

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman 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.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Supervisors, Chairman David Moyer, Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda, Supervisor Rommie Long, Solicitor, Joan London, Esquire; John Weber of LTL Consultants, Tom Unger of Systems Design Engineering, Brian Mohr, Roadmaster, Township administrative assistant, Maria Eddinger, and (11) members of the public were in attendance.

**Absent:** Township Manager, Susan Brown, Tax Collector, Brenda Breidigan,

**TAPING OF MEETING**

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was stated that Maria Eddinger; Township administrative assistant was taping the meeting this evening as well as public resident William Piersol, 41 Weinstein Road, Bechtelsville, PA 19505.

**SPECIAL REQUEST**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Joel Hoffman-** Addressed the board with a letter about his 18 acres of property that borders the WWTP and Back Country Road & County Line Road since 1922. The property is riddled with right-a-ways, two major Met Ed Power Lines, 3 acres of Washington Township Sewer Lines and 1 oil pipeline. He stated maintains these easements with his own equipment. On 9/14/24 he had neighbors complain about a storage container delivered to his property and he is being told it needs to be removed according to zoning laws. He also discussed that he had an incident on his property that required police and there were no police/state police willing to arrive until the next day.

**Rayne Reitnauer-** Addressed the Board and audience. She introduced and identified herself as 2024 candidate for PA State House Representative, District 130.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda, and seconded by Supervisor Rommie Long to approve approving the BOS regular meeting minutes of August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

**All ayes**

**TOWNSHIP REPORTS**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long 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 September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and to file the treasurer’s report for audit.

**All ayes**

**TAX COLLECTOR**

Tax Collectors Report for the month of August, 2024, presented by Supervisor Romnie Long:

Real Estate Tax	\$ 2087.02
Interim Tax	\$ 91.22
Per Capita Tax	\$ 6290.80
Amusement Tax	<u>\$ 5310.13</u>
Total	\$ 13,779.17

**FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT**

The EBFD and Bally EMS Reports were included in the binders.

Chairman David Moyer commented that October is Fire Prevention month and a good time to check the batteries in all smoke detectors.

Chairman Moyer made a motion to amend the agenda to include discussion on the proposed Fire Tax under New Business, seconded by Thomas Powanda.

**All ayes**

**ZONING/SEO REPORT**

Reports are in the binders.

**SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT**

A copy of the Sewer Engineer’s Report is enclosed.

- **WWTP Sewer Facility Operations-**
  - Consideration of changing to Poly Aluminum Chloride to make plant more efficient.
    - Will reach out to vendors to get quotes on new chemical
    - DEP is closely monitoring the WWTP and has completed an operations audit. Additional in-house tests to be done to help to better regulate chemical dosing.
  
- **Manhole repair off County Line Road/Joel Hoffman property**
  - Roadmaster Brian Mohr addressed a manhole in need of repair and tree removal on the Joel Hoffman property.

- Tom Unger offered to assess this manhole damage and Chairman David Moyer to revisit the location during road inspection scheduled for Monday September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

- **Waste Pump purchase approval for \$6,705.00**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda to approve the purchase of the Waste Pump in the amount of \$6,705.00.

**All ayes**

- **Approval to purchase Hach Multi Parameter Meter in the amount of \$5,628.70**

A motion was made by Supervisor Ronnie Long, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda to approve the purchase of the Hach Multi Parameter Meter in the amount of \$5,628.70.

**All ayes**

- **Sludge Hauling awarding of contract**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda awarding the Sludge Hauling 3-year contract to HydroTech Environmental, LLC, in the amount of \$156,585.00.

**All ayes**

- **BlueScope Construction requests for payment:**

- **Application No. 5                    \$116,531.10**

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda, and seconded by Supervisor Ronnie Long to approve payment to BlueScope Construction PWD Application No. 5 for in the amount of \$116,531.10.

**All ayes**

- **HVAC Mechanical #1            \$ 22,007.70**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Supervisor Ronnie Long to approve payment to BlueScope Construction for HVAC Mechanical Application No. 1 in the amount of \$22,007.70.

**All ayes**

- **Plumbing Application #2    \$ 17,115.75**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda to approve payment to BlueScope Construction Plumbing Application No. 2 to in the amount of \$17,115.75.

**All ayes**

○ **Electrical Application #2 \$ 58,443.30**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long to approve payment to BlueScope Construction for Electrical Application No. 2 in the amount of \$58,443.30.

