

The reorganizational meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, January 6, 2014 in the Township Building. Barry Schrope called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Barry Schrope, Jim Fuller, Annette Mullen, Johanna Rehkamp, Vicki Jenkins, Lester Nace, Dexter Potter, Bob Rhoades, Jeff Smith, Herb Field, Marty Smith, Mary Smith, David Mills, Rebecca Krieger, Paul Krieger, Loraine Vogel, Nick Roman (Perry County Times) and William Brenneman.

Annette Mullen led the pledge to the American flag followed by a brief moment of silence.

The first order of business was to reorganize. Annette Mullen was appointed as Temporary Chair to start the reorganization, Vicki Jenkins was appointed as Temporary Secretary.

Annette Mullen stated in one of her 2 remaining years she would like to be Chairman. Jim Fuller made a motion to appoint Barry Schrope as Chairman, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope made a motion to appoint Annette Mullen as Vice-Chairman, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope made a motion to retain Vicki Jenkins as Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Barry Schrope made a motion to increase the hourly rate by 1.7% for the Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope made a motion to keep the Treasurer bond for Vicki Jenkins at \$500,000, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Annette Mullen made a motion to keep the Recreation Board Treasurer bond for Bob Foltz at \$50,000, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope made the motion to retain Marysville Bank as the depository for township funds, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to retain Jeff Smith as Roadmaster, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Annette Mullen made a motion to increase Jeff Smith's hourly rate to \$17.00 per hour, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Annette Mullen made a motion to appoint Bob Rhoades as Township Vacancy Board Chairman, motion failed for a lack of a second. Jim Fuller made a motion to appoint Ron Goodhart as Township Vacancy Board Chairman, Barry Schrope second the motion, Annette Mullen opposed stating Ron Goodhart is not involved in the township, that Bob Rhoades is involved in the township.

Jim Fuller made a motion to retain Turner and O'Connell as Township Solicitor, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. There was no increase to the 2014 meeting fee; fee to remain at \$175 per meeting up to two hours, \$75/hr. after that.

Annette Mullen made a motion to retain John Madden; Madden Engineering Services as Township Engineer, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. There was no increase to the 2014 meeting fee; fee to remain at \$135.00 per meeting.

Barry Schrope made a motion to reappoint J.C. Smith as Township SEO, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. There was no increase to the 2014 fee schedule.

Annette Mullen made a motion to appoint Lenny Sizer of Madden Engineering Services as Alternate SEO, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to reappoint Lester Nace as Zoning Officer, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Barry Schrope made a motion for Lester Nace's hourly rate to remain the same at \$17.19 per hour, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

The Assistant Zoning Officer position was tabled until next month's meeting. Annette Mullen stated about checking with Joe Burget to see if he would be interested.

Barry Schrope made a motion for Dexter Potter to remain full time laborer, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Barry Schrope stated he has worked closely with Jeff and Dexter and he feels one of the reasons the transition for the road master position went so smooth was because of Dexter and he would like to see him get more than the cost of living raise of 1.5%. Jeff Smith stated he believes Dexter should be making at least what the part time help is making. Annette Mullen stated the part time help is not receiving the health insurance, vacation and pension. Jim stated Dexter started at \$12.00 per hour 5 years ago and his pay has only increased \$1.12 in that time, less than a quarter per year. Annette stated she would like Dexter to attend some classes such as the ones offered by PSATS at the convention. Barry stated his opinion on the part time help with himself included is that all part time help should be making the same and that is \$14.50 per hour. Barry stated he will be at tomorrow night's meeting with the auditors and let them know that his salary should be capped at that as well. Jim Fuller made a motion to increase Dexter Potter's hourly rate to \$14.50 per hour, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion for Barry Schrope and Bob Hines to be called first if a part time laborer would be needed, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor. The auditors will set Barry's hourly pay rate as part time employee at their organizational meeting.

Annette Mullen stated she would like to give Bob Hines the cost of living raise of 1.5%. Jim Fuller stated he believes all of the outside part time help with a CDL should be making the same of \$14.50 per hour. Annette stated she is not interested in reducing his pay. Jim Fuller made a motion to pay Bob Hines \$14.50 per hour, Barry Schrope second the motion, Annette Mullen opposed stating it would be a decrease in his pay and he has been a dedicated worker and see's know reason to demote his pay.

Barry Schrope made a motion for the hourly rate of \$12.50 per hour for outside part time laborers without a CDL to remain the same, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope made a motion for the hourly rate of \$14.50 per hour with a CDL for outside part time laborers to remain the same, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope stated all full time employees' vacation, sick and personal days are set by the employee handbook.

