

LEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 8, 2024
Minutes of the Board of Commissioner's Regular Meeting

President Martin McDaniel called the Regular Meeting of the Leet Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Leet Township Municipal Building, 194 Ambridge Ave., Fair Oaks, PA 15003. Roll Call: Commissioners present were Martin C. McDaniel, Dan Peluso, Donna Adipietro, and Martin P. Zimmel. The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Absent: Commissioner Rody Nash

Also present:

Judge Rosselli

Betsy Rengers, Manager

Brian Jameson, Interim Police Chief

Steve Chesney, Solicitor, via phone

John Valinsky, LSSE Engineer

Joe Ferrang, Planning Commission Chairperson

Debbie & Charlie Frederick, Residents

Curt Bubb, Civil Service Commission Member

Carol Roberts

David Kovacs, Resident

Kris Shelton, Resident

David Goerman, Resident

Tom Weber, Civil Service Chairman

Joann Weber, Resident

George & Tim Knoll

Lori & John Chickos

Ratification of Brian Jameson's Appointment as Police Chief followed by Judge Rosselli Administering the Oath of Office.

Mr. McDaniel announced to the audience that the meeting was being recorded. He welcomed Interim Chief Jameson's family and friends to the meeting on this important night. The first order of business was to ratify Brian Jameson's appointment as Police Chief and have Judge Rosselli administer the Oath of Office.

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion that having now successfully completed all of the pre-employment requirements, I move to appoint Interim Chief Brian Jameson to the position of the Chief of Police of Leet Township to perform the duties in accordance with the most recent job description, effective today, April 8, 2024. At this time, this is an "at-will" and non-civil service position. The terms of employment will be the same as the present and also as set forth by motion at the December 8, 2023, Board of Commissioners meeting. Dan Peluso seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. McDaniel, yes; and Mr. Peluso, yes. The motion carried.

Mr. McDaniel congratulated Chief Jameson on the appointment. Chief Jameson thanked his friends and family for attending and said he had enjoyed his time at Leet. He respected the Board's professionalism during the hiring process and thanked them for making the department a reputable department.

Judge Rosselli administered Chief Jameson's Oath of Office. Mr. McDaniel then presented Chief Jameson with an 1876 map of Leet Township. Mr. McDaniel felt the Township was blessed to have Chief Jameson and thought he was a good fit for the position. Mr. McDaniel thanked Commissioner Zimmel for all of his work during the hiring process.

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident Dave Goerman asked about the 2024 Road Paving Program. He asked if Hill and Mound Streets had been looked at due to deterioration. He complained about the motorcycles that ride behind his house on Leet Township property. Mr. Gorman was asked to call the police department when the motorcyclists were riding behind his house.

Resident Kris Shelton asked about the installation of the speed table on Beech Street. The Public Works Department was in the process of getting the equipment needed to install it. They will place it in front of Ms. Shelton's house.

Planning Commission Chairman Joe Ferrang informed the Board that the Planning Commission will be working on bylaw revisions. Once they are finished, they will be given to the Board of Commissioners for review.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approval of the March 11, 2024, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2024, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Adipietro. A formal roll call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. Peluso, yes; and Mr. McDaniel, yes. The motion carried.

Approval of the March 25, 2024, Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Peluso made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2024, Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting as submitted. Mr. Zimmel seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. Peluso, yes; and Mr. McDaniel, yes. The motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Current Bills and Invoices

Six additional checks came in today, and once they are added to the bill list, the total bills to be paid are \$135,614.72. The check for InSync Systems, \$26,700.00, is for reporting systems for the police vehicles. The funds will be reimbursed to the Township through a grant that Chief Jameson applied for and was awarded.

MOTION: Mrs. Adipietro made a motion to pay the bills and invoices as presented for \$135,614.72. Mr. Peluso seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was taken, with the following votes: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. Peluso, yes; and Mr. McDaniel, yes. The motion carried.

