

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, February 6, 2023 in the 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, Sue Flickinger, Dave Jenkins, Elijah Barrick, Phyllis Krieger, David Mills, Kurt Hepschmidt, Luke Roman – Perry Co. Times, Mary Swope, Brian Swope and Kraig Nace.

Jim Fuller led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation given by Elijah Barrick.

The minutes of the January 3, 2023 regular meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the Township Building prior to the February 6, 2023 regular meeting for public viewing. Jeff Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented by the secretary, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

David Mills gave an update for the recreation board. David stated at the last meeting they met with the supervisors and he hopes everything is straightened out with the bridge and they didn't discuss any new business. David stated they are waiting on an update from the supervisors on the bridge project.

Kurt Hepschmidt stated he appointed another Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, Josh Schrader and will update the NARM with his information.

Kraig Nace of the Duncannon EMS stated they are still without office staff and trying to even figure out if they can replace that position at this point, advising it's a matter of funding and timing right now. Kraig stated everything is in service at this point and they are working with Fisher Bros. with the building addition on the back of the building and currently working on the permitting process.

Barry Schrope stated the supervisors should appoint Josh Schrader as Deputy EMC since that was done at last month's organizational meeting. Barry Schrope made a motion to appoint Josh Schrader as a second Deputy EMC, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Jeff Smith presented the road report for last month. Jeff stated the road crew had 2 small snow storms to take care of, have been working on cutting down dead trees and trees that are leaning on lines on Montebello Road, hauled a load of cracker dust for at Wagner Park, serviced the Ford F250, purchased tar and sealed the Montebello Road bridge where a car hit it, cut trees off the walking trail at Wagner Park, cleaned up and reorganized the shop, power washed the trucks and equipment, had the Ford F250 inspected and had the Dodge 5500 down at Susquehanna Dodge for a sensor recall.

There was no representative from the Duncannon Fire Co. at tonight's meeting.

The township has budgeted \$133,000 to the fire companies this year splitting it as $\frac{3}{4}$ going to Duncannon Fire Co., \$30,000 to their operating funds and \$69,750 going to their capital reserve account and $\frac{1}{4}$ going to New Bloomfield Fire Co., \$19,000 to their operating funds and \$14,250 to their capital reserve account. Vicki Jenkins stated she will reach out to both fire companies and see how they want the money each quarter. Monies will be divided into 4 payments a year and disbursed quarterly.

At last month's meeting the supervisors asked Lester Nace to draft a letter to send to residents with a problem driveway. Barry Schrope stated he has reviewed the letter and thinks Jeff Smith, Road Master or Lester Nace, Zoning Officer should be the one's signing the letter. Lester Nace asked about including a time line on the letter to correct the problem. The supervisors stated they would like to add a time frame to the letter and a place for the resident to sign the letter acknowledging the problem will be corrected. Vicki Jenkins will make the changes to the letter and bring it back to the supervisors next month.

Vicki Jenkins suggested to the supervisors about purchasing an AED for at the township building and advised she has reached out to the county commissioners, Kraig Nace of the Duncannon EMS and the Peyton Walter Foundation for pricing. There was some discussion on batteries, brands, training, etc. Vicki will obtain some quotes and bring it back to the supervisors next month.

Vicki Jenkins advised the supervisors she is in need of IT support for her computer. Vicki stated she is in need of a new computer and is not comfortable transferring the information from the old to the new and is currently having an issue with Quickbooks. The supervisors asked her to get a couple quotes for IT service and report back to them next month.

Vicki Jenkins advised DCNR deposited the 2nd draw (\$35,030) and money for professional services into the General Fund account instead of the Wagner Park Grant account and stated the money would need to be transferred out of the General Fund and into the Grant account to pay for the Wagner Park Bridge project. Jeff Smith made a motion to transfer \$35,030 from the General Fund account to the Wagner Park Grant account, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

The remaining 10% balance of \$7,700 for the Wagner Park Bridge project needs to be paid to John Weldon Construction to complete the contract. Barry Schrope made a motion to pay John Weldon Construction \$7,700 as final payment for the bridge project and send a letter stating he owes the Recreation Board back \$4,311 for the overcharge on paving and \$306.63 for the safety bollards purchased by the Township, Jim Fuller second the motion, Jeff Smith opposed stating he voted against the project.

