

**MINUTES  
COLLIER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WORKSHOP MEETING**

**February 27, 2019**

**7:00 P.M.**

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

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**B. ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD**

Wilson Durisko – Present  
Wayne Chiurazzi, Esq. - Present  
Dawn Williams-Zabicki – Present  
Rick Ruffennach – Present  
George Macino – Present

**STAFF**

Chuck Means, Solicitor - Absent  
Kevin Brett, Engineer - Absent  
Craig Campbell, Police Chief – Absent  
Robert Caun, Planning Director – Absent  
Sean Gramz, Bldg./Codes Officer - Absent  
Jeff Hinds, Finance Director – Absent  
Bob Palmosina, PW Director – Absent  
Rochelle Barry, Parks Director – Absent  
Kyle Thauvette, Twp. Manager - Present  
Valerie Salla, Twp. Secretary – Present

- C. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss legal matters.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:**

There were no public comments.

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. To accept the resignation of Brian Heil from the Collier Township Municipal Authority as of February 14, 2019.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to accept the resignation of Brian Heil as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

2. Consider action on the Nevillewood Wellness Center Final Land Development, the Planning Commission has reviewed and recommends approval with the condition of satisfying the items listed in the Township Engineers review letter dated February 20, 2019.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Ruffennach, to approve The Club at Nevillewood Wellness Center Final Land Development as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

3. Consider action to enter into a Developers Agreement with The Club at Nevillewood for the Wellness Center, with the condition that the language is acceptable to the Township Solicitor and Township Engineer.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Ruffennach, to enter into a Developer's Agreement with The Club at Nevillewood for the Wellness Center as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned Mr. Thauvette when they could start digging for the Wellness Center?

Mr. Thauvette stated once plans have been submitted and reviewed, permits will be issued.

Mr. Greg Banner questioned if they could begin digging before the building permits are issued.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated we need plans to review.

Mr. Banner stated the building plans are near completion so it will take several weeks before the building permit is issued. They would like to get a head start on the excavation. They have to do some shoring at the end of the pool and would like to get this underway as soon as they can.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned why can't they get the plans in? Without plans we cannot issue a permit.

Mr. Banner stated the Township has plans for the excavation but does not have plans for the building itself.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated right now there is no traffic in that area and it would be nice to dig without traffic.

Mr. Thauvette stated there are comments in the developer's agreement.

Mr. Banner stated he made some comments back and provided them to the Nevillewood team and hopefully they will send comments back to the Township Solicitor.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated if they have submitted plans for excavating, then let's give them the permit.

Mr. Thauvette stated as long as Solicitor Means is ok with this and the Board wants to follow the Solicitor's lead, then we can issue the permit.

Mr. Ken Flisek stated they will be digging near the pool and would like to get that digging done before the pool opens for safety reasons as well as digging behind the 18<sup>th</sup> green. We would like to get that done before gold season starts. We are not ready to start right now but want to start sometime soon.

Mr. Banner stated we have to put shoring in at the end of the pool to hold it up since we are cutting down two stories. A plywood panel will shield the pool from the construction work.

Commissioner Macino stated as soon as the plans are submitted then we have something to work with and at this point we do not have anything to work with. We are not trying to hold this up. We are just waiting for the plans.

Mr. Flisek stated they are also waiting.

Mr. Banner stated they have a meeting every Friday morning and he will bring this up that they need to speed up the plans.

Mr. Flisek stated they will get the Architect to get moving.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated to not make the Township rush if they are not going to dig right away. They need to work with Kyle.

Mr. Banner and Mr. Flisek thanked the Board.

4. Consider action to advertise Collier Township's 2019 Roadway Improvement Program.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Ruffennach, seconded by Commissioner Durisko, to advertise the 2019 Roadway Improvement Program as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

5. Consider action to appoint David Auel and Art Kifer as full-time members to the Zoning Hearing Board for a five (5) year term ending on December 31, 2023.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to appoint David Auel and Art Kifer to the Zoning Hearing Board as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

6. Consider action to appoint Dan Wauthier as an Alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board for a five (5) year term ending on December 31, 2023.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to appoint Dan Wauthier as an Alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

7. Consider action to appoint Andy Giroski as an Alternate to the Planning Commission for a four (4) year term ending on December 31, 2022.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to appoint Andy Giroski as an Alternate to the Planning Commission as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

8. Consider action to appoint Tom Chidlow to the Planning Commission for a four (4) year term to end on December 31, 2022.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to appoint Tom Chidlow to the Planning Commission as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

9. Consider action to appoint Diane Kuppelweiser and Matt Shipton to fill the vacancies as full-time members to the Parks and Recreation Board for terms ending on December 31, 2020.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to appoint Diane Kuppelweiser and Matt Shipton to the Parks and Recreation Board as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

10. Consider action to appoint Holly McIlree as an Alternate to the Parks and Recreation Board for a four (4) year term ending December 31, 2022.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki, seconded by Commissioner Chiurazzi, to appoint Holly McIlree as an Alternate to the Parks and Recreation Board as stated above. By unanimous vote the motion carried.*

#### **IV. DISCUSSION:**

- A. Administrative Committee/Public Affairs:** Commissioner Ruffennach reported the following:

1. **Banner Community Award.** Will take place on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the River place. If interested see Kyle Thauvette.
2. **Keep Collier Beautiful.** Is on April 27<sup>th</sup> and this year registrations and the picnic will all be held at the Community Center.
3. **Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).** Having a ribbon cutting for their new place at the Chartiers Valley Shopping Center in March. We do not have a date and time yet. Governor Wolf will be attending.
4. **Road Paving Program 2019.** Will be done this year.

5. **Active Shooter Training.** This training is for all the Collier Township employees and will take place in late March. Officer Oslick will be doing the teaching for all employees.

Commissioner Macino asked Mr. Thauvette to inform the Board of what the training will consist of for the employees.

Mr. Thauvette stated our Police Department is currently getting training on a new software that will have the building layouts of our school buildings. This will cut down on response times for the first responders to get where they need to be. For the active shooting training, we will put together a brochure on the layouts of the Community Center, the Administration building and the Public Works building for the first responders. It is important for our employees to go through this training because of the open and easily accessed building that we have. This will give our employees the tools they need to protect themselves. The training is called ALICE. Officer Oslick is a certified instructor for ALICE training.

Commissioner Macino questioned if an active shooter alert goes out on the Code Red Alert?

Mr. Thauvette stated that would be a police department discretion. We do not want to compromise a situation the police are dealing with. If the public needs to know, they will be told. There are times the public does not need to know. The Police Chief, the Emergency Management Coordinator and himself talk about this before a message is sent out. Non-Emergencies are told to the public like garbage is being delayed or cancelled. Things like that.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated he feels the Commissioners should be notified regardless.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki agreed.

6. **Coffee Hour with the Manager.** Is on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the Community Center.

**B. COG Committee:** Commissioner Ruffennach reported the following:

1. **The meeting was held last Thursday at McKees Rocks.** It was a quick meeting.  
The treasurer that was elected in January stepped down and Liz Douglas from McKees Rocks is now the new Treasurer.
2. **COG Advertise.** The COG is trying to advertise the COG and to see how to make the COG better and get more communities. They have a committee set up to see about the possibility of going joint with another COG. This will take a couple of years to get all figured out.
3. **Secretaries/Managers Meeting.** Will be held on March 26, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Carnegie Borough building.

4. **Right to Know Seminar.** Was held on March 5, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Carnegie Borough building.
5. **Vactor Truck.** There are many openings for the use of this truck. It cost \$,4000.00 a week. The COG would like every community to use the vactor truck two (2) to three (3) times a week during the summer.
6. **Next COG Meeting.** Will be held in Coraopolis at a restaurant.

**C. Finance Committee:** Commissioner Macino reported the following:

1. **2018 Audit.** Preparation is underway and the target is to have it completed by the first part of May. The Board will receive reports from the Auditors at a later date.

**D. Parks and Recreation:** Commissioner Durisko reported the following:

1. **Demo Site.** He looked at the demo site and was disappointed at the condition it was in and questioned what the contract said about how it was to look when it was finished and if grass will be put in.

