

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Tuesday, September 5, 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, Sue Flickinger, Marty Smith, Mary Smith, Joe Burget Jr., Holly Potter, Dave Jenkins, Phil Vogel, Paul Krieger, Kurt Hepschmidt, David Mills, Bob Cash, Amanda Tolbert-Smith and Kraig Nace.

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

The minutes of the August 7, 2023 regular meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the Township Building prior to the September 5, 2023 regular meeting for public viewing. Jeff Smith made the motion to approve the minutes as presented by the secretary, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Jim Fuller stated he would like it noted in next month's minutes that the minutes presented by the secretary are accurate but there are different statements in the minutes that he totally disagrees with.

David Mills gave the recreation board report: have done routine maintenance, talked to Dexter about getting a load of cracker dust, need to change the dusk to dawn light at the snack bar. David stated they need another chainsaw since there's was stolen and would also like to get a pole saw to clean brush and the trails. David said he has one estimate for \$1500 for battery operated chainsaw and pole saw from Heller's Hardware.

Kraig Nace of the Duncannon EMS presented the updated call numbers through August with 960 dispatched calls and stated they are spending less time on out of area calls. Kraig stated they appreciate all the support from Wheatfield Township, they have 2 more Sunday dinners left this year, bingo still doing good and their next character breakfast is the Santa breakfast in December.

Dexter Potter presented the Road Master report for the month of August: finished mowing along the roads, put up a new stop sign and street sign that got stolen on Pine Hill, cleaned up tree's along Dark Hollow, Roseglen, Hunkey Hollow and Montebello, had the Dodge Ram inspected, put brakes on the F250, filled in shoulders on Dark Hollow, Sulphur Springs, Montebello Farm, Grandview, Hunkey Hollow and Linton Hill, also put 6 loads of dirt, 2 loads of shale and 2 ½ loads of 2A modified along Linton Hill after the paving was done. Barry Schrope stated he sees the tar buggy is here and the bucket truck. Jim Fuller stated the paving job on Linton Hill is not quite as good as Pennsy Supply did for Penn Township, there's is much smoother. Barry advised that is the difference between a track machine and a wheel machine. Dexter said Pennsy used a track machine and Fuklroad used a wheel machine. Jim said the township will have to keep that in mind for future bids. Barry stated it could be placed in the bid package that a track machine must be used.

No representative from the Duncannon Fire Co. was present at tonight's meeting.

Joe Burget Jr. of Burget and Associates presented the Dunn Final Minor Subdivision Plan. The purpose of the plan is to subdivide an existing 46 plus acre tract to create a new building lot. Joe advised all comments from the planning commission have been addressed and they have recommended approval of the AOR's as requested and the plan. The requested AOR's are 1 – Preliminary Plan Procedure, 2 – ESC Plan, 3 – Loc. Scale, 4 – Map Scale and 5 – Stormwater. Jim Fuller made a motion to accept the AOR's as requested, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor. Jim Fuller made a motion to conditionally approve the plan as presented pending engineering fees being paid, sewage module approval and signatures on the plan, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Property, auto, workers comp, etc. insurance renewal quotes have been received from our current carrier Keystone and Jacobs Insurance Group. Vicki Jenkins stated Jacobs Insurance Group's quote was \$17,415 and Keystone's quote was \$19,593. Vicki advised with Keystone we have received a dividend the last 3 years; last year's dividend was \$2,780 which is based on claims with municipalities, the less claims the more the dividend townships receive; Jacobs Insurance Group does not offer a dividend. Keystone's quote minus the dividend would be \$16,813. Jim Fuller made the motion to remain with Keystone, Jeff Smith second the motion, Barry Schrope abstained stating his wife works for Jacobs Insurance Group.

PSATS has sent correspondence to the Township regarding the election of Trustees for the Pension Trust, health Insurance Cooperative Trust and Unemployment Compensation Group Trust. Jim Fuller made a motion to accept PSATS recommendation of Jack Hines and Marvin Meteer for a period of 2 years, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Per last month's meeting Dexter Potter was asked to get another quote for the blacktop patch work that needs to be done on Basin Hill, Roseglen and Linton Hill. Dexter received a third quote from Mike

Cleck Paving & Sealcoating for \$9500, other bids received were from M&J Paving for \$12,900 and NC Stanley for \$10,500. Cleck's bid for Basin Hill only went 6' wide and M&J went 9' wide. The supervisors asked Dexter to contact Cleck Paving and see what his bid would be to go out 9' wide. Jeff Smith conditionally approved awarding the job to Clecks Paving pending the price to go out to 9' is a reasonable price, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Dexter Potter's 90-day probation period for Road Master is over. Barry Schrope stated he thinks he's done a good job as Road Master since he was by himself for a while. Jeff Smith stated it's only been the last 2 weeks that he wasn't by himself. Jim Fuller stated he appreciates the fact he's been very informative and letting the supervisors know what's happening. Dexter's current pay rate is \$17.64/hr. and has been with the township 14 years. Barry stated he believes Dexter's pay should be adjusted a little bit as long as the township is keeping him as the Road Master. Jeff said he thinks Dexter should be where he was when he left and that he has been with the township for 14 years which is 4 years longer than he was and said his hourly rate was a little over \$20.50/hr. Jeff said he knows the township well and has his CDL. Jeff Smith made a motion to keep Dexter Potter as the Road Master at an hourly rate of \$20.50/hr., Barry Schrope second the motion, Jim Fuller opposed stating a \$3.00/hr. raise is a lot for one year.

In January 2015 the supervisors at that time set up the employee contribution pretax deduction for employee health insurance; \$10/wk. single, \$15/wk. husband & wife and \$20/wk. family. Barry Schrope stated the new employee coverage would be parent/child and the supervisors at that time did not set up that amount. Barry Schrope made a motion for the employee contribution pretax deduction for parent/child be \$15/wk., Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Jeff Smith made a motion to hold a budget workshop on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. The workshop will be advertised as required.

Barry Schrope reminded everyone about the upcoming Perry County Convention this Saturday, September 9, 2023 and the appreciation picnic on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Wagner Park.

Correspondence has been received from Blue Ridge CATV regarding the correct spelling of Glutz Hole Road. The road sign on one end has Glutzs Hole and the other end has Glutz Hole, GIS mapping has it as Glutz Hole Road, google earth has it as Glutzs Hole Road, township ordinance for stop signs has it as Glutzshole Road, google maps has it as Glutz Hole Road and the township zoning map has it as Glutz Hole Road. The supervisors asked the secretary to check with the Post Office to see how they have it, but agree both ends of the road should have the same spelling.

Lester Nace stated the issue on Rt. 849 that the he received a letter from an attorney for has been resolved.

Vicki Jenkins stated several correspondences has been received: 1 - from the Perry County Association of Township Officials regarding the by-laws that will be voted upon at the Convention, 2 - from Wes Smith from Perry County Emergency regarding completing a survey about a county wide plan for emergency services, 3 - from DCED regarding a broadband infrastructure program and collecting input from local governments and 4 - from Bruce Warshawsky, current solicitor, regarding 3 references for a solicitor for the upcoming year.

Jim Fuller stated it was a busy recycling and the glass crusher needs a new motor. Dexter Potter will get one from Grainger or Harbor Freight.

David Mills asked if it was okay, they spend the \$1500 on a chainsaw and pole saw. Jeff Smith stated the estimate is under John Weldon and he believes the township would get a better price and check on it.

Kraig Nace stated the addition on the back of the building is done and will be used for storage.

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

6326 - 6348, 163, 080423, 007-2023, 07-2023 and 080923

Jeff Smith 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, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins

Twp. Secretary