

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, December 5, 2022 in the Wheatfield Township Building. Barry Schrope called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Barry Schrope, Jim Fuller, Jeff Smith, Vicki Jenkins, Lester Nace, Dexter Potter, Holly Potter, Rhoda Barrick, Elijah Barrick, David Linville, John Weldon, Delores Pearson, Heather Taylor, Phyllis Krieger, Kurt Hepschmidt, David Mills, Shawn Fuller and Cody Weaver.

Barry Schrope led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation given by Jim Fuller.

The minutes of the November 7, 2022 regular meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the Wheatfield Township Building prior to the December 5, 2022 regular meeting for public viewing. Jeff Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented by the secretary, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

John Weldon asked if there was an update from DCNR regarding their final inspection for the bridge project. The supervisors advised Trish Newdeck of DCNR will be there this Thursday at 9:00 a.m. John asked if he had to be there, Jim Fuller advised he didn't think so that he would be there, David Linville, Jeff Smith and Barry Schrope advised they will be there as well.

Jeff Smith presented the road master report for last month. Jeff stated the road crew has done some grading on Linton Hill, Pennells Church and Roseglen, hauled a load of cracker dust for the park, removed trees and bushes on Loshes Run, pushed a little snow off some of the roads from a small storm, graded and cleaned out ditches on Ankajam, serviced the backhoe, put a new idle serpentine belt on the Ford F250, took the mower off the tractor, took care of a few trees that came down from wind and cleaned up the dump site at Wagner Park that was brought up at last month's meeting. Jim Fuller brought up the issue of water running out onto the road from the lane going into the woods on Roseglen Road by the old Charles property that is owned by Roger Graham, Jim advised he knows they worked on the lane last summer but feels in the winter time it could cause an ice issue and advised Jeff Smith he will have to take a look at it.

Cody Weaver of the Duncannon Fire Co. stated it has been a busy month with over 50 calls. Cody advised there 990 report has been completed for 2021 and asked if there were any questions on it and also advised there donation letters have been mailed out. Vicki Jenkins advised the 990 has been received, but they were moved from on top of the supervisor folders but will look for them to see if they were laid off to the side. Jim Fuller stated they have not had a chance to look at the report yet but will review it when located.

The 2023 budget has been prepared and advertised as required. Jeff Smith made a motion to adopt the 2023 budget as prepared and presented, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Jeff Smith made a motion for the dates and times for township meetings to be as follows: monthly Board of Supervisors meetings will be held the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. with the exception for the months of January and September, January's meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 and September's meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, the Planning Commission will meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., the Recreation Board will meet the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., the Zoning Hearing Board will hold their organizational meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. and the Auditors will hold their organizational meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 6:45 p.m., Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Meetings will be advertised as required by law.

Jeff Smith made a motion for taxes to remain at .199 on all real estate assessments, 1% on real estate transfer tax (.5% township, .5% school), and 1.8% on earned income tax (.5% township, 1.3% school), Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope advised he came up with some proposed recreation board guidelines after some things that were discussed previously. Due to the length of this subject and many attendees speaking throughout the meeting this recording will be kept for verification purposes. Barry read through his proposed list; 1 – recreation board will give updates on upcoming projects at a supervisors meeting, stating there are normally 2 people from the recreation board at each meeting, Jim Fuller stated this is the first he has seen the list and asked the members of the recreation board in attendance if they have seen it, recreation board members stated they have not seen the list, Vicki Jenkins made copies for the recreation board members to follow along as Barry went over them, 2 – will provide up to date meeting minutes to the supervisors, Barry stated he would like to have the draft minutes from there meeting instead of waiting till there already approved stating that makes it 2 months behind until the supervisors see approved minutes and follow what is going on, Phyllis Krieger asked for clarification, Barry advised they don't see the recreation board minutes in draft form like the supervisors see the planning commission minutes and supervisors minutes, the supervisors only see the recreation board minutes after their already approved, 3 – provide a copy of monthly checks written each month to the supervisors, Barry said he would like to see a list of checks each month like what Vicki provides the supervisors showing the date of the check, payable to and the amount, John Weldon advised the bills that are paid each month are listed on their minutes, Barry stated he does not believe it shows the date of the check and check number, John asked about money received, Jim asked if that wasn't already a part of the minutes, Shawn Fuller stated the recreation board still has the Treasurer's report on the top of their minutes showing any money received, Phyllis asked Vicki to send her what she prepares for the supervisors for checks written and monies received, 4 – provide a

