

**MINUTES  
COLLIER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WORKSHOP MEETING**

**September 26, 2018**

**7:00 P.M.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Macino called the workshop meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:03 P.M.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**B. ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD**

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

**STAFF**

Chuck Means, Solicitor - Absent  
Kevin Brett, Engineer - Absent  
Craig Campbell, Police Chief – Absent  
Robert Caun, Planning Director – 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.

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

There were no public comments.

**III. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Consider action on Resolution 092618-01: A Resolution appointing Sean Gramz as the Code/Building Inspector at a rate of \$63,500.00 effective October 1, 2018.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki; seconded by Commissioner Durisko; to appoint Sean Gramz as the Code/Building Inspector as stated above. By unanimous vote of the Board the motion passed.*

2. Consider action to approve the proposed Joint Motion to Vacate Consent Decree and Voluntarily Dismiss Action with respect to the Pennsylvania Environmental Defense litigation filed in the United States District for the Western District of Pennsylvania at Civil Action Number 99-1074.

Mr. Thauvette explained the Township and the Municipal Authority regarding the C50 connector that runs underneath Route 50. The 2004 consent decree put in place by the Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Foundation requires that every municipality that flows into the Chartiers Valley creek, as an overflow, needed to be responsible for their individual testing and reporting of the water quality in their streams. Alcosan has been pushing taken over as much of the sanitary lines and streams adjacent to sanitary sewer overflows in the county. In doing so, the County has put together an addendum to the 2004 consent decree that will remove Collier's responsibility from testing and reporting the water quality and giving it solely to Alcosan.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi; seconded by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki; to approve the proposed Joint Motion to Vacate Consent Decree and Voluntarily Dismiss Action as stated above. By unanimous vote of the Board the motion passed.*

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

**A. Administrative Committee/Public Affairs:** Mr. Thauvette reported the following:

1. *Collierfest.* Thanked everyone for being at Collierfest. It was a great turnout. Thanked Rochelle Barry and her group and Public Works for their help. A date has been set for Collierfest 2019 which will be on September 28, 2019.
2. *Beram Avenue Parking Issues.* Have gone away. Enterprise rent a cars is now using the employee parking lot of Universal Stainless for their cars. There have been no complaints from the residents of Beram Avenue since.
3. *New Police Motorcycle.* Getting quotes for wrapping decals for the motorcycle. It also needs outfitted. The Chief wants to be careful with the graphic designs because it is an emergency vehicle.

Commissioner Macino stated he thought the 911 personnel were going to send a kit that would allow decals to be placed on the bike.

Mr. Thauvette stated they did mention they are willing to give us their decals but he didn't know what the boards intentions were to do anything more than that.

Commissioner Macino stated he is ok with giving them recognition because that is where we got the bike from but we definitely have to put our Collier police log on it. It should look similar to the other two (2) bikes we currently have.

Commissioner Durisko stated he was thinking about something like the Dare police car and that we could go a little above and beyond being that this bike was basically free and put a little recognition into this bike.

Mr. Thauvette stated we need too first get the bike outfitted to be on the road and then look at options.

Commissioner Durisko questioned if we will be getting rid of one of the bikes.

Mr. Thauvette stated this has not been discussed with the Chief yet. Mr. Thauvette would like to get the new one up and running before we do anything yet.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if we need three (3) bikes.

Mr. Thauvette stated he felt we did not need three (3) but the Chief would disagree because the more we have the more we can use them. We did have one bike down for several months and also to keep two (2) on the road. It is safer to have two (2) guys riding together on the bikes than one.

4. *Fire Department Study.* Mr. Thauvette stated this continues to move forward. He met with the Chiefs last week and we had a good conversation on what they plan to get out of this study. They all want standardize equipment and what the Township needs and not what each individual department wants. They want programs for attention and recruitment. They want to put together a Collier Township fire department rules and regulations so if you get kicked out of one department you cannot go down to another one and jump on a truck right away. That history of discipline will follow you from department to department which Mr. Thauvette feels is a smart idea. The type of trucks needed; they want to look at the type of equipment they use. They also want to get rid of the communication break downs between all the departments. They seem to be on the same page moving forward. The study will not start until October and has not heard back from the consultant and once he does he will notify the Commissioners so they can be involved in those conversations.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if they want two (2) fire houses instead of three (3) and does the study take this into consideration.

Mr. Thauvette stated no, the study is not a consolidation. Maybe this will be a recommendation.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned what is cost is to Collier Township for having three (3) departments.

Mr. Thauvette stated \$90,000.00 is what we give each fire department.

Commissioner Macino stated there is also fuel and insurance.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned if we need three (3).

Mr. Thauvette stated that is a fair question.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated it is just like asking does our police department need three (3) motorcycles and does this community need that?

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated he is in favor of three (3) fire departments but would like to hear what the study has to say.

Mr. Thauvette stated this is not a fire department consolidation study. That is a separate study from the DCED. The Board's direction was to update the current study that we have showing what the fire departments could be doing to help the Township and also what the Township can be doing to help the fire departments.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki stated the study might come back and say in turns of equipment is far greater than we need so that could lead to the conclusion of consolidating the departments based on the Township's square mileage.