Mr. Thauvette stated we are holding payments to them until grass does come up. The area was seeded.

Commissioner Durisko stated the whole right side is gravel. There is no soil at all. The angulation is bad and you could not put a team on it to practice.

Mr. Thauvette stated there was not a spec that said they would be perfectly level. They are just demoed, seeded and erosion blankets put down. However, since there are still rusted metal pieces, pipe, broken head lights laying around and cement blocks still need cleaned up.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned how much money we have held back paying them.

Mr. Thauvette stated \$12,000.00.

Commissioner Durisko stated he doesn't know how to get good field usage out of it if you don't strip a lot of the gravel out and then put in good topsoil. He just wanted some level grass for the kids to have warm up practices.

Mr. Thauvette stated the project was to only demolish the buildings and put grass in its place. We did not have a spec on three (3) to four (4) inches of topsoil. The engineer did tell us that if we wanted to turn those into playable fields it would be easy for us to do.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if Mr. Thauvette has spoke to the contractor about getting things cleaned up and are, they coming back?

Mr. Thauvette stated yes and they are coming back.

Commissioner Macino stated we got the contractor at a low bid and questioned if we got what we paid for.

Commissioner Durisko stated we did get what we paid for and what can we do for the next step before it is completed. Should we put topsoil in?

Commissioner Ruffennach has always said we should take the hillside here on Hilltop and grade it down to the road. We could use that topsoil for the park and topsoil the whole thing, grade it out and level it.

Mr. Thauvette stated we may be able to get clean fill dumped from people that call in the office all the time to find a place to dump it. We could rent a machine for one week and grade it all out.

Commissioner Durisko stated we have a machine to grade it.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated to let the contractor do what they are supposed to do and questioned if they put grass seed down.

Mr. Thauvette stated they put grass seed down on top of gravel and things that need cleaned up. That is why we are withholding their money. We will not pay them anymore money until they finish the project.

2. **Jeep.** Commissioner Durisko questioned what we are going to do with the Jeep. He is tired of seeing it just sit there. Maybe we should trade it in on something because nobody seems to be using it.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned what it is used for.

Commissioner Durisko stated it was originally to be used for picking up supplies.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated we need to get rid of it.

3. **Restrooms.** Commissioner Durisko stated the restrooms need a sign on them that won't get torn off for vandalism.
4. **Garbage/Recycling Bins.** Commissioner Durisko stated we need larger signs on the cans because they both look the same. They are the same size and have the same size opening. There is garbage in both of them. We need to do something to make them different. Maybe paint or get a different lid for the recycling can so people will know the difference.

Commissioner Durisko stated these are all just things I saw today walking through the park.

5. **Concerts in the Park.** The concerts are all set and the highlight at the end of the year is the Clarke's.
6. **Webb Park playground.** We are working on new playground equipment at Webb Park. We are negotiating a price on the rubberized surface. We did get a really good deal on the play set for Webb Park.
7. **Aerobic Equipment.** Mr. Thauvette informed the Board that Rochelle Barry and Rob Shazer would like to purchase a piece of equipment.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki questioned if this was in the budget.

Mr. Thauvette stated this is an unbudgeted item.

Commissioner Durisko questioned if this is something they wanted to buy or something that needs a personal trainer come in and use while he was there getting a commission from.

Mr. Thauvette stated it is called a Vertimax. It is a platform with rubber bands attached to it that allows strength and conditioning exercise one person at a time.

Commissioner Durisko stated it can only be used when a personal training is there to supervise you.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki questioned what the cost it.

Mr. Thauvette stated \$3,500.00.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki questioned why they want to buy it and was there a demand for this by users of this machine.

Mr. Thauvette stated that is what they are attempting to find out now. They put a survey out to see who is interested in this Vertimax training program.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki stated she responded to that survey and is not interested.

Mr. Thauvette stated Ms. Barry got a lot of comments back that people are interested in personal training options at the Community Center but not so much with the Vertimax. This is something that the trainer they are trying to work with would like to have to use . He sees it as a money maker. The more people that use this Vertimax training will pay for the equipment itself.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki stated she would like to see the business case. It is going to cost us this, this is how many people will be using it for this period of time and this is how it is going to get paid for. This sounds like a gimmick of a waste of money to her.

