

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 22, 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 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-one (21) 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**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Leroy Renson, snow-**Mr. Renson stated his neighbor is again pushing snow out into the road. Mr. Renson provided pictures of the road and the damage his neighbor is causing to the roadway.

**Curtis Rader, Quarry issues.**

**John Wynne, sewer rate-** Mr. Wynne stated Limerick sewer system has been acquired by Aqua America who intends to double the sewer rates to cover maintenance needs. Mr. Wynne checked sewer regulations and stated the sewer rate is to be commensurate with average cost plus enough net income to cover the annual debt service. Mr. Wynne indicated the township has been running for years, an amount left over that is two times the annual debt service. Mr. Wynne state the township is at risk for a finding of manifest and flagrant abuse of discretion. Mr. Becker indicated the Act does not set a limit and is done on a case by case basis. Mr. Becker questioned the accuracy of Mr. Wynne's calculations. Mr. Wynne stated he calculated over a three-year period of 2016, 2017 and 2018. Chairman Moyer stated he would like to have a workshop to include the Board of Supervisors, Township Manager, Doug Bleam and a representative from the Bond Council to discuss the sewer rate. Supervisor Powanda asked Mr. Wynne "what figure

would make you happy” and Mr. Wynne stated he would not put out a figure publicly. Mr. Wynne stated to start with \$50 per quarter but would be discretionary. Mr. Becker indicated there are many different factors that are taken into consideration when adjusting the sewer rate. Supervisor Moyer stated he wants to be fair and put an end to the sewer rate discussion and it’s time to look at the entire picture.

**Jim Treichler, Invoice-**Mr. Treichler stated at the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting he provided the Supervisors with an invoice for the installation of fence on his property at Wendy’s Flowers along Route 100 and has not had a response. Chairman Moyer stated he did respond to Mr. Treichler’s request by stating he would not pay for the labor but would pay for the fence. An offer was made to have township personnel install the fence. Mr. Treichler stated it is a liability to have township employees to be on his property. Mr. Moyer stated a working easement would have been obtained. Mr. Treichler indicated the fence was placed there for safety reasons. Mr. Moyer stated the fence was old and worn when it was removed and stated Mr. Treichler’s insurance company made him install the fence. Mr. Treichler promised litigation.

**Charles Lawrence, speed on Crow Hill Road-**Mr. Lawrence stated he attended a prior meeting and suggested some measures to slow the traffic on Crow Hill Road and has not seen anything happening. Mr. Sichler had previously contacted the State Police but will call them again. To purchase the flashing speed signs is about \$1,200 for the type that attaches to a pole and about \$15,000 for the trailer type.

#### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2018**

Mr. Christman stated the comment was made by Supervisor Moyer that the township would take into consideration investigating options regarding law enforcement and wants this added to the minutes of January 25<sup>th</sup>. A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma to approve the minutes as amended for the January 25, 2018 meeting. **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 February 22, 2018, and to file the treasurer’s report for audit. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

#### **TAX COLLECTOR**

Tax Collectors Report for the month of January 2018:

Interim Tax	\$ 947.42
Per Capita Tax	\$ 105.22
Amusement Tax	\$ 383.18
Total	\$ 1,435.82

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

A copy of the Eastern Berks Fire Department Report is in the binders.

**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 reported he is work on the Annual Chapter 94 Wasteloan Management Report due to DEP by March 31<sup>st</sup> and also working on the I/I program for 2018.

**TOWNSHIP ENGINEER**

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

Planning Commission has not received a revised Shuhler Farm Plan.

The Planning Commission approved the Component 4A for the Brooke-Fronheiser Planning Module.

Bally Springs Escrow Release #3 – A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by David Moyer authorizing the recommended release amount of \$593,648.39 as detailed in the 2/14/18 LTL letter. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma adopting the MS4 Ordinance and authorizing the execution of the cost sharing agreement. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

**SUPERVISORS**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- **2018 Sludge Hauling Contract** – Bid opening was on 2/20/18. There were three bids with the apparent low bidder being Rhinehart's Sanitation Services. A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda awarding the 3-year contract to Rhinehart's Sanitation Services, LLC. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- **2018 Road Work** – The work identified will be Lenape Road from Deer Run Road to Heydt's Schoolhouse Road. Then Heydt's Schoolhouse Road from Lenape to a joint in Heydt's Schoolhouse which is beyond the second leg of the Y onto Groff Road. Also, Deer Run Road from Lenape to the District Township Line. For full depth reclamation and overlay it is an estimated cost of \$250,000.

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by David Moyer to proceed with drafting the specifications as outlined. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- **Truck Purchase** – It was discussed looking at the purchase of a 10-wheeler truck. Mr. Sichler will obtain pricing for a 10-wheel truck for the next meeting.
- **PADOT Traffic Light**-The deeds have not been recorded and hopefully this will be done by next month.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Pine Forge Athletic Assoc.**-A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by David Moyer authorizing a 2-year lease agreement with Pine Forge Athletic Assoc. for the use of the baseball field. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- **WWTP Valve Purchase**-A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma authorizing the purchase of a stainless-steel valve for the WWTP in the amount of \$2,272. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- **Radio System, repeater maintenance**-The vendor that maintained the system went out of business a few years ago. Mr. Sichler has found a new vendor to maintain the system.
- **Kriebel Security Contract renewal**-The rate dropped from \$19/month at each location to \$14/month. A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma authorizing the contract renewal with Kriebel Security. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- **Recreation Committee appointment**-A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by David Moyer appointing Amy Fulton to the Recreation Committee. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- **Spotted Lantern Fly training**-Mr. Sichler will be attending. Supervisor Moyer stated he would like Brian or one of the roadcrew members to attend as well.
- **Safety Training**-will be conducting training here at the township building and invite adjoining municipalities.
- **Mower purchase**-A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by David Moyer authorizing the purchase of a Scag Zero Turn Mower through CoStars with the price not to exceed \$11,000. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

- A motion was made by David Moyer seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the Township Manager to advertise the John Deere mower on Municibid with a starting bid of \$1,700. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

Chairman Moyer has a list of items that need to be addressed:

1. Sewer Contractor
2. Sewer Rates
3. Sewer Operator

4. Road Plans, Equipment Plans & Building Plans
5. Recycle & Recreation Committees
6. Township building doors & lighting-Mr. Sichler has received a price quote from Hutt's Glass of \$6,500 for both sets of doors and installation.
7. LED lights for the Administration building

**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, March 22, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:42 p.m. **No public comment received.**

**All ayes**

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Sichler  
Manager/Secretary