

LAWRENCE PARK TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

6:00 p.m.

June 12, 2024

4230 Iroquois Avenue

In Attendance: Commissioner B. Rodemaker, Commissioner T. Buchleitner, Commissioner D. Williams, Commissioner T. Benovic, Engineer A. Holland, Solicitor, L. Caparosa, Chief J. Morell, Secretary C. Cunningham. **Absent:** Commissioner J. Golden

~Commissioner Rodemaker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was performed~

Commissioner Rodemaker gave the floor to Kristie Mahany executive director of the Erie County Land Bank. Ms. Mahany explained how the Land Bank operates and the steps that need to be taken regarding such properties. Mahany also said stated the process regarding burned out home Harvey Ave.

REPORTS:

Engineers Report:

1. Soudan Lift Station Replacement Status
 - a. Pre-bid meeting was held June 7
 - b. Bid opening June 21
2. Cunningham Lift Station Grinder
 - a. WQM Permit submitted 5/10
 - b. DEP review pending, typical review time is 85 days (4 months)
3. Streets Paving
 - a. Portions of Field (Rankine to School), Howe (E. Lake to Iroq.), Smithson (Emmett to Morse), Tyndall (Emmett to Morse)
 - b. Work can begin July 8.
 - c. Urban will contact Joseph McCormick Co. for schedule and coordination
4. Chapter 94 Report for Erie WWTP
 - a. No Update

Police Report:

The police answered 794 calls in the month of April. There are several open investigations along with assisting with Code Enforcement issues as the come up as well. This is the 54th year of Safety Town in conjunction with Iroquois School District, and the Lions Club.

~Commissioner Buchleitner motioned to approve all reports as presented. Commissioner Benovic seconded the motion; the motion carried~

Visitors: Christine Buchleitner, Charles Curtis, Cheryl Smith, Dennis Nemenz, Linda Blum, Dale Durst, Joe Michalegko, Richard Garman, Kathleen Griffin

Signed in to speak: Spencer Cadden, Heather Nemenz, Heidi Brieger Noyes, Craig Noyes, Katherine Rusk

~Spencer Cadden addressed the Board concerning the new NFG regulator station that has been installed at the corner of Joliette/Lakeside Drive located just inside Lake Cliff Park. Mr. Cadden stated that there has been concern regarding the placement of the regulator station and his thought that Joliette tends to be very icy in the winter due to resident's sub pump discharge into the street and the possibility of a car sliding down the street and striking the regulator station. Cadden spoke to an NFG representative, and it was stated that the permits were acquired and permitted to place them in that location. Cadden asked if a request to move the station can be made, the question is, will NFG move it and if the Township is in any position to make such a request. Commissioner Benovic stated that the project has been started pre-covid and then was delayed when the pandemic reached full potential. In 2023 there was a resigning of the paperwork. The project was to remove the regulator stations that were on resident's private property and to install them on Township property. The fencing is also in question due to the impediment of resident's view of the lake. ~

~Heather Nemenz addressed the Board concerning the stations' location due to the thought that a car could slide down the road and strike the station therefore causing a gas leak. She also wanted to reiterate that the station does impede the view of the lake. She asked if the green slats could be removed so that they could still see to the lake. Nemenz spoke to the NFG Rep about the fence and he said that people tend to throw garbage into the enclosure. She asked if they could put clear slats into the fencing and would it be possible to move the station further into the park. ~

~Heidi Brieger Noyes declined to speak as she was just going to reiterate what Heather Nemenz has spoken about~

~Kathleen Rusk asked the board if anyone had looked into the sewer lines particularly the back flow preventors. The Township Engineer stated that they have no records regarding that. Rusk asked if the Township is responsible for taking care of her back flow preventors. Rusk also stated that her insurance company is going to drop her if she would have another back up. Commissioner Buchleitner stated that every 5 years a back flow preventor should be rebuilt. Rusk questioned who is responsible for taking care of the back flow rebuild on her property. Commissioner Rodemaker stated that according to Lawrence Park Ordinance the responsibility of anything from the curb to the homeowners responsibility. Rusk said that there are exceptions to those rules. Commissioner Williams asked if she could provide the Board with the exceptions to those rules. Rusk responded that she "could" but she wanted to know what the Township found regarding when this was installed. Several Township officials who have been in service for 15-25 years never heard about any back flow systems being placed in resident's yard. Township Secretary Cunningham asked if the Township insurance company had contacted Ms. Rusk and she yes, they had and that her insurance company and Selective were talking.

~Craig Noyes stated that at 3 am in the morning the regulator whistles were going off for at least 45 minutes. Mr. Noyes stated he was going to call the Commissioners at 3 in the morning and to deal with that issue and get it out of the way. ~

Bills:

- Commissioner Williams made a motion to pay bills as presented, Commissioner Benovic seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Minutes & Resolutions:

- Commissioner Benovic made a motion to approve BOC Minutes from May 8, 2024, Commissioner Williams seconded the motion; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Buchleitner made a motion to approve Special Meeting Minutes from April 20, & May 22, 2024, Commissioner Rodemaker seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Old Business: N/A

New Business:

- Commissioner Buchleitner motioned to advertise any upcoming special meetings regarding the Sudan's Lift Station project including but not limited to Notice of award, Commissioner Williams seconded; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Buchleitner motioned to wave the open container law for only the Gazebo concerts held in 2024, Commissioner Benovic seconded; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Buchleitner wanted to thank everyone for coming to the meeting and that he hoped to have a culture shift in that residents would attend meetings and ask the Board questions. He stated that coming to a meeting or to schedule an appointment with a commissioner instead of going onto social media and getting caught in things that are untrue or misleading. Buchleitner also said that the Board is doing articles on our website on a monthly basis.
- Commissioner Benovic spoke about all the events that will be happening this summer and the full schedule can be found on our website. Benovic wanted to give a special "shout out" to the Township Maintenance crew as they have been phenomenal. Lake Cliff Park has been spruced up and a platform addition to the zip line has been designed and built by the maintenance crew from recycled materials they had in the garage. Also completed, they have sealed and fixed the tennis courts and repainted new lines including pickle ball lines. The volleyball courts have been cleaned up and beautified. The crew has been working tirelessly cleaning all the parks.
- Commissioner Rodemaker also wanted to commend the maintenance department regarding the sewers. People do not see the work that is done in that department. The guys created and welded a screen system to help catch the problem of wet wipes and other debris being flushed down toilets which in turn costs upwards of \$15 thousand dollars a year in repairs. They work tirelessly and take much pride in improving the Township. Rodemaker stated since his time in office this has been the best maintenance crew the Township has ever had. These men care deeply and passionately about the Township. Commissioner Williams stated that the crew re-arranged their hours in order paint all new street and crosswalk lines, coming in at 2 am thus providing a safer work environment. Rodemaker said if you see these guys out and about in the Community, please give them a wave or a thank you, as this goes a long way.

~Commissioner Benovic motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m., Commissioner Buchleitner seconded; the motion carried. ~

Respectfully Submitted:

Cindy Jo Cunningham

Board of Commissioner's Secretary