Commissioner Durisko stated the catch is you must have someone there and then you must lock it up and store it.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki stated no one uses the weight room so who is going to use this?

Mr. Thauvette stated the people that sign up to work with the personal trainer and Mr. Thauvette doesn't know if it makes good business sense to buy. He is passing along a request of Rochelle and Rob. He supports them in their endeavors and will only cut a check if the Board approves it. He is concerned



that if it is very successful in the first six (6) months and pays for itself but then the trainers leave for whatever reason, it will sit in the backroom somewhere and never get utilized again. If we are going to buy a piece of equipment, it would make more sense that can be utilized by every resident where they are certified or not and can be put on the floor to be used.

Commissioner Durisko stated Rob and Rochelle can be certified.

Mr. Thauvette stated they could be certified but they have more of an administrative job scope than personal training.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki advised Mr. Thauvette to have them put together a business case for the Board. How popular is this Vertimax and has anyone heard of it?

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated he has heard of it. His son Anthony uses it. It is in Planet Fitness and LA Fitness. If they can put together a business plan that is fine. He heard it was a 60/40 split but doesn't know who is going to go to the Community Center to use that machine. He likes the idea but only because we rely upon our officials on certain things to educate us and doesn't care about a Vertimax but, if Rob thinks it is worth while and can make money based upon a plan then he wants to support him.

Mr. Thauvette agreed.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned how many people will really use it.

Commissioner Durisko stated he thinks Rob is going to use it to funnel teams through it for the better athletes to use.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated Commissioner Durisko was correct. When his son was moving up, he would spend any amount of money for personal training relative to soccer and we did. We will have this personal trainer coming in to use this Vertimax charging \$100 an hour and give the Township a cut of the money. They have to convince us about this Vertimax. Rob really wants this machine and doesn't know why.

Mr. Thauvette stated he thought the boosters at the school bought one for the basketball team and Rob has gotten to see it in action. He knows it works and that his players are using it and Rob wants to bring this to Collier Township.

Mr. Thauvette stated he is not totally against it and sees the benefit this has that other communities do not have.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki stated there was to be a commitment to draw people to come in and use the Vertimax.

Mr. Thauvette stated there has to be a commitment for short term use and for sustainable use.

Commissioner Durisko stated he thought the trainer was going to see if any rooms upstairs in the Community Center could work clearance wise.

Mr. Thauvette stated he did not hear that.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki stated she will keep an open mind until we see the business plan.

Commissioner Macino questioned if Mrs. Maryann Cupples-Wisnoiski wanted to add anything to parks and Recreation.

Mrs. Cupples-Wisnoiski stated they cancelled the meeting on Tuesday so there was nothing.

- E. Planning and Zoning:** Commissioner Williams-Zabicki reported the following:
1. The Planning Commissioner met last Thursday and recommended for approval:
    - The Nevillewood Wellness Center final land development with conditions from LSSE Engineers.
    - The Sheetz final land development with conditions from LSSE.
    - The Carpenter's Union final land development with conditions from LSSE.
    - The Dwinga Plan of Lots Subdivision with conditions from LSSE.
- F. Public Safety Committee:** Commissioner Macino reported the following:
1. **Training.** Mr. Thauvette already spoke about the training the Police Department will be doing.
  2. **Personnel Changes.** These changes will be identified at our public meeting on March 13, 2019.
  3. **Fire Department Vehicle Proposal.** Commissioner Macino asked Commissioner Ruffennach to inform the Board on this.

Commissioner Ruffennach stated he was invited down to the Rennerdale VFD to go over final drawings on an Engine/Rescue Truck they are purchasing. They asked him if the Commissioners would be interested in floating a bond for them for the cost of their truck. They would be willing to use their allotment that they get from the Township every year as payment on that truck. In doing this, it would save the VFD about \$200,000.00. The truck is going through either way. He told the VFD he would talk with all the Commissioners to see what they thought. A year ago, when they first where talking about purchasing this truck they came to us and asked to do this bond. Back then, we thought we could not do this bond for them because we would have to open this up to both Presto and Kirwan Heights to do the same thing.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki stated she thought the Board was waiting to hear the results of the study that was being done before we made a call.

Commissioner Ruffennach stated the study is done but not finalized yet. The study has all the information in it. Commissioner Macino and Commissioner Ruffennach spoke before about this and Commissioner Macino thought that maybe we could offer them this year and last year's allotment

(about \$180,000.00) and they can go get a loan for the balance of the truck. The truck is coming in at about \$500,000.00 or a little more. Maybe this would make a cheaper payment plus we are helping them out with money we would be giving them anyways and then they would not get their allotment until 2 years down the road if we can do this.

Commissioner Durisko questioned we thought they had to pay for half up front.

Commissioner Ruffennach stated the truck is already ordered and they didn't mention that to him. There would probably be a 30-year loan on a \$500,000.00 truck.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated the bond issue is not a good idea for using tax payer's money and Commissioner Macino's idea is excellent.

Commissioner Ruffennach thought it was a good idea also. We would be helping them and they couldn't come to us asking for more money. We would have to tell Rennerdale the two (2) years allotment was given already for the truck.

Commissioner Durisko stated we should have the Finance Director, Jeff Hinds, give us a safe number that we could extend without hurting ourselves in any way.

Commissioner Ruffennach stated if we do this for Rennerdale, we will have to do this for both Presto and Kirwan Heights.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned why can't they buy the truck for \$90,000.00 a year that we give them?

Commissioner Ruffennach stated they are buying the truck. The truck is coming. They are looking to save some interests.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki questioned if we know when the study is coming to us.

Mr. Thauvette stated it should be finalized within the next four (4) to six (6) weeks.

Commissioner Ruffennach stated the truck is coming no matter what.

Commissioner Macino stated the issue is we would forward pay 2020 monies in 2019. Could we find \$90,000 by the end of the year so the budget does not get to far out of whack. This is a risk and next year there is not \$90,000 paid to Rennerdale. He thinks this is beneficial and if we can help Rennerdale on a piece of equipment they need, he cannot to make the call.

Mr. Thauvette stated the only thing to consider is the money that we pay the fire departments comes from the emergency services fee and if we are collecting money in 2020 from the emergency services fee and not giving it to the fire department and coming up with \$90,000 out of the general fund for 2019, it will be flagged in an audit that we will have to explain.

Commissioner Macino stated we need to ask the Auditors, Mark Turnley's Office if this is legitimate.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated he feels this raises all kind of problems. He loves the fire department and wants to support them but there must be something better for him to get behind doing this. Also, what if the next Board comes in here and gets rid of the emergency fund. That fund is not guaranteed. The next Board could get rid of the fund and then we have really screwed over the tax payers. He doesn't feel this is a risk worth taking. When we decided to have that fund, we did not say it was an every year thing. It was an extra fund.

Commissioner Durisko stated it can only go to emergency services.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated right but then we split it up having some go to the Police and some goes to Public Works. He is not comfortable with promising a payment when the fund is not a guarantee.

Commissioner Macino stated if we want to get out of the fund then we will have to lower the tax rate.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki stated she doesn't know if this piece of equipment is a need for the Township. This is not a fire department asset. It is an asset that provides safety for the community. Given our geographic expanse and the number of residents, do we have the right number of fire truck assets to protect this community if there is a fire in one part of the community and a fire in another part of the community. This is what she wants to see in the study because maybe we have to many and maybe we don't have enough and maybe this one is filling the gap that we have. She wants to look at this as a community wide Township asset verses each fire departments assets.

Commissioner Durisko stated maybe we are going down the wrong path. Maybe we should say this is a Collier Truck.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated maybe we have to many assets or maybe we don't. They already ordered the truck. This doesn't make him comfortable using tax payer's money.

Commissioner Durisko stated maybe the fire study will show this is the last piece of fire equipment that is needed for the whole Township.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated if someone looks at the budget, we could be questioned what we are doing.

