

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
Regular Business Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2016

Chairperson Agostine called the regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 6:05 p.m. following the public hearing.	CALL TO ORDER
Motion by Lee, seconded by Welka, to approve the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting on December 5, 2016, as presented and reviewed by the Board of Supervisors. Vote: 3/0	12/5/2016 MINUTES
There was no correspondence.	CORRESPONDENCE
Motion by Lee, seconded by Welka, to approve the November 2016 Treasurer's Report as presented and reviewed by the Board of Supervisors. (\$610,152.81 expensed)	NOV.2016 TREAS. REPORT
Jim Chojnacki, 9487 Old French Road, asked what caused the total expense to be higher than normal. Supervisor Agostine responded that \$300,000+ for the 2016 Paving Project was included in November expenses. Robison Road, Hessinger Road, Persimmon Dr., and Cardinal Drive were paved. Vote: 3/0	
Motion by Welka, seconded by Lee, to continue the resident Real Estate Tax relief for 2017 residents per the Homestead listing.	2017 R.E.TAX RELIEF
Supervisor Agostine explained that Summit Township has been granting tax relief since we began receiving Gaming Revenue. While there is no guarantee that Gaming Revenue will continue in 2017, the Board was still able to include this benefit in the 2017 Budget. Vote: 3/0	
Motion by Lee, seconded by Welka, to approve the December 2016 expenses after Board review.	DEC. 2016 EXPENSES
Supervisor Agostine explained that the monthly expenses for December are approved now in order to "wrap" up 2016 prior to the next Regular Business Meeting. Vote: 3/0	
Motion by Welka, seconded by Lee, to adopt Resolution #2016-17 keeping the 2017 Real Property Tax at .59 mills. Vote: 3/0	RES. 2016-17 R.E. TAX FOR 2017
Motion by Lee, seconded by Welka to adopt Resolution #2016-18 approving the 2017 Budget as presented and publically displayed. Vote: 3/0	RES. 2016-18 BUDGET FOR 2017
Motion by Welka, seconded by Lee, to approve the Robert and Rita Stewart request to rezone Parcel ID No. 40-12-27-13 from I-1 (Industrial) to R-2 (Residential)	STEWART REZONING REQUEST
Jim Chojnacki, 9481 Old French Road, asked why the Stewart's want to rezone this parcel.	APPROVED
Supervisor Welka responded that the Stewart's want to avoid any threat of industrial development. Agostine added that any structures located on the parcel would be taxed as industrial; but because this is currently vacant property, there is no tax consequences. Vote: 3/0	

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Zoning Administrator Miller reported that the Best Western Amended Land Development Plan (LDP) reflects an enclosed building area that was previously proposed as an open patio. As a result, additional rooms were added, changing the on-site parking needs, and Miller has confirmed that previously granted cross parking is still adequate. This plan has been reviewed and recommended for approval by both the Summit Township Planning Commission and Erie County Planning.

BEST WESTERN
AMD. LDP

Motion by Lee, seconded by Welka, to approve the Best Western Amended LDP for 8033 Oliver Road, Parcel ID No 40-16-72-4.01 (in-part)

Vote: 3/0

Zoning Administrator Miller reported that the Footmill Road Subdivision conveys the vacated portion of Footmill Road running north and south between Robison Road and Zwilling Road to Waste Management and Perry Hi-Way Hose Co. (PHHC), and combines (40) parcels into (3). It has been reviewed and recommended for approval by both the Summit Township Planning Commission and Erie County Planning.

FOOTMILL ROAD
SUBDIVISION

Motion by Lee, seconded by Agostine, to approve the Footmill Road Subdivision for Waste Management and PHHC.

Vote: 2/0/1

Agostine - Yes

Lee - Yes

Welka - Abstain, as Welka & Associates is the Surveyor

Solicitor Sennett reported that at the last meeting, a request from the Tax Collector concerning Non Sufficient Funds (NSF) fees was tabled. Solicitor Sennett has provided a draft ordinance for Board review to establish NSF fees for not only the Tax Collector, but also the Township.