budget to the supervisors for approval at the December meeting for the following year, Phyllis advised they would be doing their budget at this month's meeting, David Mills advised the recreation board did not have a meeting in November and he believes the recreation board has done this as the township auditors recommended a few years ago, Barry said going into the future he would like to see their budget by the December supervisors meeting, 5 – any missing items such as chainsaws, etc. are to be reported to the supervisors as soon as possible, David Mills stated they do not go into the garage every Wednesday and count how many rakes they have and shovels, Barry said he's just saying it was a couple of month's till the supervisors were notified that there was a chainsaw missing, David Linville stated it was month's till they figured out it was gone, 6 – the supervisors will have access to the security camera tape, passwords, etc. so the supervisors can review at any time, Barry stated currently if the supervisors want to look at something they can't, John Weldon stated the supervisors would probably have to get Paul Krieger to show them how to use it or call him and he can meet the supervisors at the park and 7 – the recreation board will receive funds every year, \$7,000 in operating expenses and the remainder in a separate account with the supervisors for making large purchases and the money the recreation board has on hand now will go into the new account; the recreation board will start every year with \$7,000 in operating expenses, the remainder will go into the new account, Barry stated he will be at their meeting this month to go over everything, Barry said all of this would have to be voted on this is just his suggestions, John Weldon asked what happens if they don't use all of the money, Barry said it just stays in the account like what the supervisors do for the fire companies, John Weldon asked if the recreation board would have access to the account or would they submit a request for money for example a tractor upgrade or something and Barry stated yes the recreation board would submit a request. Barry said he is not looking to decrease any money to the recreation board he just wants to see a little more of what they're doing, stating when he attended the last meeting they spoke of some projects they were considering, field upgrades, playground equipment, etc. Jim Fuller stated the recreation boards should review the guidelines prior to their meeting this month and stated it doesn't appear to him that much is being changed and there's nothing listed that is unreasonable. Shawn Fuller asked if they would know how much is in that fund and Jim advised yes. Jim said regarding the minutes Phyllis will go to the meeting and then she'll do the minutes and then email them to Vicki in draft form prior to the recreation board approving them. David Mills stated you have a contractor come in and you say okay you only pave this part then we have someone else coming in that's going to take the next part, when you already have a contractor there. Barry said he understands what David is saying but this was in the works for how many months that the recreation board could have got bids for the extra portion. David said they just asked the guy to do an add on to take care of the stuff and realized they didn't go through the proper channels. Shawn Fuller stated it was not done on purpose. Vicki Jenkins stated she doesn't agree with what was done, Jim Fuller stated hindsight perfect vision let's move on we're beating a dead horse. Vicki Jenkins stated she is not happy and she does not think it is right what was done. Vicki Jenkins said as a taxpayer she doesn't think what was done is kosher when looking at the specs; the 60' x 60' parking lot was included in the bid package and stated she thinks everyone knows that and showed the print from the bid package. Jim Fuller stated its past and as far as he's concerned its past and they have one more inspection and the bridge project is done. Vicki asked Jim so double dipping is good to you; Jim stated that's alright with him. Vicki stated she doesn't work for an administration like that and does not think that is a good business practice. Jim stated we better move on. Shawn Fuller said he doesn't know what Vicki is talking about, there was no double dipping. Jeff Smith stated on the contract for the bridge John Weldon was supposed to pave the parking lot and the recreation board paid for it. John Weldon said no, on the original bid it was to pave the driveway and the handicap spots. Jeff said it the bid package would've been bought like it was supposed to be like the other contractors did he would've seen what was to be bid. John said the difference in his bid would've just been higher and you end up paying for it either way, Jeff said it was right in the bid package that was sent out, John said okay so if it would've been he would have just added it on and it would be another \$25,000. Vicki Jenkins said then it would've been done the correct way and John said well that's here nor there, your beating a dead horse it doesn't matter it all got done. Vicki asked so if you put in a bid for something do you do what was on the bid or do you get someone else to do something more and put it under the bid and asked if he thought the recreation board should pay for the paving that should've been included in the bid. Shawn Fuller stated he did not know the paving was in the bid, but he's still kind of lost. John Weldon said the parking lot was not in the original bid when they talked to Rob Shaffer before but the recreation board talked about paving that and he never even seen it in the bid package and he can show the supervisors his numbers that he did not bid it; it isn't like he did it and then you paid for it and if that's what your trying to insinuate he's going to tell us right now that's not the way it happened and if we don't believe him he doesn't really care. Barry said he understands what Vicki is saying and it doesn't look good. Jim Fuller stated the word double dipping doesn't set well with him. Vicki said without an explanation nobody knows what happened, she received a bill that was whited out and nobody really knows what the paving was and when you know the parking lot paving was to be included in the bid and then you hear the recreation board paid for it, it's disheartening. Vicki said if the words double dipping offended somebody she'll take that back, but it's disheartening to know what should've been included and wasn't and paid for by the recreation board and the grant money. Shawn Fuller stated you keep saying that but John didn't bid the parking lot and he just said that and if it was in the bid package it was missed. Shawn said so John is

