

Ross Township Commissioners Meeting
1000 Ross Municipal Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
January 21, 2019
7:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Stephen Korbel, Daniel L. DeMarco, Jeremy Shaffer (via telephone), Patrick Mullin, Jason Piring, Jack Betkowski, Grace Stanko, Joseph Laslavic, Richard Avon and Junior Commissioner Lira Murtezi

SOLICITOR: P. J. Murray, Esq.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER: Douglas Sample

RECORDING SECRETARY: Noreen A. Re

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND BOARD LIAISON: Dominic J. Rickert (Absent)

Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

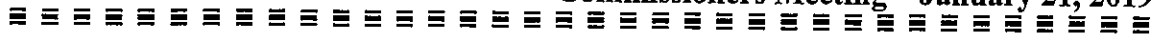
PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - None

ADDRESSING THE BOARD - None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Commissioner Korbel stated the motion on the draft agenda that was available online under Planning and Zoning with respect to a Conditional Use approval for a proposed development on Perry Highway in the 9th Ward was requested to be postponed until February 19th. He also stated there will be an executive session following this meeting tonight to discuss potential litigation with regard to Fairley Road, a personnel matter and to obtain the advice of the solicitor on two additional matters.

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT – None



JUNIOR COMMISSIONER REPORT:

Junior Commissioner Murtezi reported that North Hills will be having its High School Program Night on January 30th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The winter musical will be held from January 31st to February 2nd. Shows start at 7:30 p.m. with ticket sales beginning at 5:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes – None

Bill List – January 21, 2019

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Laslavic and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion passes unanimously

APPOINTMENTS FOR OPEN BOARD AND COMMISSION SEATS

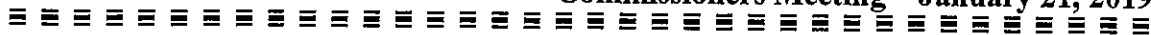
Interviews were conducted at the January 7, 2019, Committee Meeting with 26 candidates being scheduled for interviews for the various Boards and Commissions. All persons submitted a clean criminal background check, unless otherwise noted.

Zoning Hearing Board

- One (1) opening for a five-year term to expire on December 31, 2023
- Candidates who applied for the position: Ippolito Trilli (current member), Ronald Zangaro, John Motz and Jacob Roberts
- (Timothy Hughes did not return clearance)

Roll call:

Commissioner Betkowski – Zangaro
Commissioner Avon – Trilli
Commissioner Stanko – Trilli



- Commissioner Laslavic – Zangaro
- Commissioner DeMarco – Zangaro
- Commissioner Shaffer – Trilli
- Commissioner Mullin – Zangaro
- Commissioner Perring – Zangaro
- Commissioner Korbel – Zangaro

Mr. Zangaro is appointed by majority vote

Planning Commission

- Three (3) openings for a four-year term to expire December 31, 2022
- Candidates who applied for the position: James Wigal (current member), John Sample (current member), Bridget Watson O'Brien (current member), Carl Eisenbeis, Frank Caloiero, John Motz, William Pfrommer and Jacob Roberts

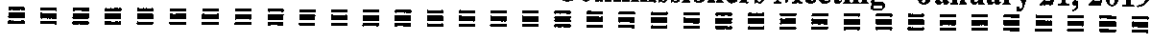
Roll call:

- Commissioner Betkowski – Wigal, Sample and Watson O'Brien
- Commissioner Avon – Wigal, Sample and Watson O'Brien
- Commissioner Stanko – Wigal, Sample and Motz
- Commissioner Laslavic – Wigal, Sample and Watson O'Brien
- Commissioner DeMarco – Wigal, Sample and Watson O'Brien
- Commissioner Shaffer – Wigal, Sample and Watson O'Brien
- Commissioner Mullin – Wigal, Sample and Watson O'Brien
- Commissioner Perring – Wigal, Sample and Watson O'Brien
- Commissioner Korbel – Wigal, Sample and Watson O'Brien

Mr. Wigal, Mr. Sample and Ms. Watson O'Brien appointed by majority vote

Vacancy Board

- One (1) opening for a one-year appointment to expire December 31, 2019



- Candidates who applied for the position: Walt Salachup (current member), John Cooley and Jacob Roberts (Edward Dougherty did not return clearance)

Roll call:

Commissioner Betkowski – Salachup
Commissioner Avon – Salachup
Commissioner Stanko – Cooley
Commissioner Laslavic – Salachup
Commissioner DeMarco – Salachup
Commissioner Shaffer – Salachup
Commissioner Mullin – Salachup
Commissioner Piring – Salachup
Commissioner Korbelt – Salachup

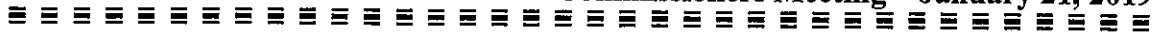
Mr. Salachup is appointed by majority vote

