

# MINUTES

## COLLIER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### REGULAR MEETING

September 25, 2023

7:00 P.M.

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

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

B. **ROLL CALL:**

**BOARD**

Ethan Styche – Present  
Tim Young – Present  
Dawnlee Vaughn – Present  
Mary Ann Cupples – Present  
Wayne Chiurazzi, Esq. – Present

**STAFF**

Joe Perotti, Jr., Solicitor - Present  
Travis Stanczyk, Engineer - Present  
Craig Campbell, Police Chief - Present  
Bob Caun, Planning Director - Present  
Jeff Hinds, Finance Director – Absent  
Tom Plietz – Bldg/Fire Codes – Absent  
Wilson Durisko–Codes Officer - Present  
Bob Palmosina, PW Director – Present  
Rob Shazer – Parks Director – Present  
George Macino, Twp. Manager Present  
Dana Slizik, Asst. Manager – Present  
Valerie Salla, Twp. Secretary – Present

- C. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Was held to discuss personnel and legal issues.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. August 14, 2023 – Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, to approve the minutes as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

2. August 28, 2023 – Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

*Motion was made by Commissioner Cupples, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, to approve the minutes as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

### III. REPORTS OF OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES:

#### A. Solicitor

#### B. Engineer

Commissioner Cupples asked for an update on SSO C45B-08 being taken care of by Alcosan.

Mr. Stanczyk informed the Board under the consent order; the Township is required to do something with SSO's. There is an SSO behind the Vesuvius Industrial Park which is the syphon that runs under Chartiers Creek. He had discussions with Dave at 3 Rivers Wet Weather and Alcosan and they are very interested in obtaining ownership of this syphon and SSO regulator. Mr. Stanczyk wrote a letter and gave it to the Township staff to review. They will take ownership and maintain it. This is fantastic news for the Township.

Mr. Chiurazzi questioned what the significance is to Collier knowing that Collier does not own it anymore. Why is this a good thing and why does it save us?

Mr. Stanczyk stated as part of the consent order, the Township is required to come up with an elimination plan to eliminate that SSO.

Mr. Chiurazzi questioned what an SSO was.

Mr. Stanczyk stated a Sanitary Sewer Overflow. Alcosan will essentially take it over and develop a plan. The Township's elimination plan is giving the SSO to Alcosan. The plans can be anywhere from doing a large-scale project to a small-scale project. It could cost the Township a lot of money.

Commissioner Cupples asked for a dollar amount estimate it would save the Township.

Mr. Stanczyk stated it could be millions of dollars, but it depends on the design.

Commissioner Chiurazzi questioned when it will be taken over.

Mr. Stanczyk stated once Alcosan receives this request letter from the Township, he could get a timeline from them.

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked Mrs. Slizik to do good messaging on this once this goes through.

Commissioner Young asked for an update on Steen Road Bridge.

Mr. Stanczyk stated it is moving slowly. PennDot is still putting everything together. There was a preliminary meeting with PennDot and once they have everything set up in their system, we can start to talk about design.

Commissioner Young asked for an update on Dorothy Street and if there is a reasonable solution.

Mr. Stanczyk stated they are working with the Solicitor to get the easements put together. We did televise the line running up from Dorothy Street. Once the easements are signed, we can go in and clean up that area from debris. If this works, there may be nothing else to do. If this doesn't work, we will have to discuss the next steps.

There were no other questions for the engineer.

### **C. Management**

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked for an update on having a parade.

Mrs. Slizik stated she measured out Thoms Run Road from Presto VFD to Chartiers Valley primary schools. It is 226 feet, approximately 3 minutes in the car. We have spoken to the County. We need to give 90 days' notice in advance of the parade day. A permit is needed. If we are interested in doing this, we need to decide on the time of year. We need a point where people can gather and a point where people can be at the end as well as parking.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated this is further branding for Collier Township and there are communities around us that do this and it would be a wonderful thing to do.

Commissioner Cupples stated we need to invite people and send letters to invite bands.

Commissioner Chiurazzi mentioned a Flu Vaccine Clinic will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 4:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. at the Collier Community Center. Collier EMS and the Township are working together to provide free flu vaccines.

### **D. Building/Codes**

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked for an update on the person having yard sales.