supposed to eat the \$27,000 is what we're saying. Jeff Smith said if it was anyone else that got that job what would be happening right now what would the recreation board feelings be. Jim Fuller said he would say if the same thing was done and a bill was presented and it was paid for by the grant or by the recreation board he doesn't see a problem with it. Barry stated the only problem is it was not done correctly and if it's not done correctly up to the specs that were in the bid package the township could be sued, it's in the bid package for what the other bid received was. Jim said as far as he's concerned it's a done deal as soon as they get the final inspection, the paving is done, a bill was presented it was paid for and it's done, your beating a dead horse. Kurt Hepschmidt stated there should have been a scope of work to go over and he thought that was done and if that was done it the supervisors should have went over everything with the contractor before it was awarded. Barry stated he did have \$38,500 in the scope of work for paving. Jim said it's so frustrating to him, there's been hard feelings for some time, if someone is looking for something to pick at you can find it, so when Vicki brings something up like she did, nobody here was aware of or maybe wanted to be aware of that element so what value is bringing it up and venting hard feelings. Vicki stated because she's a tax payer too and she wants to make sure it was done the right way, when Sue Flickinger brought up things at last month's meeting it makes you think about things. Jim said you're a tax payer okay; the right way is you get the job done, you get a bill and you pay for it and as far as double dipping he resents that statement, there was no double dipping. Phyllis Krieger said she understand where Vicki is coming from and she can agree, for future purposes so this wouldn't happen again she knows they have it in there minutes from September that the extra paving was approved, but is that the kind of thing the recreation board should bring to the supervisors first. Barry said yes. David Mills stated he doesn't want to point fingers, none of us are solicitors or anything like that, but the supervisors have a solicitor on the payroll that you only use as necessary, well maybe this would have been the time to use the solicitor. Barry said he has been looking at this for months and said Vicki didn't know if John was already paid and if he (Barry) wasn't happy with the job could he hold the check, but John was already paid. Phyllis said the recreation board paid for that and Barry said exactly. Barry stated he would be at the next recreation board meeting that he still had some questions. David Mills stated he doesn't know how they can overcome Vicki's issues. Vicki stated she is not a supervisor, so it doesn't matter. Shawn Fuller stated he doesn't think anyone did anything on purpose to hurt someone or to make them feel like we did something wrong. Barry said when he sits back and looks at it, it either looks like the scenario Vicki said and/or it looks like the recreation board could've got their heads together and wanted John to get the bid and said okay we're going to pay for this this and this after the fact. Shawn Fuller said so even if the bid was \$25,000, \$27,000 higher than when he actually bid the bid it was still so much cheaper than Fulkroad. Barry said yes, but there is also a lot of other stuff in the bid package that John didn't do, not that it needed done, but it was in there and that is what Fulkroad bid, they bid on everything in the bid package. Barry said granted Fulkroad still has a bigger payroll and still would've been high compared to John. Jim Fuller stated he would like to see a list of those things that John didn't do that was in the bid package. Barry said he was supposed to put tack down underneath the blacktop going back to the bridge, he was supposed to put silt fence up, any place there was ground disturbance he was supposed to put 6" of topsoil, seed it and hydro seed it, that's all in the bid package, and there's more. Kurt Hepschmidt asked if Barry looked at the bid package after the fact. Barry said he was looking at it all along as the project was going on. Shawn Fuller stated he doesn't understand this whole thing stating the supervisors at the beginning and when they set down and went over the contract and now you're coming back and saying he didn't do this and he didn't do that; that's your fault because you could've called it out right then and there. David Mills stated he believes this started because John Weldon ran against Jeff Smith, that's the only way he can look at it. Jeff Smith stated that's why John Weldon came up to the supervisors table after he was awarded the bid and said he did not want Jeff Smith to be the project manager, that he wanted Barry and Jim to do it. David Mills told Jeff Smith he was against the project from the beginning and Jim Fuller asked Jeff why he was against the project and Jeff stated \$120,000 for a walking bridge, Shawn Fuller stated a driving bridge. Jeff Smith said the plans state a walking bridge, Shawn said you can drive across it; Jeff said we bid a walking bridge. Jeff asked why they need a driving bridge, David Mills asked how else do they get over there and Jeff said the same way they always have all the other years and David Mills said drive the whole way down and go up around the power line. Jeff Smith stated how did John Weldon get the contract when the first page of the contract says point of contact when bidding is John Weldon from the recreation board; that's not a conflict of interest. Jeff Smith said put this in front of any lawyer and see what they say and that's he's already talked to lawyer. Jeff said if everyone wants to keep pushing it he'll use his personal lawyer and not the township's lawyer. Jim Fuller said that would be really great, that would really put us on the map. David Mills said he does not want to see it go that way; we're all residents of this township. Jim Fuller stated to those in attendance that all meetings don't go like this and that he wishes we would just move on. Delores Pearson stated there obviously was a major miscommunications all through this project but what she's thinking at this point is it is water under the bridge and she knows Jeff has an attorney that would definitely see some issues with it but at the same time is that worth what it would cost the township; not just in money, but in feelings and associations and working together to make the community better.

