

**EAST COCALICO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TOWNSHIP BUILDING  
100 HILL ROAD, DENVER, PA  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023, 7:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER** by Chair Bonura at 7:00 PM

**ATTENDANCE**

Lorenzo Bonura, Chair	[X]
Jeff Mitchell, Vice Chair	[X]
Romao Carrasco	[X]

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Chair Bonura announced the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session on September 21, 2023 to discuss a personnel matter, in specific the Chief of Police position. Chair Bonura announced the Board of Supervisors will meet in Executive Session following this evening's meeting to discuss a personnel matter, in specific the Public Works Director position.

**MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Bonura made a motion to approve the September 21, 2023 Meeting minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mitchell.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

**DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

- There were no presentations made at this evening's meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS**

LERTA – The Board of Supervisors considered the Township Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) Program.

Mr. Carrasco commented on LERTA history, rationale, and objectives. Chair Bonura commented on a pending re-zone application to permit a warehouse, and on warehouse uses in the Township.

There was general discussion regarding commercial uses in the Township and in neighboring municipalities.

Sue Mackley, East Cocalico Township, commented on commercial development and on zoning amendments.

Allen Maxwell, East Cocalico Township, commented on Act 209 funds, and on a planning study.

Mr. Carrasco, East Cocalico Township, commented on Township marketing.

Teri Maxwell, East Cocalico Township, commented on community characteristics.

Mr. Carrasco presented and discussed a five-year financial plan.

Jeff Garner, Reamstown Fire Company, commented on past planning efforts.

Lorraine Kulp, East Cocalico Township, commented on developer perception of the entitlement process in past years.

Justin Birchard, East Cocalico Township, commented on the Stevens Fire Company heliport.

Matt Creme, Township Solicitor, noted the process to amend or repeal the LERTA Program, and abstention vote requirements.

Chair Bonura made a motion to prepare and have advertised two ordinances, the first to revise Township Code to remove the industrial zoning district, and the second to repeal the LERTA program in its entirety. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mitchell.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

Local Services Tax collection – Tommy Ryan, Township Manager, recommended the Board of Supervisors appoint the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau as Local Services Tax collector. Mr. Ryan commented on the lower commission rate, potentially higher collection rate, improved customer services, and Township membership on, oversight of, the Bureau.

Mr. Creme noted the Second Class Township Code permits the governing body to appoint the Local Services Tax collector.

Chair Bonura made a motion to prepare and have advertised an ordinance to appoint the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau as Local Services Tax collector. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mitchell.

Mr. Mackley commented on collection rates.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

health care insurance plan – Mr. Ryan commented on recently received and proposed health insurance premiums for the coming year.

interfund transfers, bill lists & payroll – Mr. Mitchell made a motion to approve the check payments for the General Fund Bank Account list of bills in the amount of \$116,835.66, for the week of September 28, 2023. The motion was seconded by Chair Bonura.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

Mr. Mitchell made a motion to approve the check payments for the General Fund Bank Account list of bills in the amount of \$115,887.49, for the week of October 5, 2023. The motion was seconded by Chair Bonura.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

Mr. Mitchell made a motion to approve the check payments for the Liquid Fuels Fund Bank Account list of bills in the amount of \$390,527.95, for the week of September 28, 2023. The motion was seconded by Chair Bonura.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

Mr. Mitchell made a motion to approve the check payments for the Light Fund Bank Account list of bills in the amount of \$14,454.71, for the week of October 5, 2023. The motion was seconded by Chair Bonura.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

Mr. Mitchell made a motion to approve the Electronic Payment list of bills in the amount of \$91,454.66, for the pay period from September 10, 2023 to September 23, 2023. The motion was seconded by Chair Bonura.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

Mr. Mitchell commented on account transfers under consideration.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- Chair Bonura commented on the Township Building Addition Project status.
- Chair Bonura thanked volunteer Troy Texter for his landscaping and beautification work at the Township Building grounds.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- There was no new business discussed at this evening's meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Act 172 tax credit for emergency responders – There was general discussion regarding past and current considerations of an Act 172 tax credit for emergency responders. Mr. Ryan will contact municipalities that have adopted the tax credit, and inquire as to their experience to date.

Donny Stover, Smokestown Fire Company, commented on considerations to date.

Mr. Mackley commented on tax credit amount.

Mr. Maxwell commented on a consideration schedule.

Mr. Creme commented on Act 172 stated purposes and objectives.

Dan Burton, East Cocalico Township, commented on tax credit amount, budget impact, and fire company considerations.

fire company apparatus insurance – Chair Bonura commented on considerations to date.

Ms. Weaver noted an insurance company requested all apparatus and property be included in the policy. Mr. Garner commented on insurance options.

Chair Bonura made a motion to require fire companies with apparatus on the Township policy to acquire insurance for their apparatus, and to provide a certificate of insurance to the Township by December 31, 2023, and if not provided a fire company will not provide coverage in the Township, until insurance is obtained. There was no second to the motion.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Mr. Mackley commented on the salt shed, and on the North Reading Road roundabout.
- Wesley Hoover, East Cocalico Township, commented on roundabout signage.
- Mr. Garner announced the Reamstown Fire Company and Smokestown Fire Company had agreed to merge, and to create a new fire company. Mr. Garner commented on the creation of a steering committee, and noted updates will be provided to the Township throughout the months to come.

Mr. Garner noted Stevens Fire Company was welcome to join the merger. Ms. Weaver noted the Stevens Fire Company was opposed to a merger in past years. Mr. Stover commented on Act 205 funding allocation.

- Mr. Stover commented on Board of Supervisor membership.

- Don Miller, East Cocalico Township, commented on security cameras and GPS monitors.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Chair Bonura announced the Board of Supervisors will meet in Executive Session following this evening's meeting to discuss a personnel matter, in specific the Public Works Director position.
- Chair Bonura announced the Board of Supervisors will next meet at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 19, at the Township Building.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, at 9:10 PM Chair Bonura made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mitchell.

There was no public comment.

By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Tommy Ryan  
Township Manager