

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 25, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson David Moyer called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 p.m., at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Moyer announced an Executive Session was held at 5:30 p.m. this evening to discuss personnel and litigation matters.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Supervisors, James Roma; David Moyer, Thomas Powanda, Solicitor, Daniel Becker, Esquire; John Weber representing LTL Consultants, Brian Brochon, Gilmore & Assoc., Township Manager, Richard Sichler, staff member Susan Brown and approximately twenty-three (23) residents in attendance.

Absent:

**TAPING OF MEETING**

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was noted no one other than township staff was taping the meeting this evening.

**SPECIAL REQUEST**

Curtis Rader – Quarry issues

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**John Christman, Law Enforcement**-Mr. Christman stated in 2018/2019 the State of Pennsylvania is going to levy a tax on residents who do not have their own law enforcement. This tax could be anywhere between \$50 and \$100 per person or higher. Mr. Christman asked for the results from a survey taken with respect to law enforcement. Mr. Christman stated he feels eventually the residents will be taxed and feels if he is going to be taxed he would much rather pay the tax to Washington Township and have the township affiliated with a local law enforcement agency rather than trying to fund a department of our own. Mr. Christman asked the Board of Supervisors to take a look at and do a study and also to look at alternatives. The Board of Supervisors agreed to Mr. Christman's request. The Township Manager stated the results of the survey will be posted on the township website.

**Sharlene Andreyko**, stated she does not understand where the crime is to support a police department.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 21, 2017 AND THE REORGANIZATION MINUTES OF JANUARY 2, 2018**

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma to approve the minutes for the December 21, 2017 and the Reorganization of January 2, 2018.

**No comments received.**

**All ayes**

**TOWNSHIP REPORTS**

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda to approve the payment of all bills for the General Fund, Highway Aid Fund, Recreation Fund, Street Light Fund, Traffic Impact Fund, Sewer Fund and Building Escrow Funds up to and inclusive of January 25, 2018, and to file the treasurer's report for audit. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

**TAX COLLECTOR**

Tax Collectors Report for the month of December 2017:

Real Estate	\$ 6,751.42
Interim Tax	\$ 242.92
Light Tax	\$ 36.30
Per Capita	<u>\$ 1,193.10</u>
Total	\$ 8,223.74

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma approving the Tax Exonerations. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

A copy of the Eastern Berks Fire Department Report is in the binders. 2017 ended with a total of 411 calls and 24 calls so far for the month of January.

**ZONING/SEO REPORT**

Reports are in the binders

**SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT**

A copy of the Engineer's Monthly Report is enclosed.

A copy of the EEMA O & M Report is enclosed

Mr. Brochon also indicated he will begin work on the Annual Chapter 94 Wasteloan Management Report due to DEP by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

The scope of work is being prepared for the I/I investigation and the Weinstein Pump Station service area will be the focus.

The Township Manager added that the anticipated projects for 2018 at the WWTP are being prioritized and at the top of the list is a control system upgrade. More information will be provided next month.

Swamp Creek Pump Station Plans will be resubmitted to Gilmore in early February for review.

### **TOWNSHIP ENGINEER**

A copy of the Township Engineer's Report is enclosed.

Mr. Weber informed the Board the property at 458 Lenape Road which fell from its pillars was addressed at a District Justice Hearing and the owner was required to vacate the premises and to remove the animals from the home as well. The owner was also required to pay a minimal fine and all the townships expenses that were incurred as a result of enforcement.

Planning Commission reviewed the Shuhler Farm Plan at their 1/11/18 meeting. There were a number of items needing correction; Aston will be revising the Plan and resubmitting for a future review.

There is an escrow release request for Spring Valley Village in the amount of \$39,475.00 for landscape buffering in Phases 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3. The plantings have been planted as required by the Plan and LTL is recommending the release of the escrow funds. A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by David Moyer authorizing the release of \$39,475.00 to Spring Valley Village LLC. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

### **Public Comment:**

John Wynne asked for an update on the Mingey Plan. Mr. Weber stated a Plan was submitted as a revised Tentative/Final PRD Plan which the MPC has no such plan. Given it was filed in that manner the township has returned the plan to the applicant as administratively incomplete.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report

### **SUPERVISORS**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- **Amendment to Resolution 2018-14** – A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by David Moyer amending the UCC permit fee from \$4.00 to \$4.50. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- **Board of Auditors Appointment** – A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by Thomas Powanda appointing John Wynne to a two (2) year term to the Board of Auditors of Washington Township. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- **2018 Sludge Hauling Contract** – Contract has been reconfigured and will be advertised this weekend.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Salt Contract** - A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma authorizing the participation in the 2018/2019 Costars Salt Contract. **No comments received.**  
**All ayes**
- **2018 Road Work** - After some discussion, the Township Manager was directed to put together the 2018 Road Projects bid package for Sycamore Road and Dairy Lane for full depth reclamation and Lenape Road from Forgedale Road to Heydt's Schoolhouse Road for an overlay.
- **Truck Purchase** – A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the Township Manager to move forward with the replacement of the 20-year-old two-wheel drive truck. **No comments received.**  
**All ayes**
- **Auction Items** – A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the Township Manager to auction various items to help defray the cost of the new air compressor. **No comments received.**  
**All ayes**
- **Air Compressor Purchase** – A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by David Moyer authorizing the purchase of the air compressor as outlined by the township manager not to exceed \$1,500. **No comments received.**  
**All ayes**
- **MS4 Steering Committee Proposed Ordinance** – A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the advertisement of the proposed MS4 Steering Committee Ordinance. **No comments received.**  
**All ayes**

## SUBDIVISIONS/PLANNING

None

## SUBDIVISION EXTENSION

None

## COMMUNICATIONS

Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

The next WTMA (water) meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Moyer stated Washington Township does have the highest sewer rates in Berks County however there are five or six other municipalities that do have higher rates.

Chairman Moyer also announced volunteers are needed next Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm to help at the recycling center. Mr. Moyer also announced there are vacancies on various committees and volunteers are needed.

**Public Comment:**

**Connie Cordova** asked if the township will be participating in the census. Mr. Sichler indicated he would be participating between February and April.

**John Wynne** stated he would like to follow up next month on the sewer rate and the reevaluation of the rate.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:17 p.m. **No public comment received.**

**All ayes**

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Sichler  
Manager/Secretary