

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on December 19th, 2024 at 7pm at the Municipal Building – Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting: See sign-in sheet (attached).

Chairperson Brenda Helt calls the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call of Officers:

Michael Sorokach III – present.

Elvin E. Brennan Jr. – present.

Brenda M. Helt – present.

Other attendance/attendees:

Mark Semanchik, Solicitor – present.

Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary – present.

Chairperson Helt states that the November 2024 Supervisors Meeting Minutes have been placed at each seat. She made a motion to approve the minutes if there are no corrections or omissions. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Helt opens the meeting for public comment.

Tina Skibiell, Pine Knot – asks about the Police Chief Update that is listed on the Agenda.

James Quinn, Fire Chief Clover Fire Company – asks if the Township received the (donation) check from Onvo yet. Helt states that we have not. Jim then states that he received a call at 10pm one evening about flames coming out the side of a house; a guy has a stove pipe sticking out the side of a house and he was burning wood. Jim asked who he would call to take care of it at that time of the night. Helt responds it is a code enforcement issue so Nick Hazlett should be contacted.

Hearing no additional questions or comments, Helt moves on to the Agenda items:

Police Chief Update – *Helt states that the Supervisors conducted interviews and picked a candidate; however, he unfortunately had to back out due to personal reasons – so the Board members have agreed to continue with coverage by Pennsylvania State Police for now until they find another candidate. Helt made a motion to accept the update. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

*Budget – Helt states that the second item on tonight’s agenda is to approve the 2025 Budget. Sorokach adds that it’s a (balanced) budget of \$1,236,538.27. Helt calls for a motion. Seconded by Sorokach.
Roll Call: Brennan – aye.*

Resolution 01 of 2025 – Tax Rates – Helt states that the Board has agreed that there will not be an increase in taxes for 2025. She made a motion to approve the Resolution. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Travel Plaza Road Name – Solicitor Semanchik explains that last month, the Board authorized him to prepare an ordinance as per the request of Onvo to name their roadway “Travel Plaza Drive”. He states that he had concerns about it – so he did not prepare and ordinance nor does he recommend adopting an ordinance, but rather, he recommends that the Board adopt a motion to approve the designation of this private lane as “Travel Plaza Drive” – but only for the purposes of being properly designated for emergency services – and for nothing else. This will eliminate any confusion as to whether there is a need for the Township to take on any responsibility relating to maintenance and/or plowing of this lane/road. Brennan made the motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Auditor Vacancies - Sorokach states that he spoke with Frank Angelo; he agreed to accept the Auditor appointment again this year. Helt made a motion to re-appoint Frank Angelo. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Treasurer’s Report – Helt states that there is copy of the report at each seat. She made a motion to accept the report as printed – and to pay all outstanding bills. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Planning Commission & Engineers Report –

St. Kieran’s Solar Project – Solicitor Semanchik states that a request has been received from Lehigh Engineering asking the Supervisors to extend to the March 2025 Planning Commission meeting, the application of Lehigh Engineering, LLC / Reading Anthracite Company related to the St. Kieran’s Solar Project that was previously presented. He recommends that the Board approve this request. Helt made a motion to approve the request. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Lenick / Machita Minor Subdivision Lot Annexation – Solicitor Semanchik states that the Planning Commission has reviewed this submission. They are recommending – and he would concur – that the Board grant conditional preliminary final approval for this plan based upon the filing of any additional information as required by the Planning

Commission. Helt made a motion for approval. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Code Enforcement Report – Nick Hazlett provides his report. Helt makes a motion to approve the report. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Roadmaster's Report – A copy of the report is provided at each seat. Sorokach also reads the report aloud. Helt calls for a motion to approve the report. Brennan made the motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Solicitor's Report –

Executive Session - Solicitor Semanchik states that he met with the Board for executive session prior to this meeting; it began at 6:15pm and lasted until 7pm. The issues discussed were personnel, property, and contract issues.

Onvo Travel Plaza (Highridge Business Park) – EV Charging Stations - Solicitor Semanchik explains that Onvo has submitted a request to the Township asking for the Board to approve the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at their facility. Helt makes a motion to approve the request. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

2025 Reorganization Meeting – Solicitor Semanchik requests that the Board set a time for the meeting to take place on Monday, January 6th, 2025. He explains that all of the Townships of the Second Class are required to reorganize on that day – so all that is needed is a time to be set – and that will allow it to be advertised. Sorokach makes the motion to set the time for 7pm on January 6th, 2025. Seconded by Helt. Motion passed. Roll call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Hydrant – Blythe Township Municipal Authority – Solicitor Semanchik asks if the issue with the hydrant at the intersection of Schaeffer's Hill Road and Valley Road has been addressed by BTMA. Brian Mull responds that it has been addressed.

Helt makes a motion to accept the Solicitor's Report. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Correspondence – Nothing.

Old / New Business – Nothing.



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Motion to Adjourn:

With no further business, Chairperson Helt makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Supervisor Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18pm.

ATTEST: Brenda M. Helt, Chairperson

SEAL:

ATTEST: Michael Sorokach III, Vice Chairperson