An email was received from Holly Murphy regarding having a memorial bench installed or maybe a tree planted with a plaque for her twin brother who died in an accident. The supervisors and recreation board asked Vicki Jenkins

to email her back and ask if she or a family member could come to a recreation board meeting and go over what they are envisioning.

Lester Nace asked Jeff Smith if he ever got in touch with Tom Billett and Jeff advised he left him a message that the township did take down the tree but not the pine trees but never heard back from him.

Lester Nace stated Pace Realty contacted him regarding the property at Meck's Corner and advised him there will be no Dollar General but however they wanted to know what can be put out there. Lester stated the commercial section of the zoning ordinance has 40 some permitted uses in that and he got a copy of that. Lester said he reminded him that the Department of Transportation was looking at doing something at that intersection and they should contact them and see what their plans are before selling it.

Lester Nace advised he was contacted by the County Commissioners and they are doing a commute survey in Perry County. They are wanting to put out 300 18 x 24 signs similar to a political sign for 30 days asking people to respond to their commuting needs in Perry County.

Vicki Jenkins stated she received an email from Amanda Schrader regarding putting up slow children at play sign there on Basin Hill. The supervisors asked Vicki to email her back and let her know they will put some signs up.

Jim Fuller stated there were 6 men that came out and volunteered for recycling on Saturday and it was a rainy day. Jim asked if there was a police report made for damaged curbing that's in front of the recycling center from the accident that was there. Jeff Smith advised he did make a police report and they will send the report to the township, supposedly the man has insurance so it shouldn't be a problem getting it repaired.

Barry Schrope made a motion to approve the checks from the General Fund for the month of November. They were as follows:

6047 – 6078, 148, 149, 10-2022, 110222, 010-2022 and 110722

Jeff Smith second the motion to approve the checks, with all in favor.

There being no further business Jeff Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins
Twp. Secretary