

January 2, 2024

The organizational meeting of the Wheatfield Township supervisors was held Tuesday, January 2, 2024 in the township building. James Fuller called the meeting to order at 7:25. Present were James Fuller, Phillip Vogel, Jeff Smith, Vicki Jenkins, Lester Nace, Dexter Potter, Amanda Tolbert-Smith, Paul Kreiger, Brian Swope, Beverly Humbert, Giuseppe Palumba, George VanAxen O'Brian, Marty Smith, Mary smith, Lorraine Wallett, Dave Jenkins, Scott Shedd, Rich Parrish, Loraine Vogel, John Weldon, Candi Schrope, Lisa Rowe, Garry Rowe, Bob Cash, Kurt Hepschmidt, David Mills, Kraig Nace, Paul Wyatt, Ron Matson.

The first order of business was to reorganize. James Fuller made a motion to appoint Phillip Vogel as temporary chairman to start the organizational meeting. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion with all in favor.

James Fuller made a motion to appoint Vicki Jenkins as temporary secretary, Jeff Smith seconded the motion with all in favor.

Phil Vogel made a motion to appoint James fuller as chairman, James Fuller seconded the motion. Phil Vogel and James Fuller approved, Jeff Smith opposed. Motion carried.

James Fuller took over the organizational meeting as chairman.

James Fuller advised that the Duncannon Record is recording the meeting. James Fuller advised that we record the meetings. Jeff Smith advised that he also is recording the meeting.

James Fuller led the pledge to the American Flag followed by an invocation given by Kurt Hepschmidt.

James Fuller made a motion to appoint Phillip Vogel to Vice-Chairman. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion with all in favor.

James Fuller introduced Don McKee to the audience. He is our constable tonight.

James Fuller advised of the cost-of-living adjustment this year being at 3.2%.

Jeff Smith made a motion to reappoint Vicki Jenkins to secretary/treasurer with the cost-of-living adjustment being added to her pay. There was no second to the motion. The motion failed. James Fuller advised that Vicki Jenkins has not been reappointed to secretary/treasurer. James Fuller advised that there was a person who expressed interest in the position. James Fuller made the motion to hire Dana Dunn to the position of Secretary/Treasurer. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion, with Jeff Smith opposing the motion. James Fuller made a motion to keep the secretary pay at \$19.15. Phillip Bogel seconded the motion; Jeff Smith opposed the motion.

James Fuller made a motion to add Phillip Vogel to the list of check signers. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion. Jeff Smith opposed the motion.

The Recreational Board Treasure Bond was discussed next. With the resignation of the treasurer, there will be no need to continue with a bond, as the supervisors will sign all checks concerning the park.

James Fuller made a motion to retain MidPenn Bank (formerly Marysville Bank) as the depository for the township funds, Phillip Vogel seconded the motion with all in favor.

James fuller made a motion to retain Kurt Hepschmidt as E.M.C. and Bob Mull as Deputy E.M.C. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion, with Jeff Smith opposing the motion.

Jeff Smith made a motion to retain Dexter Potter as Roadmaster with cost of living allowance added to pay. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion, James Fuller opposed the motion. Motion was carried. The auditors will set part-time working supervisors hourly rate at their organizational meeting.

A motion was made by James Fuller, seconded by Phillip Vogel to appoint Elisha Barrick to Township Vacancy Board Chairman. Jeff Smith opposed the motion. Motion carried.

James Fuller made a motion to employ Dave Wilson as our township solicitor. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion. Jeff Smith opposed the motion.

Jeff Smith motioned to reappoint Jerry Spease as Township Engineer, James Fuller seconded the motion, all in favor. Motion carried.

The 2024 meeting fee will remain the same, at \$100.00 per meeting.

Motion was made by James Fuller to reappoint J.C.Smith as Township SEO. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion with all in favor. There is an increase in the 2024 fee schedule copy of fee schedule on file). Currently there is no alternate SEO appointed.

James Fuller made a motion to reappoint Lester Nace as zoning officer with the cost-of-living adjustment 3.2% increase. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion with all in favor.

James Fuller made a motion to reappoint Ed Womer as Assistant Zoning Officer, Phillip Vogel seconded the motion with all in favor with the 3.2% cost of living adjustment.

James Fuller made a motion for Jason Krzykowski to remain full time laborer, Jeff Smith seconded the motion. Jason is still on probation , he'll receive a raise at the end of his probation period. All in favor of the motion.

James Fuller made a motion for James Fuller and Phillip Vogel to be called first if a part-time laborer would be needed, Phillip Vogel seconded the motion. Jeff Smith advised he would be available on a limited basis. All in favor. The auditors will set James and Phillip's hourly pay rate as part-time employees at their organizational meeting.

James Fuller made a motion to increase the pay rate for outside part time laborers by 3.2%. Now set at \$13.00 per hour for laborers without CDL and \$16.13 per hour with CDL. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion with all in favor.

