

**ROBESON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORKSHOP MEETING AGENDA
April 13, 2023**

I. Call to Order – Chairman Christopher Smith

- a. Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. Roll Call

II. Citizen Concerns / Public Comment - When called, provide your name and address for the record.
After this, you have three (3) minutes to share your comments with the Supervisors.

- a. Trinity Drilling and Explosives
- b. 5K Race-Paint the Town Purple- June 17,2023

III. Correspondence

- a. Republic Services-Consent Order and Agreement Dated March 28, 2005
- b. PennDOT Allegheny Road bridge replacement
- c. Flagger Training
- d. Letter from Durham School Services
- e. Pioneer Crossing Landfill Free Spring Clean Up
- f. Berks County Conservation District Mosquito and Vector Disease Program
- g. Notice of Payment Liquid Fuels March 2023
- h. Federal Highway Administration Local Aid Support
- i. SystemsNet Client Dashboard
- j. SDE Corrective Action Plan-Pump Station No. 1 and No, 2

IV. Police – Chief Dennis W. Cassel, Jr

- a. Update to the FirstNet Sim Card-Request a Motion to change the data service for the MCT's to FirstNet and Cancel the Verizon service subscription paid through Berks County.
- b. Discuss a Donation to the Police Department from Reading Armament
- c. Discuss departmental activities.
- d. Other /items as necessary.

V. Finance / Other –Township Manager

- a. Monthly Expenses-Review Recd 4-6-23
- b. Treasurer's Report –Review Recd 4-6-23
- c. Sewer Aging report Recd 4-5-23
- d. Audit Notice Township Of Robeson Year Ended December 12- 31-22

VI. Fire Companies –

- a. Chief Scott Gullo - Friendship FC
- b. Chief Jeff Kupp - Gibraltar FC

VII. March Minutes, Expenses and Reports

- a. BOS Workshop Meeting minutes March 9, 2023
- b. BOS Regular Meeting minutes March 21, 2023
- c. SEO Permit Report Recd 4-6-23
- d. EEMA Sewer Report
- e. Road Report Recd 4-4-23
- f. Engineers report Recd 4-6-23
- g. Building Permit/Code Enforcement Report
- h. Police Report Recd 4-6-23
- i. Gibraltar Fire Company Report
- j. Friendship Fire Company Report
- k. Ambulance Service Reports
- l. Village Library of Morgantown
- m. Parks and Recreation Minutes

VIII. Planning & Engineering – Engineer Ryan Rhode

- a. Rock Hollow Woods-Time Extension
- b. Storm Water Management proposal
- c. 2023 Street Work – Update and Maintenance Discussion
- d. Manowczak/Natural Lands Subdivision Preliminary/Final Plan – 3 Waiver Request

IX. Legal Matters - Solicitor Eugene Orlando, Jr.

- a. AirBnB update
- b. Notice of Violation – Elmer Lapp, AirBnB (James Bell subdivision)
- c. Cumru Township Boundary Issue.

X. Public Works –Township Manager

- a. Rock Hollow Bridge and Old River Road Bridge Update
- b. Site meeting at Rock Hollow Road with Dyer Quarry representative: Intersection road repairs
- c. Purchase of Power Washer

XI. Parks & Recreation-Township Manager

- a. Gibraltar Park Schedule/Municipal Field Schedule
- b. Gibraltar Baseball Field Diamond Tex Purchase

XII. Old Business

- a. Window Cleaning Proposal
- b. Truck Inventory

XIII. “Good of the Order”- Comments by Supervisors

XIV. Executive Session – Personnel and Litigation Discussions

XV. Motion to Adjourn

ROBESON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES April 13, 2023

The Workshop Meeting of the Robeson Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Municipal Building, 2689 Main Street, Birdsboro PA on Thursday, April 13, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Christopher M. Smith. Present for the meeting were Vice-Chairman Galen L. Brown, Supervisor Jeffrey Rhoads, Supervisor Timothy B. Bitler, and Supervisor Harold W. Steve, Jr. Also present were Solicitor Eugene Orlando, Jr., Robeson Township Police Chief Dennis W. Cassel, Jr., Township Manager Richard L. Orwig, and Fiscal Assistant Shelia McCune via zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance - Chairman Smith

Roll Call of Supervisors

Chairman Smith	present
Supervisor Brown	present
Supervisor Bitler	present
Supervisor Rhoads	present
Supervisor Steve	present

Citizen Concerns / Public Comment:

Bernard C. Keturakis II – expressed concern over road condition on Bard Road.