Commissioner Chiurazzi mentioned that say the study shows all three (3) departments have a truck that is over 25 years old and need replaced. We have to replace all three (3) trucks. Do we need all that? Maybe the study will show we need four (4) departments to go the other way.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki questioned will this study evaluate the size of the Township and number of residents and give what the needs are for the safety of our residents.

Mr. Thauvette stated he hopes that will come out of this study. The Township is as much of a participant in this study as the fire departments are. The State has selected a consultant so we are relying on them. We will be meeting in October so if the Commissioners are able to attend that meeting you can ask those questions.

5. *Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful cameras.* We did catch someone dumping on camera and have cited them and there will be a hearing later this month.

Commissioner Macino questioned if it was a Collier resident.

Mr. Thauvette stated yes.

6. *Coffee with the Manager.* Is on Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at the Community Center.
7. *Woodville Plantation Events.* Sunday, October 14, 2018, the Windows at Woodville. Later that day is Archeology Day which they will talk about artifacts found on the Woodville Plantation property. On October 12<sup>th</sup> is Wine at the Woodville Plantation. There will be a guided tour and the cost is \$30.00.

**B. COG Committee:** There was no report.

The Commissioners discussed leaving the Char West Council of Governments (COG) and doing what is best for Collier.

Commissioner Macino advised Mr. Thauvette to see what the benefits would be if Collier leaves the COG and joins the SHACOG or another organization.

Mr. Thauvette informed the Board there is another group called Congress of Neighboring Communities around Pittsburgh and would like permission to go to one of their meetings and get information on joining them.

The Board agreed to have Mr. Thauvette go to one of those meetings.

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

1. Mr. Hinds gave all the Directors their budget worksheets. If the Director on your committee has not gotten ahold of them yet to discuss their budget items to contact that Director to discuss the budget items.

Commissioner Williams-Zabicki questioned what the time line is.

Mr. Thauvette stated he would like to have the draft budget finalized by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Have the budget discussion at the first November meeting. Have the finalization of any outstanding items at the November workshop meeting and ready to pass the budget at the beginning of December.

Commissioner Macino questioned it that will meet the advertising time line.

Mr. Thauvette stated we could advertise at the on November but have the budget ready to go.

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

1. *New Parks and Recreation Board Members.* Ms. Barry has seven (7) potential new Board members which they will be interviewing at next month's Board meeting.
2. *Collierfest 2019.* Will be on September 28, 2019. Ms. Barry is asking for recommendations or suggestions from the Board to make it even better next year. Do we want to change the hours or make it a two (2) day event?

Commissioner Macino stated he spoke to a lot of vendors on Saturday and most of them were happy and more pleased than any group we have had up there. The people that came to Collierfest really supported the vendors buying things from them. The Township needs to recognize the vendors and send them thank you notes appreciating them supporting the Township event.

Mr. Thauvette stated Ms. Barry is taking care of hand written thank you notes to the vendors.

Commissioner Macino stated we also had a political corner there as well. Jason Ortitay was in attendance and both political parties.

- E. Planning and Zoning:** Commissioner Williams-Zabicki informed the Board on the following:
1. *Planning Commission.* The Carpenter Unions is proposing to construct a 6,000 sq. ft. addition to their office building on Ridge Road.
  2. *Amalfi Ridge Phase III.* Conservation, Subdivision and Final approval for 99 lots.
  3. *SALDO Amendment.* Two (2) entrances into housing plans.
  4. *CTMA, COZZA Enterprises and Township* sewage planning module draft agreement for the Cozza Subdivision on Gregg Station Road is being worked on.
  5. *Planet Fitness* is under construction at the Chartiers Valley Shopping Center.
  6. *Building Demolition* is proceeding at Collier Park and is to be completed by October 11, 2018.

- F. Public Safety Committee:** Commissioner Macino reported the following:
1. *Fire Study.* Is underway and is only to provide recommendations on decisions for the fire departments. Scott Township is currently doing the same study.
  2. *Police Contract.* Discussions are currently underway.
  3. *Chief Campbell* is back to work and passed and graduated from the FBI Academy. He will be recognized at the next public meeting for his accomplishment.

- G. Public Works Committee:** Commissioner Durisko the following:
1. *Meadow Path Trail.* Work continues on the trail at Hilltop Park. There have been no more slides. Grass is growing and the drains are working well.

Commissioner Macino stated the Public Works guys really showed well at Collierfest. They did what they were supposed to do and their attitudes were great. The happiest guy was Mitch driving the cart rides.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned how their contract negotiations were doing.

Mr. Thauvette stated it is going well. With both Police and Public Works it will come down to insurance and salary increases. More so with Public Works is pension retentions.

- H. Township Manager / Township Business:** Mr. Thauvette reported his items throughout all of the committee reports.

**V. OTHER BUSINESS:**

No other business was discussed.

**V1. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi; seconded by Commissioner Williams-Zabicki; to adjourn the work shop meeting at 7:45 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