James Fuller advised that the township handbook specifies the vacation, sick, personal days per year acquired by an employees dictated by the years of employment at the township.

James Fuller made a motion for the mileage rate to be \$.67 per mile per the 2024 IRS standard mileage rate, Phillip Vogel seconded the motion with all in favor.

James Fuller made a motion to retain Capital Tax Collection Bureau to collect the localearned income taxes and to appoint the township secretary as the Capital Tax Delegate. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion. Jeff Smith opposed the motion. Motion carried.

James Fuller made a motion to appoint Phillip Vogel as Capital Tax Alternate. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion. Jeff Smith opposed. The motion carried.

James Fuller made a motion to appoint the secretary as the Chief Executive Officer for the township pension fund. Phillip Vogel seconded, Jeff Smith opposed. Motion carried.

James Fuller made a motion to appoint the secretary as the CDL testing contact person. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion. Jeff Smith opposed the motion, the motion carried.

James Fuller made a motion to reappoint Paul Finkenbinder and Tom Berry to a 4-year term on the Planning Commission. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion, with all in favor.

James Fuller made a motion to appoint the township secretary a zoning hearing board secretary with the cost-of-living adjustment of 3.2% increase. The current rate being \$19.15 per hor. Phillip Vogel seconded the motion. Jeff Smith opposed the motion. Motion carried.

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

The minutes of the December 28, 2023 special meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the township building prior to the January 2, 2024 regular meeting for public viewing. The minutes were not approved due to discrepancies in the contents. Will be revisited in February 2024 meeting.

Public comment was next.

Amanda Tolbert-Smith commented concerning the proceeding of the meeting.

Paul Kreiger commented on his wife's service to the township. Also, the supervisors did not ask Phyllis for any recreational board material. He also stated his displeasure with paying the lawyer to obtain the financial records. Paul expressed interest in having an audit of the records.

Brian Swope commented on Dexter Potter's service to the township.

Mary Swope commented on the audit process and a supposed unsigned check.

Beverly Humbert asked about employees qualifications

Giuseppe Palomba commented on proceedings at the township.

Marty Smith commented concerning an audit and right to know information.

Mary Smith commented on the appointing of employee's process.

Lorraine Wallett commented on the audit.

Dave Jenkins commented on the project at the park.

Scott Shedd commented on the audit.

Rich Parrish prayed for unity.

Loraine Vogel commented on Recreational Board commitment and a 202 audit, and on Phillip Vogel's ability to make decisions.

John Weldon commented on the need for an audit.

Candi Schrope prays for everyone here.

Lisa Rowe commented on the proceedings of the meetings and concern about the audit.

Garry Rowe concurred with his wife.

Bob Cash concerns about the Sunshine Law being adhered to.

Kurt Hepschmidt concerns about a resolution to adopt emergency management plan.

Dave Mills spoke on volunteers at park, thanking Phyllis Kreiger for her service.

Kraig Nace commented on activities and numbers at E.M.S. for last month and year end reports.

Paul Wyatt commented on speaking with James Fuller concerning the upcoming election.

Vicki Jenkins expressed concerns about procedures her at the township.

Dexter Potter presented the road report for last month. Picked up truck from Hoovers. Hauled loads of shot rock out to Hunkey Hollow. Study on Basin Hill road. Asked permission to buy rip rap for Sulphur Springs Road. Prmission granted.

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

The Health Insurance/Dental Insurance/Vision Insurance Renewal was discussed. There was and 8 ½% increase on the Health. Dental and Vision Insurance remained the same.

Jeff Smith rehearsed Health insurance rates over the past several years, also the H.R.A. rates for several years. After the discussion, Jeff Smith motioned we stay with Highmark, Phillip Vogel seconded with all in favor. Dental and vision was also in the motion and they stay the same until 2025.

Resolution to close Rec board checking/savings account at Members First. Jeff Smith made a motion to close, Phillip Vogel seconded. We will revisit in February meeting. All was in favor. Will move to Capital Reserve.

Letter of resignation from Richard Boyer, Zoning Hearing Board. Motion to accept resignation by Jeff Smith, seconded by Phillip Vogel, all in favor.

The County contacted us concerning Picture Perry Meeting at the E.D.A. office January 4, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Also, two other meetings on the 18th and 30th at the extension office in New Bloomfield.

The New Bloomfield public library sent correspondence concerning the \$500.00 we gave thanking us for it.

The Wagner Park Pavilions were reserved 81 times in 2023. It was mentioned concerning the donations given.

The action on the audit was tabled. James Fuller made a motion to table the action, and Phillip Vogel seconded the motion explaining that he would like to get at least 3 quotes. Jeff Smith opposed the motion, Motion was carried.

James Fuller made a motion to sign checks from the general fund for the month of December, Phillip Vogel seconded the motion, all were in favor. They were as follows: 6460-6505, 120423, 166, 167, 120523, 11-2023, and 011-2023.

There being no further business Phillip Vogel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, James Fuller seconded the motion, with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.