Fire Appeals Board

- Two (2) openings for three-year term to expire December 31, 2021.
- Candidates who applied: John Sponcer (current member), William Linkenheimer (current member), Wesley Semple and Jacob Roberts

Roll call:

Commissioner Betkowski – Sponcer and Linkenheimer
Commissioner Avon – Sponcer and Semple
Commissioner Stanko – Sponcer and Linkenheimer
Commissioner Laslavic – Sponcer and Linkenheimer
Commissioner DeMarco – Sponcer and Linkenheimer
Commissioner Shaffer – Sponcer and Linkenheimer
Commissioner Mullin – Sponcer and Linkenheimer
Commissioner Piring – Sponcer and Linkenheimer
Commissioner Korbelt – Sponcer and Semple



Mr. Sponcer and Mr. Linkenheimer appointed by majority vote

Building Appeals Board

- One (1) opening for three-year term to expire December 31, 2021.
- Candidate who applied: Jacob Roberts

Motion to appoint Jacob Roberts to the Building Appeals Board made by Commissioner Mullin and seconded by Commissioner Laslavic.

Motion passes unanimously

Traffic Advisory Board

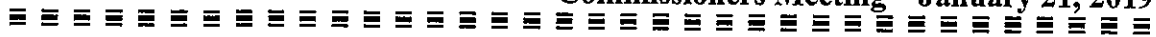
- One (1) opening to fill a vacancy with the term expiring December 31, 2020
- Candidates who applied: William Pfrommer, David Tye and Jacob Roberts (Joshua Clark and Lisa Kaylor did not return clearances)

Roll call:

- Commissioner Betkowski – Pfrommer
- Commissioner Avon – Tye
- Commissioner Stanko – Tye
- Commissioner Laslavic – Pfrommer
- Commissioner DeMarco – Pfrommer
- Commissioner Shaffer – Tye
- Commissioner Mullin – Pfrommer
- Commissioner Piring – Pfrommer
- Commissioner Korbelt – Pfrommer

Mr. Pfrommer is appointed by majority vote





Equal Opportunity Board

- Candidates who applied: Melissa Fann (had clearance from appointment to Civil Service Commission), Deanna Philpott, Tobias Venar, Deb Olbert, Joshua Allenberg, John Sucha and Jacob Roberts
- One (1) opening for one-year term to expire December 31, 2019.

Motion to nominate Deanna Philpott made by Commissioner DeMarco. No additional nominations make.

Ms. Philpott appointed unanimously

- One (1) opening for two-year term to expire December 31, 2020.

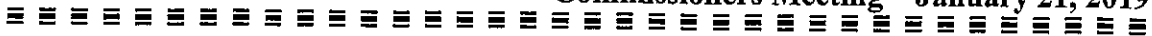
Motion to nominate Joshua Allenberg made by Commissioner DeMarco.

Motion to nominate Deb Olbert made by Commissioner Laslavic.

Roll call:

- Commissioner Betkowski – Allenberg
- Commissioner Avon – Olbert
- Commissioner Stanko – Olbert
- Commissioner Laslavic – Olbert
- Commissioner DeMarco – Allenberg
- Commissioner Shaffer – Olbert
- Commissioner Mullin – Allenberg
- Commissioner Piring – Allenberg
- Commissioner Korbelt – Allenberg

Mr. Allenberg is appointed by majority vote



- One (1) opening for three-year term to expire December 31, 2021.

Motion to nominate John Sucha made by Commissioner DeMarco.

Motion to nominate Deb Olbert made by Commissioner Stanko.

Roll call:

- Commissioner Betkowski – Sucha
- Commissioner Avon – Sucha
- Commissioner Stanko – Olbert
- Commissioner Laslavic – Olbert
- Commissioner DeMarco – Sucha
- Commissioner Shaffer – Sucha
- Commissioner Mullin – Sucha
- Commissioner Piring – Sucha
- Commissioner Korbel – Sucha

Mr. Sucha is appointed by majority vote

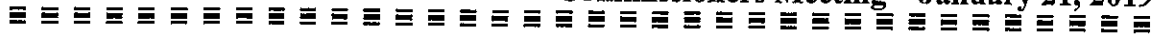
- One (1) opening for four-year term to expire December 31, 2022.

Motion to nominate Tobias Venar made by Commissioner DeMarco.

Motion to nominate Deb Olbert made by Commissioner Avon.

Roll call:

- Commissioner Betkowski – Venar
- Commissioner Avon – Olbert
- Commissioner Stanko – Olbert
- Commissioner Laslavic – Venar
- Commissioner DeMarco – Venar



Commissioner Shaffer – Venar
Commissioner Mullin – Venar
Commissioner Piring – Venar
Commissioner Korbel – Venar

Mr. Venar is appointed by majority vote

- One (1) opening for five-year term to expire December 31, 2023.

