz added we have gotten a lot of compliments on the Discovery Trail. She thanked the Public Works Department on all the work they do.

I. Sewer Department

Commissioner Young reported the following:

1. *Agreements*. Signed two (2) agreements turning over the sewer systems of Cabbage Hill and Thoms Run back to Alcosan. There was no monetary loss to the Township by doing this.

2. *Duquesne Light.* The Township has been trying to get paid \$15,000.00 from Duquesne Light due to them breaking the Township sewer line on Route 50. The Assistant Manager, Dana Slizik, has been handling this. Mrs. Slizik informed the Board they have been meeting with the Engineers every month and working the sewers and MS4 items. We are building and reorganizing our sewer maintenance emergency plan and our O& M Plan (Operation and Maintenance Plan). The Public Works Department will be attending a class offered by ALOM to be trained on MS4, Sewers, etc.

J. Township Manager / Township Business

Mr. Macino reported the following:

1. *Budget Season.* The Commissioners will need to meet with their Committee Directors to go through their budgets for 2023.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

Gerhardt Egri of 7 Walker Avenue approached the Board with a complaint regarding the EMS Service. He is a longtime resident and pays his taxes which in return, pays for the EMS services. He also donates to the EMS every year, so his cost is not astronomical and a burden upon him. He can show the Board proof of what the EMS is charging him that he has to pay out of his pocket. This has happened to him before. He is currently being billed \$1,013.00 even though he has contributed his portion to eliminate those costs. Previously when the EMS was operated, he was never told he needed any type of insurance or anything else. When a person contributed, they were automatically put into the system where the cost was not the great. You may have only had to pay \$100.00 and not \$1,000.00.

Commissioner Chiurazzi informed Mr. Egri the Township does not control the EMS. We do not control their billing. The EMS is an autonomous agency that the Township has a relationship with only.

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked Mr. Egri if he turned the bill into his insurance.

Mr. Egri stated that is the problem. He is supposed to have the best insurance under government program, but they said he is not covered because he is non-service connected.

Commissioner Zymroz questioned if Mr. Egri was donating to them or are u a subscriber.

Mr. Egri stated he is a subscriber to the EMS.

Commissioner Zymroz stated if Mr. Egri is a subscriber, the Township can look into this. A donation is different.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated the Township can make a call for you to see if we can get this straightened out and asked Mr. Egri to give his paperwork to Mrs. Slizik.

Commissioner Cupples asked Mr. Egri if he had information about his subscription.

Mr. Egri stated his wife wrote the check, so he did not know what was done. It was a check for \$99.00 made out to Kirwan Heights Rescue. Either case, he objects charged this amount that then comes out of our social security and he will be taking this issue further. Mr. Egri also stated the Township needs to unmerge the EMS and put it back to the way it was because it was a good thing at that time and there was never an issue.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated the Township does not make any money off the EMS services and advised Mr. Egri to let the Township call the EMS Service to see if the Township can help resolve the issue.

Mrs. Slizik will look into Mr. Egri's EMS bill and get back to him.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consider action to advertise for request for proposals on a vehicle leasing program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Young to advertise for request for proposals on a vehicle leasing program. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.

V. Approval of General, Capital and Sewer Fund Operating Account items:

1. Invoices Paid, Checks Written and Bills Requested August 23, 2022, to September 12, 2022:

- General Fund in the amount of \$478,563.47
- Capital Fund in the amount of \$2,655.12.
- Sewer Fund in the amount of \$2,433.56.

Motion was made by Commissioner Vaughn, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to approve the General, Capital and Sewer Fund Account items as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Commissioner Zymroz; seconded by Commissioner Vaughn; to adjourn the workshop meeting at 7:28 p.m. By unanimous vote of the Board the motion passed.

Wayne M. Chiurazzi, President
Board of Commissioners

Valerie A. Salla
Township Secretary