**All ayes**

● **SBR Control Panel Price Quote- Diagnostic Only**

A motion was made by Supervisor Romnie Long, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda to approve the SBR Control Panel Price Diagnostic Service quote from Kappe Associates Inc, not to exceed \$2,500.00.

**All ayes**

● **Electrical Quotes for New PW Building-**

- RJ Electric- \$17,620.00
- Gorski- \$37,000.00
- Longacre Electric -Not received before tonight's meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Romnie Long, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda to approve electric contract inclusive of running line from set Met Ed pole to meter in new PW building not to exceed \$17,620.00.

**All ayes**

- **Met with UGI representative. UGI will bring service from the main over to corner of building where proposed generator is to be placed at no cost to the Township. The Township would be responsible for extending the line to existing PW and the new PW Buildings.**
- **L & N Zimmerman Excavating Inc & Skoda Contracting quotes for contract work to complete the private gas line to the New PW Building and existing PW Building.**
  - L & N Zimmerman Excavating Inc proposal # 10253- \$3715.00
  - Skoda Contracting Gas Line estimate- \$10,201.68 to new building \$6402.48 to existing PW building.

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long to approve for Skoda Contracting to perform the contracted work to install the necessary natural gas lines for both the new and old PW Buildings not to exceed \$20,000.00.

**All ayes**

**TOWNSHIP ENGINEER**

A copy of the Township Engineer's report is enclosed

- John reported there are two plans up for review at the Planning Commission meeting. Reserve at Barto revision #2 and 1606 Main Street revision #3 neither plan is ready to move forward at this time.

- **Edison Walk, update on progress with municipal improvements including pavement, curbs and stormwater-** The base repair and placement of binder and wearing course paving on Sugar Maple Road has been completed.
- **2024 Road project Invoice #465A for payment to Recon Construction Services for \$168,885.00**

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long authorizing the payment of Invoice # 465A to Recon Construction Services for \$168,885.00.

**All ayes**

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- **Chapter 76 Parks, Recreation Areas & Open Spaces**
- **Chapter 77 Parks & Recreation Board Ordinance-**Ms. London has a draft of Chapter 76 & 77 which brings these ordinances up to date. A motion was made by Tom Powanda and seconded by Romnie Long authorizing the advertisement of both ordinances.

**All ayes**

- **Marlowe Zoning Hearing Board Application**

The Marlowe Zoning application will be before the Zoning Hearing Board on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda authorizing Solicitor Joan London to send a letter of support for the requested variance provided the appropriate number of edu's are purchased and all township regulations are followed for the various uses.

**All ayes**

- **Camp Camino Pre-Plan Approval Construction Security Agreement**

Joan reported the agreement is ready for approval. A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda authorizing to enter into the Pre-Plan Construction Agreement which would allow for the pre-plan approval site work to commence on lot #7 contingent upon posting of financial security.

**All ayes**

- **Septic System Isolation Distance Waiver & Indemnification for 142 Groff Road**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda to grant the Septic System Isolation Distance Waiver and Indemnification for 142 Groff Road.

**All ayes**

- **Reserve at Bally Springs-Fire hydrants-**Joan received a response to her letter regarding the fire hydrants in Reserve at Bally Springs from EBFD Chief Mike Mutter.

- **WWTP expansion agreement**-Joan discussed some correspondence she had with Mr. D'Angelo's attorney which stated the loan request to fund the plant expansion was going to the finance committee. No other information has been received and since entering into the agreement costs have risen considerably. Joan will have the cost increase discussion with Attorney Howard Brown since Mr. D'Angelo's project can not move forward without expanding the Treatment Plant.
- **Solar Ordinance Validity Challenge update**  
Joan reported the next hearing will be held on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at that time testimony will be given by the Township expert witness, Charles Schmael. A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long approving Urban Research & Development Schmael to provide expert testimony at a rate of \$155.00 per hour October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Zoning Board Hearing on the Solar Ordinance Validity Challenge

- **Engagement letter from Urban Research & Development**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long authorizing the execution of the engagement letter with Urban Research & Development for Charles Schmael to provide expert testimony at a rate of \$155.00 per hour October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Zoning Board Hearing on the Solar Ordinance Validity Challenge.

