



**RANSOM TOWNSHIP
LACKAWANNA COUNTY**

November 13, 2023
Supervisors' Monthly Meeting

Chairman Bird called the Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Chairman Bird and Supervisors Wells and Scott were present. Quarum declared

Attendance: Donna Urbaniak, Jerry Blackwell, Lenay Blackwell, Ben Freda, Kelly Cardone, Helen Doty, Paula Noto, David Kostiak, Charles Samsuck, Elisabeth and John Padula, Gentry Rouse, Howard Felker, David Rudalavage, Robert Rhodes, Chris Peet, Artie and Angelika Mercado, Jim and Jodi Kashuba, DeAnn Wellard, Kevin Wellard, Thomas Macheska, Jim Baranowski and Chief Jeff LaCoe.

Minutes of the October 2, 2023 meeting were read by Secretary – Supervisor Scott made a motion to accept the minutes as read – 2nd by Supervisor Wells– all in favor –motion carried

POLICE REPORT: No officer present – 79.3hours logged in; 1 domestic, 2 PSP, and 2 others

FIRE REPORT: Chief LaCoe reported 8 calls in Ransom, 6 EMS, and 2 fire. Chief LaCoe informed the public that the engine won't be back in service until after the 1st of the year. Breakfast with Santa is December 10. Chief LaCoe congratulated Jerry for his re-election.

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

SOLICITOR SCACCHITTI: Not Present

SUPERVISORS:

Solar Panel Project - Gentry Rouse with PIVOT energy discussed some of the key points in regards to the lease. Paula Noto expressed her concern in regards to the location of the panels and her home. She is concerned about the noise and appearance of the panels. Gentry assured her that they would be screening for noise and would grow trees to cover the site of the panels. Angelika Mercado asked if this is a private project and Gentry confirmed that it is and that the town will get a lease payment yearly. Donna Urbaniak discussed the best long term use for the greenspace. Her concern is that the solar project will decrease home values, will be hard to dispose of the panels once the project is complete or if the project goes bankrupt. Gentry assured the township and the residents that they have implemented a decommissioning bond. There will be no batteries at this point involved in the panels. The noise will be around 45 DBA and will sound like wrestling of leaves from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Gentry also discussed that the township has 100% control of the setbacks and approval for where the panels will go. The lease will be recorded and filed in Lackawanna County.

Police Contract – The Township is exploring different avenues for police contracts.

ZONING: Officer not present

STAFF REPORT: Chairman Bird reported on the following:

1. Treasury Report:
 - General Fund:\$2,041,691.73
 - Liquid Fuels: \$788,463.07
 - Revenues:\$438,081.37
 - Expenditures: \$271,192.21

Recycling for October was 3.21 tons; this month's recycling date will be November 25

Next Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for November 20 @ 6:30 pm

Next Supervisors' Meeting will be December 4 @ 6:00 pm at Municipal Building

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Name, address/4 minute limit)

Donna Urbaniak discussed the cardboard boxes that are left on the Blvd. and recycling is not picking them up.

Angelika Mercado asked for an update on FEMA and if the creeks can be fixed.

Howard Felker expressed concern with all the rocks and boulders in his yard.

Chairman Bird said it may be beneficial to invite a commissioner to one of the township meetings to discuss the storm damage.

Having no further business or comments, Chairman Bird made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Supervisor Scott, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Kwiatkowski Secretary