Barry Schrope made a motion to pay for mileage at the rate of .56 cents per mile, the 2014 IRS Standard Mileage Rate, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to retain Capital Tax Collection Bureau to collect the local earned income taxes, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to reappoint Vicki Jenkins as the Chief Executive Officer for the township pension fund, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to reappoint Vicki Jenkins as the CDL testing contact person, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Barry Schrope made the motion to have all random CDL tests conducted on site when available, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to appoint David Mills to a 4-year term on the Planning Commission, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to reappoint Vicki Jenkins as Zoning Hearing Board secretary, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Barry Schrope made a motion for Vicki's hourly rate to remain the same at \$13.69 per hour for the Zoning Hearing Board secretary, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

This concludes the reorganizational meeting. The supervisors continued with their regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Brenton Horting of Hartman Employee Benefits brought to the township this evening the renewal rates for the new term of February 1, 2014 to January 31, 2015 for health insurance. Brenton went over the renewal rate and the changes for Geisinger under the new Affordable Care Act and several other company rates shopped (copy on file). Brenton recommended the township move to the Choice Direct 1 Platinum plan with a 28.9% increase. With the Choice Direct 1 plan there would be no deductibles the township would be responsible for, saving the township \$7500 in deductible reimbursements. The employee would now be responsible for the co-pays associated with all services with an annual maximum of \$3000 for individual and \$6000 for family out of pocket expenses. The annual increase for the new plan would be \$4,715 but with the savings of \$7500 for the HRA there would be a savings to the township. Annette Mullen made a motion to move to the Geisinger Choice Direct 1 Platinum plan for the township employee health insurance, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

The minutes of the December 2, 2013 regular meeting and the December 17, 2013 workshop meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the township building prior to the January 6, 2014 regular meeting for public viewing. Annette Mullen made a motion to approve the December 2, 2013 minutes as presented by the secretary, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Barry Schrope made a motion to approve the December 17, 2013 workshop minutes as presented by the secretary, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor.

Bob Rhoades stated about the global warming outside.

David Mills would like to thank the supervisors for continuing to support recreation in the township.

Loraine Vogel thanked the road crew for keeping the roads cleared during the snow events.

William Brennehan asked what could be done to get the roads cleared. William stated he had pictures of the roads (Montebello Road & Hemlock Drive) from Saturday afternoon and the snow stopped Friday at 12:30 and they still were not cleared Saturday afternoon that the roads were still terrible. Jeff Smith indicated the road crew was out Friday afternoon at 3:00. The supervisors looked at the pictures on William's phone. Barry Schrope stated they will try to do a better job and that when the temperature is under 22 degree's the salt does not work.

Jeff Smith presented the road master report for last month. Jeff stated the road crew has been out on 5 different storms, has power washed the trucks after each storm, fixed Sulphur Springs bridge per the inspection report by Pennoni, replaced the batteries in the brown dump truck, put a new cutting edge on the snow plow on the F450 & F550, changed signs on various roads, fixed the short on the strobe light on the F450, changed the oil in the F450, had all dump trucks inspected; only minor things were needed, hauled 5 loads of anti-skid, took some old signs that were damaged to Deimler's for scrap, handled a call from emergency management for icy conditions from a fire on Linton Hill Road (Penn Twp. maintenance portion), replaced the studs on the F450 and the hydraulic line on the New Holland tractor. Lester Nace stated he was at the Penn Township meeting on December 26th and the supervisors stated they were not prepared for the weather on the 26th and they were thankful to Wheatfield Township that Wheatfield did some of the salting and cindering to get the fire trucks unstuck, the fire was in Wheatfield Township but the maintenance portion was Penn Township. Jim Fuller asked what Jeff Smith's response was for the Hemlock Drive situation. Jeff indicated the road crew was out at 3:00 in the afternoon and worked until 10:30 p.m. Annette Mullen stated she did not see any black cinders on the road when he showed the pictures, it was all white. Jeff stated they were out and put cinders on the road after it stopped snowing.

The renewal rates from United Concordia for dental insurance have been received (copy on file). The renewal rates are for 2 years. Annette Mullen made a motion to accept the renewal rate from United Concordia, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope stated Bob Rhoades of the Township Planning Commission met with him and gave him some information regarding communications towers that were given to them at their meeting from Herb Field. Barry stated he saw in the minutes of the planning commission they are in favor of a communication tower moratorium. Bob Rhoades stated yes that is why he came to them with the information from Mr. Field. Barry stated there was a question of legality. Johanna Rehkamp stated the law allows local government to limit the placement construction and modification of personal wireless service facilities. Johanna stated she does not believe the township can have a moratorium saying there are no cellular towers that can be installed in the township. Johanna asked what amendments the planning commission is looking to change in the ordinance. Annette Mullen asked Bob Rhoades if the planning commission agreed on everything Mr. Field would like to see changed. Bob stated they did not agree on everything. Johanna stated as part of the statute also it saying that no local government may regulate the placement construction or modification of personal wireless service facilities on the basis of environmental effects

