

**Elizabeth Township
Board of Commissioners
Monday, April 17, 2017
Commissioners' Workshop Meeting**

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Roll Call

Commissioner Similo – Present
Commissioner Saxon – Present
Commissioner Kuzma – Absent
Commissioner Blake – Present
Commissioner Rhoderick – Present
Commissioner Evans – Present
President Beckowitz – Present

Executive Session Acknowledgement: President Beckowitz acknowledges that there was an executive session held at 6:00 PM to discuss litigation and personnel issues.

Citizens to address agenda items: President Beckowitz states that this meeting is for agenda items only.

Janet Gilbert – Inquires about the name of employee in motion #10. Solicitor Racunas states they cannot publicly discuss personnel issues.

Mike Majzer - Asks if Board has considered his offer to assist KLH on the township 537 plan. President Beckowitz states that is not an agenda item and therefore not discussed.

Ordinances:

Motion to adopt Ordinance for calendar year 2006 and succeeding years establishing, fixing, and imposing sewage rates and charges for use and service of the sanitary sewer system.

Motion Commissioner Saxon **Second** Commissioner Evans

All in favor – Motion carries.

Items for Consideration:

1. Motion to approve the April 3, 2017 Commissioner Meeting minutes.
Motion Commissioner Evans **Second** Commissioner Blake
All in favor – Motion carries

2. Motion to approve the General Fund Bill Warrant dated April 17, 2017 in the amount of \$109,635.18.
Motion Commissioner Similo **Second** Commissioner Blake

Roll call vote:

In favor Commissioner's Similo, Saxon, Blake, Evans, Beckowitz. **Opposed:** Commissioner Rhoderick.
Absent: Commissioner Kuzma - **5:1 motion carries.**

3. Motion to approve the Sanitary Fund Bill Warrant dated April 17, 2017 in the amount of \$128,293.64.
Motion Commissioner Saxon **Second** Commissioner Blake

Roll call vote: In favor Commissioner's Similo, Saxon, Blake, Evans, Beckowitz. **Opposed:** Commissioner Rhoderick. **Absent:** Commissioner Kuzma - **5:1 Motion Carries**

4. Motion to approve \$300 donation to the Buena Vista Ladies Auxiliary to help defray the cost of Memorial Day services scheduled for Monday, May 29, 2017 and to waive fee for parade permit.
Motion Commissioner Blake **Second** Commissioner Saxon
Roll call vote: All in favor – Motion carries.

Commissioner Similo asks about making donations to each Fire Dept.

5. Motion to approve \$300 donation to the Elizabeth Township Fire Department No. 1 to help defray the cost of the 2017 Memorial Day Services.
Motion Commissioner Saxon **Second** Commissioner Evans
Roll call vote: All in favor – Motion carries.

Commissioner Evans asks if he can vote on fire company matters. Solicitor Racunas states that since it is not Commissioner Evans' Department then it is allowed.

6. Motion to contribute \$300 to the Central Volunteer Fire Company 2017 Annual Drive. Note- Central VFC not requesting financial assistance for Memorial Day Services. Contribution amount is uniform with other donation requests received from fire companies.
Motion Commissioner Saxon **Second** Commissioner Blake
Roll call vote: All in favor – Motion carries.

7. Motion to approve donation in the amount of \$300.00 to the V.F.W. Post 7632 of Elizabeth Township to help defray the expenses of their annual Memorial Day Ceremonies scheduled for Monday, May 29, 2017.
Motion Commissioner Similo **Second** Commissioner Blake
Roll call vote: All in favor – Motion carries.

8. Motion to approve JRC's proposal at \$5900.00 to replace the internal piping that is corroded at Wylie Pump Station- to be paid out of sanitary funds.
Motion Commissioner Saxon **Second** Commissioner Blake
Roll call vote: All in favor – Motion carries.

9. Motion to direct the proposed Zoning Map and Text Amendment submitted by Allegheny Energy Center, LLC (Invenergy) to the Elizabeth Township Planning Commission for review and recommendation.
Motion Commissioner Rhoderick **Second** Commissioner Blake

Commissioner Saxon questions on whether there will be a public forum held as promised. Solicitor Racunas states the public forum will be held on April 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM. Once it goes through this procedure it will then be recommended to come before the Board. This motion must go to Planning first.

Roll call vote: All in favor – Motion carries.

10. Motion to ratify the termination of employee number 6644 effective April 7, 2017.
Motion Commissioner Similo **Second** Commissioner Saxon

Commissioner Rhoderick requests a discussion on policies. President Beckowitz states that Commissioner Rhoderick should have attended Executive Session if he wanted to discuss this. Commissioner Rhoderick states that he doesn't have a personnel question, but a policy question and he is permitted to discuss policy questions. Commissioner Rhoderick asks if there have been changes to the Elizabeth Township Employee Handbook. He refers to page 21 and states that he is unaware of what happened and never received a letter or phone call on this circumstance. President Beckowitz states that this is because you have excused yourself from personnel issues. Commissioner Rhoderick states that he has only excused himself from one specific issue to refer to the email sent accusing him of taking information out of Executive Sessions which he believes is retaliation. President

Beckowitz confirms that this circumstance was discussed and everything was passed through the Labor Attorney and to contact her should Commissioner Rhoderick have further questions.

Roll call vote: In favor Commissioner's Similo, Saxon, Blake, Evans, Beckowitz. **Opposed:** Commissioner Rhoderick. **Absent:** Commissioner Kuzma - **5:1 Motion carries.**

11. Motion to accept the proposal from Extreme Landscape for the 2017 Grass Cutting Services of Vacant Property.

Motion Commissioner Saxon

No second. Motion fails for lack of a second.

Comment from the audience (inaudible)

12. President Beckowitz makes a motion to rebid the Grass Cutting Services.

Motion: Commissioner Saxon

Second: Commissioner Similo

Roll Call Vote: All in favor- Motion Carries

Solicitor Racunas states that he will take a look at contract from last year's contractor in regards to continuing cutting until resolved.

13. Motion to hire George Hartung for the full time Public Works/Road Department Mechanic & Laborer position.

Motion Commissioner Saxon

Second Commissioner Evans

Roll call vote: All in favor – Motion carries.

14. Motion to hire Jeff Harn for the full time Public Works/Road Department Laborer position.

Motion Commissioner Saxon

Second Commissioner Blake

Commissioner Rhoderick questions if this was advertised or not. President Beckowitz states that it was all in one ad. Solicitor Racunas says he will look at it.

Roll Call Vote: All in favor- Motion Carries

President Beckowitz adds motion recommended by Solicitor Racunas:

15. Motion to extend the review of the oil and gas ordinance by an additional 30 days for the Planning Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Saxon

Second: Commissioner Similo

Question from the audience regarding current ordinance in place. Solicitor Racunas explains stipulations and provisions of this ordinance.

Additional comments from audience (inaudible).

Roll Call Vote: All in favor- Motion Carries

President Beckowitz makes an announcement regarding information that was just received today. A public notice sent from Amerikohl about blasting near Mill Hill Road and she directs the Solicitor to look into this.

Commissioner Saxon asks if we can add this information on our website and Facebook page. There is discussion between the Board and John Snelson and audience.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion: Commissioner Saxon

Second: Commissioner Evans