

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING OF May 15, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors was held Monday, May 15, 2023.

Those in attendance were Chairman John J. Krause, Vice-Chairman, Wendell S. Gainer, Jr., Supervisor/Roadmaster Lynn Brown, Secretary/Treasurer Holly Reinford, and Solicitor Rick Wiest. Also in attendance were Dawn Koch, Jeremy Bickham, Bob Free, Jessica Holley, Addison Witmer, Nick Miller, and Barry Newswanger.

Chairman Krause opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Chairman Krause reminded the residents of the notices, regarding meeting conduct and public comment procedures.

CORRESPONDENCE: The following miscellaneous correspondence was received and presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review; a list was also included in the public packet. Received from:

1. Keith Heinbach- Tax Collector report for April 2023.
2. Sch. Co. Assessment- copy of letter addressed to Linda Yeich regarding real estate tax refund for parcel 33-12-0071.110.
3. Sch. Co. Assessment- copy of letter addressed to Keith Heinbach regarding real estate tax refund for parcel 33-11-0023.006.
4. Sch. Co. