

LEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
March 11, 2024  
Minutes of the Board of Commissioner's Regular Meeting

Vice President Dan Peluso 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 Dan Peluso, Rody Nash, Donna Adipietro and Martin P. Zimmer. The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Absent: President Martin C. McDaniel

Also present:

Betsy Rengers, Manager	Buddy Besong, Resident
Brian Jameson, Interim Police Chief	Peggy Adams, Resident
Steve Chesney, Solicitor, via phone	Chuck Soman, Resident
John Valinsky, LSSE Engineer	
Joe Ferrang, Planning Commission Chairperson	
Diane & Bob Gulish, Residents	
Curt Bubb, Civil Service Commission Member	

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

At this time, there was no participation from the public.

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

#### **Approval of the February 12, 2024, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Mr. Zimmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024, Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting as submitted, seconded by Mr. Nash. A formal roll call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmer, yes; Mr. Peluso, yes; and Mr. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

#### **Approval of the February 26, 2024, Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Mrs. Adipietro made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2024, Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting as submitted. Mr. Nash seconded the motion. A formal roll call vote was conducted, and the following votes were recorded: Mrs. Adipietro, yes; Mr. Zimmer, yes; Mr. Peluso, yes; and Mr. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

#### **Current Bills and Invoices**

At the workshop meeting, Foreman Andy Wanto will request the purchase of a Mikita Hammer Drill for the installation of the Beech Street speed table and other uses. Quaker Valley School District reimburses all Babst Calland invoices for Harland Stone's legal services for the high school project.

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**MOTION:** Mrs. Adipietro made a motion to pay the bills and invoices as presented for \$114,695.01, including the additional invoices received after the reports were generated for \$2,509.44, for a total of \$117,204.45. 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. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

**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**

**Resolution 2024-22 (Bank Loan and Signatories for Police Car Loan)**

Interim Chief Jameson contacted three different dealerships to find a Ford Interceptor SUV to purchase and found the lowest price for a late model 2023 at Laurel Ford in Johnstown.

**MOTION:** Mr. Zimmel made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-22 for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Interceptor SUV for the CoStars price of \$37,980.00. The car will be purchased with a three-year loan from First National Bank with an interest rate of 5.56%. President Martin C. McDaniel and Manager Betsy Rengers are authorized to sign all loan documents and paperwork. Mr. Nash 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. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

**Sale of 2015 Ford SUV on Municibid**

The winning bidder of the 2015 Ford SUV has withdrawn his bid. The SUV will be re-posted on the Municibid website.

**Resolution 2024-23 (Records Disposition Policy)**

There was a discussion about Resolution 2024-23, which allows for the disposal of meeting tape recordings after the Board approves the meeting minutes. The Township is paying to store a voluminous number of recordings. Resident Curt Bubb and Chuck Soman asked if the resolution could be amended to say that the recordings would be destroyed six months after the approval of the meeting minutes. The Board tabled the discussion for further consideration of the request.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Acceptance of James Lema's Resignation from Full-time Police Officer and Transition to Part-time Officer**

There was a discussion about Officer James Lema resigning as a full-time officer and transitioning to part-time.

**MOTION:** Mr. Zimmel made a motion to accept James Lema's resignation as a full-time police officer and to designate him as a part-time patrol officer. Mr. Nash 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. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

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Part-time Officer John Adams will cover the shifts left open due to Mr. Lema's switch to part-time.

**Leetsdale 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee Donation**

**MOTION:** Mr. Zimmel made a motion to donate \$200.00 to the Leetsdale 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee for the fireworks display. 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. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

**Plum Street Park Field Survey**

Ms. Rengers has learned that Plum Street Park visitors are trespassing onto neighboring property during their events. She asked the Board for permission to have LSSE conduct a field survey to delineate the property from the neighboring property. The Public Works Department will install a fence along the property line to keep park attendees from trespassing in the neighbor's yard. The Township has received a zoning permit for the fence installation.

Mr. Valinsky has given Chief Jameson aerial maps of the Township for reference.

**MOTION:** Mr. Zimmel made a motion to approve LSSE's conducting a field survey at Plum Street Park for up to \$2500.00. Mr. Nash 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. Nash, yes. The motion carried.

**Department Reports**

The Board reviewed the department reports. All officers have completed their mandatory training, and mobile printers are being installed in police vehicles.

The fire department report was reviewed. The Quaker Valley Council of Governments will hold a Hard to Recycle event on July 27, 2024, at the Leetsdale Industrial Park. A tour of the Waste Management Recycling facility will be announced soon.

John Valinsky reported that the price to build a salt/backhoe storage shed was \$140,000.00. The pickleball court layout was added to the renovation of the Ambridge Ave Park court.

Ms. Rengers reported that she had taken several residents to court for code enforcement violations. One resident was found guilty and will be fined \$1500.00. One resident pleaded guilty and will pay a \$500.00 fine. One hearing is pending.

Ms. Rengers discovered that the Township had not set fines for violations of the property maintenance code, and this will be on the Workshop meeting agenda. She discussed the ordinance penalty fines with the Board.

There was a discussion about a War Memorial donation letter that Mrs. Adipietro would write, and it would contain a rendering of the new memorial.

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There was a brief discussion about the grants that have been applied for. Mr. Bubb has found the larger convex mirror on Mound Street to be helpful.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Adipietro moved to accept the Department Reports. Mr. Zimmer seconded the motion, and all were in favor of it.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

PennDOT will conduct a traffic counting study on the roads they own located in the Township.

The Township received notification from Edgeworth Water that they will begin the School Street Water Line Replacement Project on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Adipietro voiced her concerns about parking for disabled residents while the project was taking place. She reported that Edgeworth Water Reps had stopped by her house to speak with her about her concerns. She also had a problem with prior paving of School Street that caused water to drain through her property. Mr. Valinsky will ensure that the paving is done to avoid this issue. Mr. Peluso spoke about the pooling of mud on a sidewalk in Olde Sewickley Highlands caused by a paving project. The curbs were too high, which caused the issue. The Township has applied for a grant to repair the problem.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Mr. Zimmer moved to go into Executive Session at 8:12 p.m. to discuss the promotion of part-time officers to full-time status and give the police chief applicant updates. Mr. Nash seconded the motion, and all were in favor of it.

**MOTION:** Mr. Nash moved to go into Regular Session at 8:40 p.m. after discussing the promotion of part-time officers to full-time status and giving the police chief applicant updates. Mr. Peluso seconded the motion, and all were in favor of it.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Civil Service Commission Member Curt Bubb asked the Board about the instructions for the civil service board. The board will need to post a promotion eligibility list for officers going from working part-time to full-time. Solicitor Chesney explained the process, and there was a discussion about it.

**MOTION:** Mr. Zimmer moved to allow the Civil Service Commission to establish an eligibility list to promote part-time officers to full-time status according to the Civil Service Rules. Mr. Peluso seconded the motion, with all in favor of it.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Mr. Nash moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Adipietro, with all in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

TOWNSHIP OF LEET

/s/Betsy Rengers

/s/Martin C. McDaniel

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BETSY RENGERS, MANAGER

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MARTIN C. MCDANIEL, PRESIDENT

Date: April 8, 2024