

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
JUNE 23, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Moyer called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:04 p.m., at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Supervisors, Chairman Moyer, Thomas Powanda, Ronnie Long, Solicitor, Joan London, Esquire; John Weber representing LTL Consultants, Tom Unger, Systems Design Engineering, Township Manager, Richard Sichler, Township Secretary, Susan Brown, and thirteen (13) residents in attendance.

Absent: None

TAPING OF MEETING

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

AGRICULTURAL SECURITY AREA HEARING

This is the time, place and date advertised for the addition of the property located at 2213 Old Route 100, Washington Township. Application was received on 3/2/2022, notice was published in the Reading Eagle on 3/18/2022. There were postings in five (5) conspicuous locations by the LTL Code Official. On 3/24/2022 the Board of Supervisors acknowledged the receipt for proposal of modification at the Board of Supervisors meeting, followed by a 45-day review and comment period. On 5/20/2022 notice of tonight's hearing was published in the Reading Eagle and also written notice given to the property owners. Solicitor London read into the hearing minutes, Exhibit 1 thru Exhibit 15 for the record. The property owners were present this evening and stated they want to keep the property as natural as possible.

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda, seconded by David Moyer accepting Resolution No. 2022-22 modifying the existing Agricultural Security Area to include parcel ID #89-5399-03-41-2024 16 acres at 2213 Old Route, Barto, Washington Township.

All ayes

SPECIAL REQUEST

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Markley, 2 Avalon Circle, stated he is still looking for some type of resolution to the speeding problem on County Line Road. Rich explained this requires a traffic study

and the township is currently working with LTL Consultants. The township also has a call into LTAP, which is a PennDOT assistance program, to see if they have any suggestions to assist the township with this on-going problem. Chairman Moyer assured Mr. Markley the township is acting to address the problem.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 26, 2022 REGULAR MEETING

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Romnie Long to approve the regular Board of Supervisors meeting minutes of May 26, 2022 as prepared.

All ayes

Chairman Moyer announced an Executive Session was held Tuesday, June 14th as well as this evening to discuss personnel matters.

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

A motion was made by David Moyer 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 June 23, 2022, and to file the treasurer's report for audit.

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of April 2022 was presented by the Tax Collector, Brenda Bredigan:

Real Estate Tax	\$ 6,732.72
Interim Tax	\$ 325.93
Hydrant Tax	\$ 35.47
Per Capita Tax	\$ 187.00
Amusement Tax	<u>\$ 1,734.60</u>
Total	\$ 9,015.72

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

A copy of the Eastern Berks Fire Department Report is enclosed. Chairman Moyer announced the annual fund drive is currently underway, please support the Fire Department. Supervisor Long announced there will be a Chicken BBQ at the Bally Station on August 20, 2022.

ZONING/SEO REPORT

Reports are in the binders.

SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

- Swamp Creek Pump Station PRIMEX System is up and running and recording data correctly.

- Tom stated he is looking at some light cleaning and TV'ing of approximately 4,295 feet of 8" sewer line to Weinstein Pump Station. SDE is requesting authorization to prepare and receive bids. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Rommie Long authorizing the Sewer Engineer to prepare and advertise bid documents for the I/I project.

All ayes

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

A copy of the Township Engineer's Report dated May 19, 2022 is enclosed.

- **Planning Commission:** Mr. Weber reported there will be three plans up for review at the July 7th meeting of the Planning Commission. The Schwenkfelder Road Minor Subdivision, Kutztown Road Minor Subdivision and JD McGovern Land Development Plan.
- **Clover Hill:** The Developer was provided with an improvements punch list in April and they are working on those items and are planning to pave in late July or early August.
- **2022 Road Project:** The Contractor did submit an approved mixed design for the FDR process. The project is ready to go after the Public Works Department has all the prep work completed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- **Prestige Partners:** Ms. London continues to work on the agreements.
- **Snow Emergency parking ban enforcement:** Ms. London is preparing a draft Ordinance.

