

LAWRENCE PARK TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 8, 2025

6:00 p.m.

4230 Iroquois Avenue

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

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

Commissioner Golden motioned to approve the amended agenda; Commissioner Buchleitner seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Appointments:

- Commissioner Rodemaker motioned to approve appointing Dan Miller of MacDonald, Illig, Jones & Britton, LLP as the Township Solicitor; Commissioner Buchleitner seconded the motion; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Williams motioned to approve Urban Engineers as the Township Engineering firm, Commissioner Benovic seconded the motion; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Benovic motioned to appoint Joyce Spitznogle as the Treasurer, Commissioner Golden seconded the motion; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Golden motioned to appoint Charles Ramsey as the Township Emergency Management Coordinator; Commissioner Buchleitner seconded the motion; the motion carried.

REPORTS:

Engineers:

- **Soudan Lift Station** - Urban continues to review shop drawings and submittals from Konzel Construction. Additional coordination with USDA.
- **Cunningham Lift Station** – Urban requested additional information from Wm. T. Spaeder for Engineer’s Certification of Completion for PA DEP. Force main bypass was included in permit submittal but will not be constructed (per Barry Rodemaker). Urban to prepare for permit closeout coordination with PA DEP.

Visitors: Chris Buchleitner, Paula Cassady, Rick Garman, Jon Garman, Kate Griffin, Charles Curtis, Dale Durst, Joe Michalegko

Signed in to speak: N/A

Commissioner Buchleitner stated that in the past residents have come up the Board members to ask questions after the meeting has taken place. Buchleitner encouraged residents that if anyone would like to speak during the meeting they may ask to approach the podium after those signed in to speak. Many times, people forget to sign in or they think of something before that time period after the sign in sheet has been presented to the Board President. It is best practice to have these questions asked during the meeting so that it may be recorded in the minutes and that everyone may hear what the concerns are.

Bills:

Commissioner Golden 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 December 11, 2024, Commissioner Buchleitner seconded the motion; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Rodemaker read aloud Resolution 2025-01 the Township Secretary wage, with the roll call VOTE taken by Secretary C. Cunningham; Commissioner Golden; “aye”; Commissioner Buchleitner; “aye”; Commissioner Rodemaker; “aye”; Commissioner Williams; “aye”; Commissioner Benovic; “aye”; with all in favor, Resolution 2025-01 was duly approved.
- Commissioner Rodemaker read aloud Resolution 2025-02 the Deputy Tax Collector for Lawrence Park Township; Commissioner Golden; “aye”; Commissioner Buchleitner; “aye”; Commissioner Rodemaker; “aye”; Commissioner Williams; “aye”; Commissioner Benovic; “aye with all in favor, Resolution 2025-02 was duly approved.

- Commissioner Rodemaker read aloud Resolution 2025-03 the Tax Collector Exoneration; Commissioner Golden; “aye”; Commissioner Buchleitner; “aye”; Commissioner Rodemaker; “aye”; Commissioner Williams; “aye”; Commissioner Benovic; “aye with all in favor, Resolution 2025-03 was duly approved.

Old Business:

- Commissioner Benovic thanked the Holiday Committee for the Santa visit at the Gazebo and over five hundred bags were distributed.

New Business:

- Commissioner Buchleitner spoke to the residents concerning the Deputy Tax Collector. This is done in case the Tax Collector is sick or unable to be in her office to perform her duties, this is a common practice done in Municipalities. The Secretary wage is lowered as the position has moved to part time for this year until a replacement for her later this Summer early Fall. Buchleitner also told residents that the Township Secretary office will now be closed on Fridays but that the Tax Collector will increase her hours during tax season. This was discussed during the budget season and was agreed that cutting back office hours and staff will reduce costs to the Township.
- Commissioner Buchleitner stated that during budget season wages were looked at and some of the of those wages needed to be comparable to other Municipalities and coupled with the fact that there has been above and beyond their call of duty, one position in our maintenance department in particular needed to be addressed and his position will now be called Roadmaster.
- Commissioner Williams said that he has had the privilege of working with all the staff at the Township and the entities of the Township. During the last storm Williams wanted to recognize the streets department and plow drivers. Present here tonight are Jon Garman, Rick Garman, and Gary Cunningham. In the past Williams stated that all the Township staff go above their duties to make everything run properly. Williams presented Gary Cunningham with a certificate naming him as Township Roadmaster and said that he worked alongside Gary, and he goes above and beyond more than anyone he has ever worked with. During the storm Williams said that streets crew was just incredible. Gary wanted to give all the credit to Rick Garman and Jon Garman for all their help and encouragement. Williams said that these gentlemen bring a lot of knowledge and experience to the Township and with their know how they have saved the Township a lot of money, between vehicle maintenance, and building machinery, and using things and rebuilding things that have not been usable, this crew is invaluable to our Township.
- Commissioner Williams motioned to hire Jason Moffett and Tyler Lyngarkos as part-time maintenance help; Commissioner Buchleitner seconded the motion; the motion carried.
- Commissioner Golden motioned to hire Beverly Yokoff as a part time crossing guard contingent on her clearance being completed, Commissioner Buchleitner seconded the motion; the motion carried.
- Commission Delegates and alternates appointments – tabled until the next meeting.

~Commissioner Golden motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m., Commissioner Benovic seconded; the motion carried. ~

Respectfully Submitted:

Cindy Jo Cunningham
Board of Commissioner’s Secretary