

7:00PM

July 12, 2017

South Pymatuning Township Regular Meeting

The Regular meeting of the South Pymatuning Board of Supervisors was held on July 12, 2017 at 7:00PM in the municipal building with Brian Geisel, Rose Lyons and Chairperson Michaelene Harris in attendance. Pete Acker solicitor was present.

The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

A gathering was held on June 26th, 2017 to discuss the police fulltime position opening. A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2017 Regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

Don Morrow: Would like to see more police presence in the area of Buckeye Dr. in the morning and evening hours. Harris said the officers said this area was the main patrolled area which Morrow disagreed with saying he only sees them when hauling through for a call. He asked why no supervisors have been attending the COG meetings. Harris and Geisel said they attended about 3 or 4 meetings and Lyons said they only attended one meeting. Geisel then stated they only attended one meeting. Toth asked if they would be attending them in the future. Morrow said they should be involved in COG they have grant writers, equipment use, and grant money available. Toth said he saw Burt changing the bulb at the light and COG could have helped him.

Ed Wilson: He thinks the police dept. has a high turnover and feels the dept. is mismanaged. For the last 7 years his complaint has been about the budget. He asked if the supervisors were aware of Burke's past history and that there have been issues in the past with him. The solicitor explained the position needed to be filled and it goes by seniority. He explained that the officers that quit the dept. went to bigger depts. And make more money. He said if any derogatory language was used by the officer he would be terminated.

Chuck Snider: Said it is not the supervisor's fault the officers quit, they left for more money.

Laurel Alexander: said the Twp. has junk cars and that the supervisors stopped buying new vehicles which makes it appear the supervisors are going to shut the dept. down. She said in the past residents complained about officers being at home or sitting in the twp. and both supervisors and residents need to change their attitudes. She feels this is why officers are quitting. The solicitor responded and said he sees no indication nor had any discussion with the supervisors about closing the dept. Lyons said the older officers are still here working.

Chuck Vranich: asked when the part-time officers were hired and if the supervisors were aware of Burkes past history. He felt if he was forced to resign from another dept. he will not set a good image for the township.

Pat Layman: She said if Burke was a Gov't employee the township should not have an issue with him.

Kurt Toth: Would like to see pot holes filled on Orangeville Rd. especially at the intersection. He asked when the resurfacing would be done at that intersection and Lyons said it will be scheduled. He also addressed the ditch on Buckeye Dr.

Police and Fire Reports were read

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to approve the bills totaling \$85,522.48 and payroll in the amount of \$ 31,420.53 Motion passed unanimously.

It was announced under Old Business that Rose Lyons applied for the ARLE grant, contacted Penn Dot to cut the growth back, she contacted Pymatuning about shared services to borrow their road grader and that the ditch on Shadow has been repaired.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to accept Corey Bartley's resignation effective June 25th, 2017. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to hire Thomas Burke effective July 6th, 2017 as a fulltime officer. Motion passed with Rose Lyons voting NO. Lyons opposed because she said it was not done properly. She was advised that Greene would be called about the open fulltime slot since the minutes reflected him first, he was not asked about the position. Lyons said no officers should tell the employees who has seniority it is the supervisor's job. Harris said she should not have to cater to Greene and he did not work enough shifts. Lyons said Burke did not work the shifts either so it was not right to treat an employee this way. Lyons was then notified via text with Harris recommending to hire Burke fulltime and Geisel saying let's get this going. Lyons said the supervisors never sat down to discuss this.

Under New Business 8 C No Motion was made Chairperson Harris said she would like to adjourn the meeting and not discuss this item at the public meeting.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Rose Lyons
Secretary