**All ayes**

- **Township review of ordinances and codification project-ongoing**

### RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Report enclosed

- **Grant status:**
  - **Resolution No. 2024-27 - Category 4 Local Share Assessment Grant**

A motion was made by Supervisor Romnie Long, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda adopting Resolution No. 2024-27 authorizing the request for funding from DCED in the amount of \$30,681.40.

**All ayes**

- **Park Field Rental Agreements**-Joan reported the review of the Field Rental Agreements is almost complete.
- **Events-**
  - *Fall caft show-November 9, 2024*
  - *New Events- Plant Swap- Spring 2025*
  - *Easter Egg Hunt- Spring 2025*
  - *Fall Festival- September 2025*
- **Previous Recommendations Updates-**
  - **Parks, Recreation Areas and Open Spaces Ordinance**-addressed during Solicitor Report

- **New Recommendations-**
  - The EAC & RAC are recommending Memorial Tree and Bench Program. The program would allow Township residents to mark a personal milestone with a reminder by giving a donation for a shade tree or bench, to be placed in our parks. In addition to improving our recreation areas with additional shade areas, it would offer the residents an opportunity to honor a friend, family member, loved one, or beloved pet.
- **War Memorial repair update-** Mark reported he has received one price quote for the war memorial in the amount of \$42,750. Mark is still waiting for a second quote.

### SUPERVISORS UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Public works garage project update-**
  - **Electrical service**
  - **Natural Gas/propane service connection & boiler quote**
    - **Boiler Quote- Art Smith quote for Wei-Mclain Ultra High Efficiency gas boiler- \$19,500.00.**
- **Water softener placement**
- **Fence line maintenance-Barto Park/40 Birch Mill Lane-**A motion was made by David Moyer, seconded by Ronnie Long authorizing Joan London to prepare a working easement to enable the Township to clean up the property line at Barto Park and 40 Birch Mill Lane.

**All ayes**

Brian explained the work is on the already established sewer easement. The property owner should be informed that the sewer easement is being blocked by the arborvitaes.

- **Barto Road straightening project-**The two poles have been placed by Windstream. Met-Ed came out to move their lines.
- **Niantic Road speed reduction response from PennDOT-**Respond to letter from PennDOT.

### NEW BUSINESS

- 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for Washington Township and Municipal Authority-A motion was made by David Moyer seconded by Thomas Powanda approving the payment of the MMO.
  - **All ayes**
- HOP for Camp Camino-Schwenkfelder & Gehman Roads
- Request for Thermoplastic speed markings for County Line Road from Hoffmansville Road to Oberholtzer Road-Motion made by David Moyer, seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the installation of thermoplastic speed markings on County Line Road between Hoffmansville Road and Oberholtzer Road.
  - **All ayes**
- Lengthy discussion took place regarding the proposed Fire/EMS Tax. Resident Bill Piersol indicated he will be checking into the EBF and EMS funds. It was

suggested inviting the EBFD and EMS to the BOS Workshop meeting on October 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss this matter further. No action was taken tonight.

**SUBDIVISION/PLANNING**

None

**SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT EXTENSIONS**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long granting the following Subdivision Extensions:

<b>D'Angelo Minor Plan</b>	<b>10/02/24 to 12/30/24</b>
<b>Reserve at Barto</b>	<b>10/02/24 to 12/30/24</b>
<b>1606 Main Street</b>	<b>10/02/24 to 12/30/24</b>

**All ayes**

A motion was made by Chairman David Moyer, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long granting the following Subdivision Extension:

<b>J.D. McGovern</b>	<b>10/03/24 to 12/31/24</b>
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**All ayes**

A motion was made by Supervisor Romnie Long, and seconded by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda granting the following Subdivision Extension:

<b>Washington CSG 1, LLC</b>	<b>10/02/24 to 12/30/24</b>
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**All ayes**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed.

Chairman David Moyer addressed the total dollar amount of delinquent accounts noted on the ARB report this month.

**Public Comment-** William Piersol requested a copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report, Chairman David Moyer said no due to personal information being disclosed to the public, however Solicitor Joan London said she would look into it. Mr. Piersol said he would be in the office to fill out a RTK form Friday morning.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Board of Supervisors Workshop meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Budget meetings are scheduled for Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (*if needed*) at 6:00 p.m.

The next Regular Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Road inspection, Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*None*

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Thomas Powanda, and seconded by Supervisor Romnie Long, to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 p.m.

**All ayes**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Brown  
Township Manager/Secretary