Trinity Drilling and Explosives – Representatives of Trinity Drilling, Keith Brubaker, Lonny Horst, and James Strong, Esq. appeared before the Board to explain the proposed magazine storage site on the Hertzler Farm. Attorney Strong suggested that the proposed use is not identified in the AP zoning district nor permitted anywhere in the Township, he suggested amending the Zoning Ordinance to allow the use in the AP zoning district. Mr. Brubaker gave an overview of how the site would be designed and operated. Trinity is seeking a long-term lease on the Hertzler Farm consisting of approximately three (3) acres. *Supervisor Bitler* inquired as to the type and extent of insurance that would cover the project. *Supervisor Steve* and *Vice-Chairman Brown* question what type of security would be provided. *Chairman Smith* asked about the amount of truck traffic that would be anticipated on a daily basis. *Supervisor Rhoads* questioned the traffic patterns that would be travelled and what emergency plans would be in place for fire protection. *Supervisor Steve* questioned what types of explosives would be stored at the facility. Solicitor Orlando suggested that an escrow account be established to cover Township expenses. Chief Cassel suggested that in the event of any type of incident that the Police Department should be first to be notified. *Supervisor Bitler* suggested that Attorney Strong draft a proposed zoning amendment for the Board to review. No further action taken at this time.

Paint the Town Purple 5K Race – Lynn Cronomiz and Catherine McCarthy of the Alzheimer's Association explained the proposed 5k Race to start at Joanna Furnace from approximately 9:30am – 11am on Saturday June 17th. Chief Cassel stated that he will coordinate the closing of affected roads. Ms. Cronomiz will be responsible for notifying homeowners located along the racecourse. MOTION by *Supervisor Steve*, seconded by *Supervisor Rhoads* to approve the 5K Race contingent upon appropriate insurance coverage and traffic controls – roll call:

Chairman Smith	Yes
----------------	-----

Vice-Chairman Brown	Yes
Supervisor Bitler	Yes
Supervisor Rhoads	Yes
Supervisor Steve	Yes

Motion carried.

Correspondence

Correspondence as listed on the Agenda was reviewed by the Township Manager including: Republic Services-Consent Order and Agreement Dated March 28, 2005; PennDOT Allegheny Road bridge replacement; Flagger Training; Letter from Durham School Services; Pioneer Crossing Landfill Free Spring Clean Up; Berks County Conservation District Mosquito and Vector Disease Program; Notice of Payment Liquid Fuels March 2023; Federal Highway Administration Local Aid Support; SystemsNet Client Dashboard; SDE Corrective Action Plan-Pump Station No. 1 and No. 2.

Police Chief Dennis W. Cassel, Jr.

- e. Reviewed update to the FirstNet Sim Card, and will request a Motion to change the data service for the MCT's to FirstNet and Cancel the Verizon service subscription paid through Berks County.
- f. Announcement of a Donation of a rifle to the Police Department from Andrew Wiczalkowski, owner of Reading Armament.
- g. Camp Cadet PSP – MOTION by *Supervisor Bitler*, seconded by *Supervisor Steve* to authorize Officer Schlottman to attend the Camp Cadet as a Senior Counselor from August 12-18, 2023, roll call:

Chairman Smith	Yes
Vice-Chairman Brown	Yes
Supervisor Bitler	Yes
Supervisor Rhoads	Yes
Supervisor Steve	Yes

Motion carried.
- h. Discussion concerning departmental activities and preparation of reports.
- i. Mountain bike received from Birdsboro Police to be used by mid-shift officer.

Finance / Other –Township Manager

- a. Monthly Expenses- reviewed.
- b. Treasurer's Report – reviewed.
- c. Sewer Aging report – reviewed.
- d. Audit Notice Township of Robeson Year Ended December, 2022 was reviewed.

Burning Ban – MOTION by *Vice-Chairman Brown*, seconded by *Supervisor Rhoads* to institute a ban on open burning within the Township whenever a “red-flag” warning is issued until lifted by the DCNR, roll call:

Chairman Smith	Yes
Vice-Chairman Brown	Yes
Supervisor Bitler	No
Supervisor Rhoads	Yes
Supervisor Steve	No

Motion carried.

