

**PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2022**

The second regular monthly meeting of the Plainfield Township Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at the Plainfield Township Municipal Building, which is located at 6292 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth, PA 18064. The meeting public notice was duly advertised in the January 4, 2022 issue of the *Express-Times*.

Chairman, Glenn Borger, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

ROLL CALL:

The following Supervisors answered roll call: Chairman Glenn Borger, Vice-Chairman Stephen Hurni, Supervisor Jane Mellert, and Supervisor Donald Moore. Supervisor Randy Heard attended via telephone conference.

Also present was Township Manager Thomas Petrucci.

I. TOWNSHIP SECRETARY– THOMAS PETRUCCI:

1. Executive Session Announcement (Personnel) – 1/27/2022 (6:16 PM to 7:00 PM):

Tom Petrucci reported that the Board of Supervisors held an executive session on January 27, 2022 from 6:16 PM to 7:00 PM to discuss personnel matters.

2. Approval of the December 15, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes (DRAFT):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve the December 15, 2021 regular meeting minutes, as submitted.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 4-0-1, with Donald Moore abstaining due to the fact that he was not yet serving as an elected official during the December 15, 2021 meeting.

3. Approval of Real Estate Tax Property Veteran’s Exemption (284 Oak Street- Tax Map Parcel ID Number F8 11 11B-36 0626E- Effective November 9, 2021):

ACTION: Motion was made by Stephen Hurni and seconded by Glenn Borger to approve a Disabled Veterans Real Property Tax Exemption Certification for the

property owner of 284 Oak Street (Tax Map Parcel ID Number F8 11 11B-36 0626E), with an effective dated of November 9, 2021.

Prior to the vote, Chairman, Glenn Borger, asked if there were any comments from the governing body or the public.

Motion approved. Vote 5-0.

4. Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) Establishing Ordinance Review (Article 3-Commission, Boards and Organizations- D- Environmental Advisory Council- §1-331 to §1-338):

The Board of Supervisors held a discussion concerning the establishing ordinance of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC). The main points of the discussion are summarized as follows:

- The Board of Supervisors expressed the sentiment that the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) should continue. Stephen Hurni questioned whether having an EAC is a legal requirement of the Commonwealth, and Tom Petrucci responded that was not the case; however, the Open Space Plan has delegated certain review responsibilities to the EAC for open space land acquisitions, so it would not be recommended to eliminate the EAC.
- The EAC Chairperson should not be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, as this practice, which is stated in the current ordinance, has never been followed since the inception of the EAC. The ordinance should be amended to clarify that the EAC itself should appoint its own Chairperson.
- The Board of Supervisors expressed the sentiment that the number of Board members should be lowered from seven (7) to five (5).
- The Board members discussed the issue of the number of Planning Commission and/or Board of Supervisors members that should be permitted to serve on the EAC. The Township Manager suggested the following language:

Members of the Board of Supervisors and/or Planning Commission may serve on the Environmental Advisory Council provided the number of members of either the Board of Supervisors or the Planning Commission does not constitute a quorum of the Environmental Advisory Council.

- EAC Secretary: The Board members expressed the sentiment that this position should ideally be filled by a member of the EAC, provided there are interested and qualified members on the EAC.

- The Board of Supervisors stressed the fact that the EAC is advisory in nature, and that the EAC as a whole (and individual EAC members) should only send letters or attend meetings/seminars/conferences on behalf of Plainfield Township as directed by the Board of Supervisors.

Following the discussion which occurred concerning the EAC establishing ordinance, the Township Manager was directed to draft an ordinance amendment which captures the directives as listed above for the Board of Supervisors to consider during the Wednesday, February 9, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting.

CITIZEN'S AGENDA/NON-AGENDA:

Adrienne Fors, Waste Management- Adrienne Fors reported that Waste Management will contribute \$50,000.00 towards the renovation of Pen Argyl Borough Weona Park, which is slated to include a pool and a splash pad. There is strong support from both Pen Argyl and Wind Gap residents for this facility to become a reality.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORTS*:

**Note- this section was not listed as a formal agenda item.*

1. ***Stephen Hurni, Vice-Chairman-*** Mr. Hurni reported that he had probed the members of the Slate Belt Council of Governments (COG) during the COG meeting held on January 26, 2022 in order to ascertain when their municipalities will hold Trick-or-Treat night, and he stated that the dates/times are currently across the spectrum. He postulated that the three (3) Slate Belt Regional Police Department municipalities consisting of Plainfield Township, Wind Gap Borough and Pen Argyl Borough should all hold Trick-or-Treat night on the same date/time for purposes of maintaining consistency with policing.
2. ***Jane Mellert-*** No report.
3. ***Donald Moore-*** Mr. Moore questioned whether or not the Board of Supervisors had any interest in revisiting the Fowl/Poultry Ordinance, which had been abandoned just prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Following discussion, the governing body directed the Township Manager to place this matter on the agenda for the Thursday, February 24, 2022 second regular Board meeting.
4. ***Randy Heard-*** No report.
5. ***Glenn Borger Chairman-*** In response to the lack of a Fowl/Poultry Ordinance, Mr. Borger emphasized that the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors were not able to agree on certain points of the text and the setback provisions, so that is why the Township currently does not have an adopted ordinance in place. He stated that the

Township should endeavor to adopt ordinances to get the regulations in place and then amend the ordinances later if it is determined to be necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, a motion was made by Donald Moore and seconded by Stephen Hurni to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Petrucci
Township Manager/Secretary
Plainfield Township
Board of Supervisors