

London Township
Board Minutes (Draft)
Special Meeting
May 14, 2021

Call to order by Supervisor Turner 6:04pm.

Recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Supervisor Penny Turner-Present, Clerk Kimberly Sharp-Present, Treasurer Lisa Moore-Present, Trustee Daryl Nichols-Present, Trustee Michael Pinkowski-Present.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion made by Trustee Pinkowski, seconded by Trustee Nichols to accept the agenda as presented.

All in favor: AYE.

Motion Carried

-It was noted after voting on Agenda there was not a First Citizens Time:

Motion made Trustee Nichols, seconded by Supervisor Turner to approve the Agenda as amended with the addition of 1st Citizens Time.

All in favor: AYE.

Motion Carried

1st Citizens Time:

-Amanda Taepke was disturbed by the Board mainly Treasurer Moore to push Assessor Barry Wauldron to the point of resignation. She believed he was a great Assessor with the previous Treasurer. She questioned what connection the Assessor that is applying at this time is to any members of the Board.

-Mark Gaynier, who is appointed to the Board of Review, stated that Assessor Wauldron has fixed many issues with some data dating back 10 years. He hopes the Board and he (Barry) can come to an understanding to move forward. He believes he is an asset.

Unfinished Business:

1. Resignation of Assessor Barry Wauldron:

At the Monday, May 10, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting, during the approval of agenda, Treasurer Moore added under New Business “letting go” of Assessor Barry Wauldron. When that agenda item came up, Zoning Administrator Ron Youngblood, announced to the Board that Assessor Wauldron had sent a text informing him that Assessor Wauldron had emailed the Board his resignation.

-Supervisor Turner stated that Barry had sent an email dated May 14, 2021 to the Board requesting to rescind his resignation.

-She had spoken with him on Thursday May 13, 2021. He indicated that he would stay until May 20, 2021 to get in paperwork to the State that is due on that date (this is not the full audit). She asked if he would stay for 60 days to help with the audit and with training of the new Assessor. He stated he would do that, however, he sent a follow up email later that day stating he would stay if he were to be hired as a contracted employee with negotiated wages.

-Barry stated in the meeting, that if he were to be fired, he would not help with the audit or assist the new Assessor. He felt if the Board fired him they do not have confidence in him.

-Trustees Pinkowski and Nichols did not like that he stated he would work and then kept changing his mind.

-Clerk Sharp stated that she understood that Barry had a ‘knee jerk reaction’ and felt that not only did the Board not have confidence in the Assessor, but the Assessor may also not have confidence in the Board. She felt there should be better communication within the different departments even if those persons do not “like” each other. She specified she had noticed that the Treasurer and Assessor talked “at” each other, not “with” each other.

-During the closed session April 12, 2021. Trustee Pinkowski wondered why Barry did not come to the meeting. Supervisor Turner indicated although if he were present to answer questions, he would not have legally been involved in the closed session.

-Treasurer Moore expressed she did not feel Barry had good communication skills and indicated that those residents on certain drains were not assessed properly. She had been told that things were correct, and she indicated they were not. Rezoning, owners’ caps were taken off deliberately and had to be corrected. She felt 9 pages of the Board of Review were excessive.

-Assessor Wauldron did state he is prepared to give the State a copy of the 2021 database, ECF (Economic Condition Factor) calculations and supporting documents they have requested. This deadline is May 20, 2021. This is not the full audit, which includes field work and other documents not yet known.

Motion made by Clerk Sharp, seconded by Supervisor Turner to accept the withdrawing of Assessors Wauldron’s resignation.

Roll Call: Trustee Nichols NO, Trustee Pinkowski NO, Supervisor Turner YES, Treasurer Moore NO, Clerk Sharp YES.

Motion Failed

Motion made by Treasurer, seconded by Trustee Pinkowski to accept the resignation of Barry Wauldron.

Roll Call: Trustee Nichols YES, Trustee Pinkowski YES, Supervisor Turner NO, Treasurer Moore YES, Clerk Sharp NO.

Motion Carried

New Business:

1. Julie Durocher:

-Supervisor Turner contacted the State (earlier today) to ask what the procedure is if the Township does not have an Assessor. It is not mandated that the Assessor does this, that the Supervisor could get step by step instructions on what is needed.

Motion made by Supervisor Turner, seconded by Trustee Nichols to post advertisements for a new Assessor.

All in favor: AYE.

Motion Carried

-Discussion on how long to retain Ms. Durocher. The next board meeting will be held in 3 weeks (June 14, 2021). Trustee Nichols and Trustee Pinkowski questioned if the Township could contract Ms. Durocher for approximately 2 to 3 months to give time for applications to return.

-Ms. Durocher indicated the State should be contacted to see if a short contract is possible.
-Clerk Sharp inquired as to whether Ms. Durocher, if approved by Board to temporarily fill the Assessor position and assist with the audit, would be a contractor or as an employee. Trustee Pinkowski stated the position would be a contractor.

Motion made Trustee Pinkowski, seconded by Trustee Nichols to contract Julie Durocher for the Assessors position, not to exceed a period of 3 months at the Assessors rate.

Roll Call: Trustee Nichols YES, Trustee Pinkowski YES, Supervisor Turner YES, Treasurer Moore YES, Clerk Sharp YES.

Motion Carried

2nd Citizen's time:

None

Board of Trustee Comments:

-Trustee Pinkowski commented that the Board should always have choices when bidding out or hiring employees and or contractors.

-Trustee Nichols, thanked Barry Wauldron for his work at the township. He did not, however, like that Mr. Wauldron sent a resignation and tried to rescind it. He, Barry, should have thought the process through a little better. Trustee Nichols asked that all keys be turned in.

-Clerk Sharp will be sorry to see him go. She stated he was completely competent at his job and wished all staff could work together better.

-Supervisor Turner thanked and wished Barry good luck.

Adjournment:

Motion made by; Supervisor Turner, seconded by Trustee Nichols to adjourn at: 6:36pm

All in favor: **AYE.**

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted by,
Anita R. Straub
Deputy Clerk