Fire Companies –

Chief Scott Gullo, Friendship FC - present
Chief Jeff Kupp, Gibraltar FC

March Minutes, Expenses and Reports

The following reports were presented to the Board for consideration at the Regular Meeting:

- n. BOS Workshop Meeting minutes March 9, 2023
- o. BOS Regular Meeting minutes March 21, 2023
- p. SEO Permit Report Recd 4-6-23
- q. EEMA Sewer Report
- r. Road Report Recd 4-4-23
- s. Engineer's report Recd 4-6-23
- t. Building Permit/Code Enforcement Report
- u. Police Report Recd 4-6-23
- v. Gibraltar Fire Company Report
- w. Friendship Fire Company Report
- x. Ambulance Service Reports
- y. Village Library of Morgantown
- z. Parks and Recreation Minutes

Supervisor Bitler requested that the March 9th Workshop Minutes be revised to add his comments he read from the Court Order by Judge Nevius concerning the appointment of Harold Steve.

Planning & Engineering – Engineer Ryan Rhode

- e. Rock Hollow Woods-MOTION by *Supervisor Steve*, seconded by *Supervisor Brown* to approve three (3) month time extension, roll call:

Chairman Smith	Yes
Vice-Chairman Brown	Yes
Supervisor Bitler	Yes
Supervisor Rhoads	Yes
Supervisor Steve	Yes

Motion carried.

- f. Storm Water Management proposal – MOTION by *Supervisor Bitler*, seconded by *Supervisor Steve*, to advertise a public hearing by the Board of Supervisors to consider for adoption of the Stormwater Management proposal, and to also reschedule the Tuesday, May 16th Board of Supervisors' meeting to Wednesday, May 17th – roll call:

Chairman Smith	Yes
Vice-Chairman Brown	Yes
Supervisor Bitler	Yes
Supervisor Rhoads	Yes
Supervisor Steve	Yes

Motion carried.

- g. 2023 Street Work – Update and Maintenance Discussion
- h. Manowczak/Natural Lands Subdivision Preliminary/Final Plan – 3 Waiver Request

Legal Matters – Solicitor Eugene Orlando, Jr.

- a. AirBnB – Solicitor Orlando reviewed current legal developments in the regulation of “short term rental” properties. Solicitor Orlando discussed the present zoning regulations that are in place, and other options for the Board’s consideration. The Board will review matters and then provide further direction to the Solicitor.

- b. Municipal Boundary Dispute

MOTION by *Supervisor Steve*, seconded by *Supervisor Rhoads*, to authorize the Solicitor to pursue the investigation of the boundary issue with Cumru Township, including investigation in the Berks County Courthouse and Pennsylvania Museum Commission, to determination the Township’s correct boundary lines – roll call:

Chairman Smith	Yes
Vice-Chairman Brown	Yes
Supervisor Bitler	Yes
Supervisor Rhoads	Yes
Supervisor Steve	Yes

Motion carried.

Public Work – Township Manager

- d. Rock Hollow Bridge and Old River Road Bridge Update - the Plan of Action for both bridges were completed by the Road Crew within the seven (7) day mandated period.
- e. A site meeting was held at Rock Hollow Road with Dyer Quarry representative Matthew McClland to discuss possible intersection road repairs.
- f. Purchase of Power Washer – discussion concerning cost and usage.
- g. Motion by *Supervisor Bitler*, seconded by *Supervisor Brown* to approve the registration on Nicholas Rapak to attend the TEMA Emergency Management seminar on April 23, 2023 at the PSATS Conference – roll call:

Chairman Smith	Yes
Vice-Chairman Brown	Yes
Supervisor Bitler	Yes
Supervisor Rhoads	Yes
Supervisor Steve	Yes

Motion carried.

Good of the Order

Supervisor Steve announced that according to the local newspapers the County has withdrawn the Robeson Township Sewer Grant, despite numerous inquiries the Authority has not been able to confirm.

Supervisor Steve requested the Boonetown Road property be placed on the agenda at the April 18th meeting for a discussion of the disposition of the Township property.

Adjournment

Without the Board taking any further action, *Supervisor Steve* made a MOTION to adjourn the

meeting at 9:03pm, seconded by *Supervisor Brown*, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard L. Orwig,
Township Manager