Mr. Plietz stated this was reviewed. The tents are down and they were not lingering during the week. They only did their yard sale on Saturday.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated from a business standpoint, it was clear they were trucking in things to sale and as you enter into Collier Township you see this massive yard sale right before Trader Jacks, which is a licensed place to go sell your items and not in your own yard. He would like this monitored so it doesn't become an issue.

### **E. COG**

### **F. Finance**

## **G. Parks and Recreation**

Commissioner Cupples thanked everyone that had anything to do with Collierfest. It was phenomenal. She commended Rob Shazer, Public Works, and Bob Palmosina and the Community Center staff for sitting out in the cold selling memberships. If it had not rained, it would have been the best that we ever had.

Commissioner Cupples added there will be an Identity Theft Shredding Event at the Community Center on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Representative Anita Kulik is sponsoring this event from the 45<sup>th</sup> Legislative District.

Mr. Palmosina asked if volunteers are needed to help with this.

Ms. Slizik will contact Representative Kulik's Office.

Commissioner Young questioned where at the Community Center this will take place.

Mr. Shazer stated in the back by the back pavilion.

Commissioner Young questioned if many people signed up for memberships.

Mr. Shazer said no. Most of the families stayed by the kid's area with the games and the train. He felt the event went well based on the weather.

Commissioner Cupples stated the tunnel was the best thing for the train and the kids loved that.

Mr. Shazer stated Mitch from the Public Works Department drove the train for 5 hours in the rain. The train kept the families around and without it, our numbers would not have been what they were.

Commissioners Chiurazzi and Cupples also thanked the Police, Fire and EMS Departments for their participation at Collierfest.

## **H. Planning/Development/Zoning**

### **I. Public Safety – Fire**

### **J. Public Safety – Police**

### **K. Public Works**

### **L. Sewer Department**

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked for a motion to accept all the reports by the Directors.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Cupples, to accept all the reports by the Directors. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

#### **IV. Public Comment/Comment on New Business Items:**

3-minute duration to each signed up participant.

Please sign in to talk and state the subject.

**Jim Lersch** of 3140 Annandale Drive, Presto, PA approached the Board with two (2) concerns. He has been a resident in Collier for over 22 years. The first concern is Speeding. He has noticed more speeding on Annandale from a small group of residents that live at the bottom of Annandale. They are accelerating to and from their homes. He is hoping there are some traffic calming measures that can be taken or enforcement in this area at rush hour, in the mornings and evenings. These cars are going twice the posted speed limit. There are also occasional delivery trucks that speed as well. He knows who the residents are that are speeding and he has talked to the HOA and the HOA said it is a police matter.

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked Chief Campbell to take care of this.

Chief Campbell stated there are several things they can do. He will also talk to the HOA to see if they will send out a notice. Most of the time the speeding is coming from people that live there. This is not uncommon. We have electronic speed signs and we can paint vascar lines.

Mr. Lersch stated he would appreciate anything that can be done.

Commissioner Chiurazzi asked that the Township paint the vascar lines first and put up the signs. Chief Campbell will help with this.

Mr. Lersch stated the second item is more complicated. He built his home over 22 years ago away from the golf course and away from any golf balls landing in his yard. For the first 20 years he lived here, he had no problems. However, 18 months ago, his home and property are being hit with golf balls and doing damage. He has had thousands of dollars in damage done. He has been hit while doing yard work. Other homes around him are being hit. The mail lady almost got hit the other day and contractors at his home have almost been hit. He spoke to the general manager of Nevillewood and asked him to do some mitigation efforts, put up a fence, put up netting and to do something to prevent this. He has written them letters and gotten no response. He has written a letter asking for Nevillewood's insurance company name so he can submit a claim for the damages to his home and got no response. He has tried to solve this problem on his own and has gotten nowhere. He would like the Township to help.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated it is an HOA issue and a Country Club issue. It is not a Collier Township issue. Collier Township does not own the land where the balls come from. There is a covenant in Mr. Lersch's HOA documents that you agreed to. Collier Township will not get involved with this.