SUPERVISORS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **PADOT Ehst Road/Route 100 stormwater issue** – there is no new information
- **Gehring Road open space tract** – Rich will do a scope of work and put it out for bid. Supervisor Powanda reported he and Supervisor Moyer walked the property and marked a general path and stated there are about 20 trees that will need to be removed.
- **Basketball Court painting** – It is reported the painting will take five (5) days which is scheduled for the end of July and are looking for five (5) people to assist. The pricing has been updated to \$7,678.17 which will need to be reauthorized. Supervisor Powanda requested posting of signs indicating the court will be closed for one week for maintenance. A motion was made by David Moyer, seconded by Rommie Long authorizing the updated cost of painting to \$7,678.17.

All ayes

Supervisor Long stated the Roadcrew did a nice job with paving the entrance into the Tot Lot at Barto Park.

- **County Line Road speeding issues** - Already addressed
- **Nighttime sign audit** – still awaiting the equipment from LTAP
- **Job openings** – Rich stated two positions have been advertised, one for a laborer, and one for laborer/operator position and interviews were held. A motion was

made by David Moyer, seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the hiring of the chosen candidate for Public Works Laborer.

All ayes

- A motion was made by David Moyer, seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the hiring of the chosen candidate for Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator/Public Works Laborer.

All ayes

- **Recycling Center operations contract** – Rich stated the township has not yet signed the contract offered by Cougles however Rich did speak with them about a month to month contract for the time being. Rich did have Total Recycling come out to look at the site and they will provide a quote.
- **Trees removals** - Rich received a third quote, the lowest quote for the removal of two (2) Ash trees in Washington Park, seven (7) Ash trees that circle the Weinsteiniger Pump Station is from Dallas Tree Service Inc. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing Dallas Tree Service Inc to do the tree removal as outlined for a cost of \$6,300.

All ayes

Supervisor Powanda announced the Administration building windows are in and will be delivered to the township building. Mr. Powanda will install them when he can get time in his schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

- **2021 Annual Audit, available for review** – Rich announced the 2021 Annual Audit was completed and is available for review.
- **Center for Excellence in Local Government** – Motion made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Romnie Long authorizing the sponsorship of \$400 to Center for Excellence in Local Government.

All ayes

- **Lightning Damage** – A surge was experienced at the Waste Water Treatment Plant through the communications cable which blew up the modem, router, and the PLC that operates the Plant. The damage will be covered by insurance. A quote was received to purchase replacement parts to keep on hand. A motion was made by David Moyer, seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the purchase of the computer and the video board not to exceed \$5,000.

All ayes

- **Public Works request** – Request to remove the recycling containers located in the park system. The containers are filled with waste as well as recycling. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda to remove the recycling containers from the parks.

All ayes

- **Road Sign and Infrastructure GPS** – This was discussed at the May meeting and the funds are budgeted for this. A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the purchase of the JAMAR Road Sign and Infrastructure GPS in the amount of \$2,617.00.

All ayes

- **Comcast franchise agreement renewal** – Rich indicated the first step adopting the agreement is to pass an Ordinance (copy enclosed). A motion was made by David Moyer, seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the advertisement of the Ordinance for the Comcast Franchise Agreement Renewal.

All ayes

Chairman Moyer stated he has been in contact with Senator Bob Mench regarding the proposed gas tax holiday. Mr. Moyer stated this is where the Liquid Fuels money to the local government comes from and urged residents to call their Senators.

SUBDIVISION/PLANNING

None

SUBDIVISION EXTENSION

None

COMMUNICATIONS

- Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed.
- Eastern Berks Fire Department Relief Association, PA Auditor General Compliance Audit, 2019-2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, July 28, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Chairman Moyer asked residents to please be careful with fireworks.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None needed

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by David Moyer, seconded by Thomas Powanda to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:52 p.m.

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Brown
Township Secretary