of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the regulations of such emissions. Johanna stated that any environmental or health concerns can't be used for a basis for where you limit the placement of the tower. Herb Field stated he believes the ordinance needs fixed, that it is too broad in where towers can be placed. Herb stated the property values in the area by the tower will decrease. Herb stated there is nothing in the ordinance that protects the residents. Herb stated he would like no communication tower located within 1500 feet (the international standard) from an existing dwelling, that there is nothing in the current ordinance, even if it would be 500 feet. Annette stated 1500 feet would be excessive. Herb stated he would also like the wording changed for the bonding required. Jim Fuller asked the solicitor what the township can do at this point. Johanna advised she does not believe the township cannot just issue a moratorium where the township is not going to allow any permits to be submitted at this time. Johanna stated if the supervisors want to change the ordinance they will have to get the ball rolling and as soon as a draft ordinance is done there is a legal document called the pending ordinance doctrine that the township can say the standards must be used in the draft ordinance to comply with the township requirements. The supervisors will be attending the planning commission meeting on January 14th and asked Johanna to attend the meeting. Herb asked why the supervisors couldn't pass a resolution tonight stating that portion of the ordinance is invalid, before a permit is applied for. Johanna stated she does not feel comfortable advising the supervisors to do that without reviewing the statute and she does not see grounds for invalidating the ordinance at this point. Johanna stated if there is a desire to change the ordinance then the place to start would be at the planning commission meeting on the 14th. Herb asked for a motion tonight expressing the supervisor's intent to review the communication tower ordinance. Annette Mullen made a motion for the supervisors to attend the planning commission meeting to discuss revisions to the communication tower ordinance Section 29 Article 14 with the zoning officer, solicitor and engineer, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Resolution #01-2014 was presented to the supervisors for approval and signature. The resolution is to establish the current tax collectors fees. The supervisors increased the current tax collector's commission from 4% to 4.5% on taxes collected. Jim Fuller made a motion to approve and adopt Resolution #01-2014, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope made a motion to schedule a special meeting on January 15, 2014 at 7:30 a.m. to discuss Section 29 Article 14 of the zoning ordinance and any and all other business brought before the board, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Due to a lot of information just being received appointment of an Emergency Management Coordinator was tabled.

Blue Ridge Communications has sent a letter to the township regarding the franchise agreement that will expire on May 31st, 2014. The supervisors asked the solicitor to contact Blue Ridge to see if they would add wi-fi service to the agreement. Johanna stated she will contact them and get back to the supervisors.

The State Convention will be held April 13 – 16, 2014 in Hershey. Jeff Smith, Jim Fuller and Dexter Potter will look over the workshops to see what is available. Issue tabled until February's meeting.

Statements of Financial Interest for the year 2013 will be distributed when received. They are due back April 1, 2014.

Annette Mullen made a motion to release \$1200 budgeted as a donation to the Duncannon Senior Citizens Center, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

John Weldon of the Township Recreation Board contacted Vicki Jenkins to see if she would be willing to take over the pavilion reservations for Wagner Park. Vicki indicated she would be interested, but would have to get approval from the supervisors. The supervisors gave approval for Vicki to handle reservations for the pavilion at the Township Office. Vicki will make the appropriate changes to the website.

Barry Schrope asked when the deadline was to reply to the Perry County Convention. Vicki advised by January 17th.

Perry County Crime Stoppers has sent the township a thank you letter for the donation they received.

Johanna Rehkamp advised a certified letter has been sent to the gentleman who caused the damage to Pine Hill Road with the motorcycle fire.

Annette Mullen asked Jim Fuller what his status was for working part time. Jim advised he would be available if needed.

Annette Mullen asked what the status is of the foot bridge at Wagner Park. Jim Fuller stated they are working on the specs for the GP11 permit for approval. Jim Fuller stated there are no cost estimates yet.

Annette Mullen asked about the sketches John Madden provided for the building addition to keep the project moving. Barry Schrope stated he spoke with John Madden and he was going to talk to Wayne Leshner to get a rough price for the addition.

Vicki Jenkins stated the township has received a letter from Tom Bell of Perry County Emergency Management regarding the availability of using the township as a warming station if needed during the record low temperatures. The supervisors stated at this point the township building would not be suitable site.

Jim Fuller made a motion to approve the checks from the general fund for the month of December. They were as follows:

2003 – 2046, 0011-2013, 11-2013, 120313A, and 120313B

Annette Mullen second the motion to approve the checks, with all in favor.

There being no further business Barry Schrope made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins
Twp. Secretary