Commissioner Ruffennach stated Rennerdale sold the ladder truck to use that money towards this new truck. The other truck they have is old like the ladder truck was. They were going to hold on to the truck as the extra truck, but he thinks they have come to grips and will try to get some money out of it. They are going back to what they had originally. This new truck is a multi-purpose truck that will be used for everything. The other truck they have is definitely what they need to get up some of these driveways out in the country. The new truck will not get up those driveways. Rennerdale is going in the right path. The question is does the Township have too much equipment. In his opinion the Township has enough equipment. The Township itself has too much equipment. His experience being a fireman, there is a lot of equipment in this Township. Some of it is duplicated. They all have rescue tools for a vehicle accident and doesn't see way we have to have three (3) departments with that kind of equipment. There is plenty of pumpers, squads and attack vehicles. This is just his opinion. Rennerdale is thinking right if they get rid of the other engine they had for awhile and then yes, they are back to what they had before.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated maybe all three (3) need to come in here to say what they use the emergency funding for.

Commissioner Ruffennach stated he feels that money should not be used unless they show what they are using it for, or they must prove what they use it for. We just don't hand them over the money. If they don't have anything to use the money on, then the money stays here.

Commissioner Durisko stated we do get itemized statements at the end of every year that shows what the money went to.

Mr. Thauvette stated all three (3) departments submit a budget and we know what they spend their money on.

Commissioner Macino stated the Board needs to see the fire study before a decision is made.

Commissioner Durisko stated the Board needs to know the following:

1. exactly how much Rennerdale is asking for.
2. Is this legal to do and do we have enough money accumulated to make that expense out without putting the Township tight.

Commissioner Macino stated this is a subject that we will be talking about over the next six (6) weeks until we get the fire study back.

**G. Public Works Committee:** Commissioner Durisko reported the following:

1. We received three (3) loads of cold patch from the State. This was reimbursement for patching potholes on State roads.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated he feels it is a liability risk that the Township should not take on to patch the State roads and he did himself say to patch the

holes. The problem is, effective condition of the land is one of the exceptions to sue a government agency. If a bad pothole patch is done, we could be sued because it is of the land. It is a condition of the land. If we do a bad job on a State road and something happens, the State is going to say Collier patched those and we will be sued. Also, there must be a grievance filed by the State employees about the Township fixing those holes. The Township needs to get an agreement with the State that they will all indemnify and hold us harmless for any patching that we do relative to the State roads. He is not comfortable as a Commissioner of the Township to say, go fix those roads. We must keep pounding the State to fix these roads. Now the State has notice if someone damages their car on one of those State roads, they can not sue Collier. If we do the potholes, we can be sued. We must be careful what we are doing as a Township relative to roads we do not control or own.

Commissioner Durisko stated Commissioner Chiurazzi did say that if it is an emergency situation that the pothole is going to eat your car then go fix it. Public Works fixed those holes.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if the State was grieving us.

Mr. Thauvette stated we have not gotten anything.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated that going forward we should have a policy on this and put the State on notice that Collier will not be held responsible for bad patching if the Township patches the hole.

Mr. Thauvette stated if the Office gets a call about and damaged done to a vehicle on a State road, we give them the State's phone number to call.

Commissioner Macino stated we also now have a resident driving down the road that has a big pothole that they avoid and go over the side of the hill and now it is PennDOT's fault the person died opposed to Collier fault because we didn't fill the pothole. We cannot be the only municipality with this only issue.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated he begs to differ with other Township's fixing the State's potholes. We represent Collier Township and we must protect Collier Township. The Manager must put his foot down and say we cannot do this anymore or get an agreement with the State. Talk to Solicitor Means.

Mr. Thauvette stated that prior to the last meeting he was under the impressions that we should not do State roads.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated Mr. Thauvette was right.

Commissioner Macino stated that PennDot gave Collier three (3) truck loads of the cold patch. Someone at PennDot realizes that we patched their holes.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated that doesn't relieve Collier of a bad patch job.

Mr. Thauvette stated that the public works foreman from the State, County, and other municipalities all know each other and they all work together and help each other out.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated if the State says we can patch the potholes, follow it up with an email so we have something in writing.