Mr. Lersch stated he just wanted to make the township aware of this. His options are to do nothing and live with it or he can take legal action which he has consulted several lawyers and those lawyers felt he has a very good claim. There is also a local news media that wants to do a story on it and is waiting for Mr. Lersch to do it. He did not want the Township to be blindsided about this when you hear about it or see it on TV.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated the news media would not blindsided Collier Township because it is not a Collier Township issue.

Mr. Lersch stated it is an incident in your community and wanted to bring it to the Boards attention. He would appreciate any guidance from the Township.

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated on the first issue of speeding, we can do something because the Township owns the road and we can do things on the road. On the second issue, the Township does not own the golf course, the Township does not own Mr. Lersch's house, the Township does not own the land around it and Collier Township cannot do anything about it.

Mr. Lersch stated he just wanted to make the Township aware of his problem as a resident of Collier Township. He appreciated the Board listening to him.

#### **V. New Business:**

Commissioner Chiurazzi stated he had a Resolution to add and asked Mrs. Slizik if it could be done first.

Mrs. Slizik stated yes.

1. Consider action to approve Resolution 092523-01 as upon the recommendation of the Township Chief of Police; A Resolution amending the Civil Service Commission, at its special meeting held on September 25, 2023, did adopt a resolution amending Rule 4.5(a) of the Civil Service Rules and Regulations to provide that an applicant for police officer may meet the minimum educational/experience requirement by either passing a 4-year college degree[current rule]; or by possessing a 2 year college degree along with having 2 years of full time police experience; or by having 5 years of full time police experience and whereas, the Collier Township Board of Commissioners likewise wishes to adopt said amendment to Rule 4.5(a), the educational and experiential requirements, as recommended by the Township Chief of Police. Now, therefore, be it resolved, that Rule 4.5(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Collier Township Civil Service Commission (rev. April 25, 2022), is hereby amended to state as follows {amend/new text in italicized/bold}:

- (a) Possess a diploma from an accredited four-year college or university; or possess a diploma from an accredited two-year college or university and also have attained at least two-years' experience as a full time sworn public law enforcement officer; or have attained at least five-years' experience as a full time sworn public law enforcement officer.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, to approve Resolution 092523-01 as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

2. Consider action to approve Ordinance 728, an Ordinance amending Chapter 27 of the Township Code of Ordinances to amend the definition of Assembly Hall and add Assembly Hall as a permitted use in the B-1, B2, B3 and B4 Districts and as a conditional use in the SC District.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Cupples, seconded by Commissioner Young, to approve Ordinance 728 as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

3. Consider action to accept the resignation of Amy O'Neill, Finance Director effective September 8, 2023.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Young, to accept the resignation of Amy O'Neill as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

4. Consider action to hire Jeff Hinds as the part time Finance Director effective August 17, 2023, at \$95.00 per hour.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to hire Jeff Hinds as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

5. Consider action to advertise Ordinance 729; An Ordinance amending Chapter 1, Part 5(C), of the Township Code of Ordinances, to dissolve the Township's Parks and Recreation Board.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Cupples, seconded by Commissioner Vaughn, to advertise Ordinance 729 as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

6. Consider action to advertise Ordinance 730; An Ordinance amending Chapter 15, Section 406, of the Township Code of Ordinances to prohibit the overnight parking of non-passenger vehicles on Township Streets.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Young, to advertise Ordinance 730 as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

7. Consider action to accept the 2024 Financial Requirement and Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$494,897.00 and for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan in the amount of \$176,999.000 and the Sewer Fund Pension Plan in the amount of \$1,364.00.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Styche, seconded by Commissioner Young, to accept the 2024 Financial Requirements and Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMO) as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

**VI. Approval of the transfer of \$7,000.00 from the General Fund Account to the Capital Fund Checking Account.**

*Motion was made by Commissioner Chiurazzi, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to approve the transfer as stated above. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

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

- Invoices Paid, Checks Written and Bills Requested August 28, 2023, to September 25, 2023:
- General Fund in the amount of \$696,971.84,
- Capital Fund in the amount of \$6,849.72, and
- Sewer Fund in the amount of \$167,038.56.

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

**VII. Adjourn**

The Board thanked Joe Perotti for filling in for Solicitor Kate Diersen this evening.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Vaughn, seconded by Commissioner Styche, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.*

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Wayne M. Chiurazzi – President  
Board of Commissioners

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Valerie A. Salla  
Township Secretary