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Circulate Department Reports

The Department Reports were circulating in the meeting room. There will be a vote to accept the reports later in the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

American Rescue Plan Act Grant

The Township received a grant for \$168,000.00 and is considering how to use it. We are waiting to see if another grant will be awarded in August, and we will then have better direction on how to proceed. In the meantime, Foreman Andy Wanto asked the Board for permission to clean the storm culverts located beneath Ambridge Ave, Lunak Drive, and Short Street because they have not been cleaned in approximately six years. Mr. McDaniel asked Mr. Valinsky if they were included in the MS4 program and thought they should be cleaned annually. Mr. Valinsky will meet with Mr. Wanto to review the issue.

Resolution 2024-24 Document Retention Policy

Mr. Chesney drafted a resolution to allow for the destruction of the Manager's meeting notes and the meeting recordings after the written version of the meeting minutes are approved by the Board. Ms. Adipietro attended a Solicitor's Panel at the ALOM conference. She approached the solicitors and asked what they thought of the policy. The solicitors agreed that it was prudent to destroy the tapes because of the cost of storing them, along with other reasons.

MOTION: Mr. Peluso made a motion to amend the resolution to say the recordings would be destroyed six months after the meeting. There was no second to the motion. The motion failed.

Mr. Chesney recommended that the recordings and notes be destroyed after the meeting minutes are officially accepted by the Board of Commissioners. Mr. McDaniel felt that a six-month waiting period would be perceived as more open and transparent.

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-23, setting forth a policy for disposing of electronic tape recordings and notes upon the adoption of the written and approved minutes by the Township Commissioners. Mrs. Adipietro seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was taken, with the following votes: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. Peluso, yes; and Mr. McDaniel, no. The motion carried.

Part-time Officer Moved to Full-time Status

Mr. Zimmel reported that a full-time officer resigned, creating an opening for a full-time appointment. Officer John Adams is recommended for promotion to full-time status in accordance with the Civil Service guidelines.

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to promote Officer John Adams to full-time status. Mr. Peluso seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was taken, with the following votes: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. Peluso, yes; and Mr. McDaniel, yes. The motion carried.

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NEW BUSINESS

Soracco Lot Consolidation

The Planning Commission reviewed the Soracco Lot Consolidation plan and recommended it to the Board for approval.

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to approve the Soracco Lot Consolidation Plan. Mrs. Adipietro seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was taken, with the following votes: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmel, yes; Mr. Peluso, yes; and Mr. McDaniel, yes. The motion carried.

Review of Uniformed and Non-Uniformed Pension Plan GASB 67/68 Statements

Mr. McDaniel reported that the Board received copies of GASB 67/68 Statements for the Uniformed and Non-uniformed pension plans in their meeting packets. The Actuaries created the reports and showed how the Township invests money into the pension plans. The plan is in good shape.

Up and Running Computer Services

Mrs. Adipietro, Mr. Zimmel, Chief Jameson, and Ms. Rengers met with Up and Running Representatives Bob and Kathy Patterson to go over questions about billing. They, in turn, presented the Board with a monthly agreement proposal. There was a short discussion about the proposal. Due to the need for more information on the proposal, it was tabled until the Workshop meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Department Reports were submitted to the Board. Chief Jameson was not able to include the monthly "Police Calls Report" in the packet. Mr. Valinsky reported the Township was awarded a grant to continue the sidewalk replacement project for \$128,000.00. Mrs. Adipietro reported on the recent flooding in Fair Oaks. She worked with Emergency Management Coordinator Dave Volk during the rain event because he was out of town. Eight to ten homes had flooded basements. Mr. Peluso helped Mrs. Adipietro and reported flooding on Camp Meeting Road.

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel made a motion to approve the Department Reports as submitted. Mr. Peluso seconded the motion, with all in favor of it.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

Mr. McDaniel thanked everyone for attending the meeting on this special night. Mr. Zimmel stated that he worked with Chief Jameson at Ambridge, and he always stepped up to the call of duty. Mr. Zimmel recommended Mr. Jameson for the position at Leet.

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ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Zimmel moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Mr. Peluso, with all in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

TOWNSHIP OF LEET

/s/Betsy Rengers

/s/Martin C. McDaniel

BETSY RENGERS, MANAGER

MARTIN C. MCDANIEL, PRESIDENT

Date: May 13, 2024