Commissioner Macino stated if a grievance does come forward, then we would have an email stating we have authorization for us to patch the holes. He is still a believer of safety first but understand the issues.

2. Once the weather breaks the State will pipe under McMichael Road and repave it.

**H. Township Manager / Township Business:** Mr. Thauvette reported the following:

1. ***Pennsylvania Resource Council (PRC)*** has been working with the South Hills communities that participate in the most recent SHACOG bid for garbage. It came out that there is no glass recycling involved in the bid. The communities participating in the garbage bid started working with the PRC to develop group of locations throughout the South Hills. Mr. Thauvette reached out to Justin, the Executive Director of the PRC, to see if Collier can get involved even though we are not in the SHACOG. This would be a happy medium in terms of getting our own bins and having to monitor them. Justin gave Mr. Thauvette an agreement that the Township can enter into. If we would like them to come and be an active site for our residents, there is a cost of \$750.00.

Commissioner Durisko stated Republic Services should pick up that fee.

Mr. Thauvette stated he did contact John McGoran of Republic Services to see if they would pay this cost and has not heard back from him yet.

Mr. Thauvette stated the PRC has their locations set through June and there are a couple openings still available. We could get in as soon as March 16, March 23, May 4 or May 18<sup>th</sup>. Does the Board want to spend \$750 up front to get a reimbursement from Republic Services? Does the Board think \$750 is reasonable to offer this service to our residents outside of the current garbage contract?

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki questioned if this was just for a day?

Mr. Thauvette stated yes. It would be like a hard recycling event. They would bring in the bins, control it and make sure people are putting things in the right bins, they lock the bins up, put the bins on the trucks and haul it out.

Commissioner Durisko questioned can we advertise it enough and people will have to start saving their glass right now. What do we have to advertise it now?

The Board all thought a later date would be best and chose the date of May 18<sup>th</sup>.

2. **Good PR.** Sean Gramz was talking to the owner of the Chartiers Valley Shopping Center, Kossman, and told him to promote Collier on the sign on Route 50.

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked for Mr. Gramz to contact the owner of the Great Southern Shopping Center to have them put Collier on their sign.

3. **Grist House and Sheetz** have both reached out to donate to Keep Collier Beautiful. Sheetz has donated a couple of gift cards along with 150 free drink tickets. Grist House will be donating beer for the event. These two (2) newer developments are committed to Collier.
4. **Door Fobs.** A quote was received for fobs to be installed on the doors of the Administration building from David Davis Communications. They would be the main doors up here, the main doors down stairs, the community room doors, the back-meeting room door, the door in the admin building and the glass door as you come into the codes and administration with a monitor and a buzzer.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki asked if this was in the budget.

Mr. Thauvette stated building security was mentioned.

Commissioner Macino stated it is a fantastic idea because people can just walk right into the building.

Mr. Thauvette stated the cost to start up is \$10,000.00. This cost includes all the equipment, and the cloud-based system so the doors can be open from any computer. We do have contingency money that we could pull from for this project.

The Board thought \$10,000 was a lot of money.

Mr. Thauvette stated he could cut back on the doors and not have all the fobbed.

Commissioner Macino questioned if this was the only quote, he got.

Mr. Thauvette stated yes and he will get a couple of different tiers that are available and let the Board decide.

5. **Banner Community Recognition.** This is downtown on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Commissioners Chiurazzi, Durisko and Macino will be going with Mr. Thauvette.
6. **Connect Legislative Meeting.** This is the big meeting to welcome in all their new communities into CONNECT. It is April 18<sup>th</sup> from 4:00p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Circuit Center on the Southside. Mr. Thauvette will send a reminder to the Board when the date becomes closer to see if anyone can attend.



**V. OTHER BUSINESS:**

No other business was discussed.

**V1. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Durisko; seconded by Commissioner Ruffennach; to adjourn the work shop meeting at 8:20 p.m. By unanimous vote of the Board the motion passed.

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George E. Macino – President  
Board of Commissioners

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Valerie A. Salla  
Township Secretary