Motion to nominate Melissa Fann made by Commissioner DeMarco.

Motion to nominate Deb Olbert made by Commissioner Avon.

Roll call:

Commissioner Betkowski – Fann
Commissioner Avon – Olbert
Commissioner Stanko – Olbert
Commissioner Laslavic – Olbert
Commissioner DeMarco – Fann
Commissioner Shaffer – Olbert
Commissioner Mullin – Fann
Commissioner Piring – Fann
Commissioner Korbel – Fann

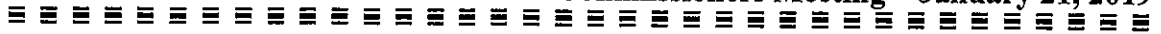
Ms. Fann is appointed by majority vote

ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND POLICY:

Chair: Joe Laslavic; Members – Dan DeMarco and Pat Mullin

Ordinances to be Adopted

Administrative Training Request



Motion to authorize Katie Malsch to attend the 2019 Civic Summit from April 14-17, 2019, in Kansas City, MO, at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00 made by Commissioner Laslavic and seconded by Commissioner Stanko.

Motion passes unanimously

Distinguished Community Service Award

Motion to create the Ross Township Distinguished Annual Service Award made by Commissioner Laslavic and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion passes unanimously

FINANCE, BUDGET AND PENSION

Chair: Jason Piring; Members - Joe Laslavic and Dan DeMarco

Ordinance to be Adopted

Amending Ordinance 2422 – 2019 Sewer User Fees to address monthly billing charges.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2426 amending Ordinance No. 2422 establishing the 2019 Sewer User Fees made by Commissioner Piring and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion passes unanimously

PARKS AND RECREATION:

Chair: Pat Mullin; Members - Jason Piring and Joe Laslavic

Ordinances to be Introduced

Prohibiting Smoking in all Township Parks

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Regarding this proposed ordinance, Commissioner Piring stated that he and the manager met with Tiffany from Young Lungs to discuss the proposed ordinance. She suggested the language to include “lookalike or similar products.” Commissioner Piring stated getting smoking banned in the parks would be the first step in getting the township property to be smokeless or tobacco-free.

Commissioner Korbelt commented that the Community Center and the grounds around it are not included, but the park and ball field is included. Commissioner Piring also stated if the ordinance is approved, Young Lungs will put in signs for free.

Commissioner Laslavic stated there is a meeting with the baseball and soccer associations coming up later next month. He indicated the smoking ban could be relayed to the parents attending games.

Administrative Training Request

Motion to authorize Eloise Peet and Kyle Derry to attend the 2019 Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society Conference from April 1-5, 2019, in State College, PA, at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00 made by Commissioner Mullin and seconded by Commissioner Piring.

Motion passes unanimously

Motion to authorize Kyle Derry to attend the 2019 Civic Summit from April 14-17, 2019, in Kansas City, MO, at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00 made by Commissioner Mullin and seconded by Commissioner Stanko.

Mr. Sample commented that Mr. Derry would be the guest of Ms. Malsch for this conference. The cost would be for his airfare and lodging.

Motion passes unanimously



PLANNING, ZONING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Chair: Dan DeMarco; Members – Jack Betkowski and Grace Stanko

Commissioner DeMarco stated the Deer Management Committee met last week. He indicated it was a productive meeting with the game warden and a biologist. Once the committee has a plan, they will bring it before the Board.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Co-Chairs: Jack Betkowski and Dan DeMarco; Member - Pat Mullin

Ordinances to be Introduced

Designating a Handicap Parking Space at 63 Harvard Avenue

Commissioner Perring inquired what happens to the parking space after a resident moves. Chief Ley stated it would be removed 30 days after the resident moves.

Resolution – Ross/West View EMS

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2312 for the purpose of contributing to Ross/West View Emergency Medical Services for 2019 made by Commissioner Betkowski and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion passes unanimously

PUBLIC WORKS, SANITATION AND SEWERS:

Chair: Patrick Mullin; Members - Jack Betkowski and Rick Avon

Commissioner Mullin had no comments.

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OTHER BOARDS/ENTITIES (COG, CONNECT, Intergovernmental) - None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Joe Zawoysky, 123 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, addressed the Board regarding the handicapped parking, regulations regarding garbage cans being left out, no stop sign at a T-intersection, parking permits, parking on 5th Avenue by school parents and the stop sign at the top of 7th Street. He also commented on seeing Commissioner DeMarco’s picture in the bulletin of Incarnation Church.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion passes unanimously

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:00 P.M.



**Douglas Sample
Manager/Secretary**

By: 

**Stephen Korbel, President
Ross Township Board of
Commissioners**

Minutes transcribed by *Noreen A. Re, Certified Realtime Reporter*