SOLICITOR:

- NSF Fees
- Cable Franchise

Motion by Welka, seconded by Lee, to authorize advertisement for a proposed Ordinance establishing NSF fees with a public hearing scheduled for January 16, 2017.

Vote: 3/0

Solicitor Sennett reported that he has received no response from Cable Communications regarding the proposed franchise agreement.

Engineer Jonas reported that Erie Water Works has requested permission to open cut Ponderosa Drive in January for the installation of a water main line. According to the Summit Township Street Excavations and Openings Ordinance, street openings from Nov. 1st to March 31st are prohibited unless permission is granted by the Board of Supervisors. Discussion ensued verifying that concrete will be used to patch the road cut until spring; at which time a permanent asphalt repair will be made.

ENGINEER:

- Ponderosa Dr.
- Footmill Rd. Closing

Engineer Jonas reported that the meeting with the Landfill and Railroad representatives was productive. The logistics for removing the railroad crossing are clear. Cost estimates and details from the Railroad and Landfill are pending so that the PUC application can be submitted.

Motion by Lee, seconded by Welka, to approve the Erie Water Works request to open cut Ponderosa Dr. contingent upon the use of concrete to restore the road surface until spring.

Vote: 3/0

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Joseph Podolsky, 2323 Edinboro Road, asked what portion of Footmill Road will be closed. Supervisor Agostine responded, from Robison Road, south to Zwilling Road.

The Board of Supervisors wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Joseph Podolsky, 2323 Edinboro Road, as an elected Auditor asked what the difference in employment for Summit Township from 2015 to 2016. Supervisor Agostine responded; one, Engineer Jonas was hired in January of 2017.

Discussion ensued with various residents regarding the 2017 Budget and the potential reduction in revenue due to the Gaming Act revision. Solicitor Sennett and Supervisor Agostine explained that the Township has sufficient funds to operate without the Gaming Revenue and the 2017 Budget reflects a reduction in expenses equivalent to the potential reduction in revenue.

Mr. Podolsky expressed concern citing an editorial in the Erie Times News that elected Auditors are being "locked out" from receiving information from their respective Township Officials. Solicitor Sennett responded that this is not true. Sennett explained the options available for Townships of the Second Class for auditing financial accounts. One, utilizing a CPA, and two, utilizing elected auditors. Summit Township uses an independent CPA for the annual financial audit. The elected auditors' sole duty is to review the Board of Supervisors wages as personnel. Discussion ensued.

Jim Chojnacki, 9481 Old French Road, asked if the Gaming Funds are restored, does the 2017 Budget have to be reopened. Supervisor Agostine responded; no, the additional expenses would simply have to be allocated publically. Agostine added that this Board anticipates that the restored funds would be used for Capital Improvements, PHHC, or STIEDA.

Jim Chojnacki, 9481 Old French Road, noted that the Gaming Revenue has increased from the original funding figure. Agostine explained that is due to the addition of ECGRA funding resulting from the Court Case involving the distribution of Erie County's Gaming Funds to Summit Township and adjacent municipalities.

Paul Kuzma, 8881 Parson Road, asked how the Board hires the CPA to audit financial records. Agostine responded that Joseph Sadler, CPA who recently retired, had audited the financial records for over 30 years. The Board has hired the firm recommended by Mr. Sadler.

Joe Kuzma, 8550 Old French Road, asked what impact does the reduction of gaming funds have on PHHC. Agostine responded that the funding for the staffing of PHHC comes entirely from LST so there is no impact. Although funding provided for their capital purchases may be reduced.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion by Welka, seconded by Lee, to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Vote: 3/0

Respectfully submitted,

Christene S. Yeast
Recording Secretary
12/22/2016

SUPERVISORS

PUBLIC INPUT

- Auditors
- 2017 Budget
- Gaming Funds

ADJOURNMENT