The supervisors discussed the recreation board guidelines again. Barry Schrope stated this will help the supervisors and rec board get on the same page and will possibly help with any future problems that arise. Barry read aloud the proposed 6 guidelines; 1 – Recreation Board will give updates on upcoming projects at a Supervisors meeting, 2 – will provide up to date meeting minutes to the Supervisors, 3 – provide check numbers written with the date/payable to/amount on the minutes each month to the Supervisors, 4 – provide a budget to the Supervisors for approval at the December Supervisors meeting for the following year, 5 – any missing items (chainsaws, etc.) are to be reported to the Supervisors as soon as possible and 6 – the Recreation Board will receive funds every year, approved budget total in operating expenses and the remainder in a separate account with the Supervisors for making large purchases. The money the Recreation Board will start every new year with budget amount in operating expenses, the remainder will go into the new account. The Recreation Board may not write checks for more than \$3,000 without approval of Supervisors. Barry Schrope made a motion to approve the guidelines with the exception of having to work out the money issue this year after all money is received from DCNR, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope advised there are 5 remaining CD's that have not been reinvested to the higher interest rate. Barry advised the CD's are earning 1% interest and the new rate is 4.3% interest. Jim Fuller made a motion to reinvest 2 of the municipal easy access CD's from the General Fund to the new rate of 4.3%, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor. Vicki Jenkins will keep checking the interest rates for the remaining 3 CD's since the Fed's have discussed raising rates again.

Correspondence has been received for the annual road salt contract; paper work is due March 15, 2023 for the 2023 – 2024 season. Vicki Jenkins advised the Township has not taken any salt this year for the 2022 – 2023 contract. Jeff Smith stated the Township took all the requirement for salt on last year's contract. The supervisors tabled a decision on this until next month to see if the Township uses any between now and March.

The supervisors will hold spring cleanup Thursday, April 20, 2023 through Saturday, April 22, 2023 with hours of 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. Vicki Jenkins advised she will send out bid requests for the March meeting.

The supervisors discussed the proposed 2023 road projects. Jeff Smith stated he would like to pave Linton Hill Road between Rt. 274 and Creek Road, to the township line. The supervisors will go out and look at Linton Hill Road before a decision is made. Jeff stated he would like to seal coat starting at Linton Hill Road and do Creek Road, Montebello Road and Montebello Farm Road this year; approximately 4.15 miles.

Correspondence has been received from Jason Finnerty regarding the final draft Picture Perry Comprehensive Plan. Vicki Jenkins advised all comments should be made within 45 days if the supervisors want to review it.

Barry Schrope stated the Duncannon Fire Co. has invited the supervisors to their annual banquet on March 25, 2023 and to rsvp by March 1st to the number on the email if they wish to attend.

Vicki Jenkins advised correspondence has been received from the COG for delegate and alternate information. Barry Schrope made a motion for the Delegate (Jeff Smith) and Alternate (Jim Fuller) to remain the same for the Perry Co. COG, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Vicki Jenkins stated after the Duncannon branch of Marysville Bank closed and we had to close the safety deposit box a new one was never opened. Vicki asked the supervisors if they would like to open another safety deposit box or just keep them in the fire proof file cabinet. The supervisors agreed to just keep them in the fire proof file cabinet.

Jim Fuller stated there were 8 volunteers at recycling on Saturday and that it was not a real busy day.

Kurt Hepschmidt asked the supervisors if the draft minutes of their meeting could be posted on the township website. Jim Fuller asked Vicki to check with PSATS if it's required to do this and to call other townships and see what they do and what the pros and cons are.

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

6118- 6149 and 012-2022, 12-2022, 010423, 010523, 0004-2022, 010923A and 010923B

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 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins
Twp. Secretary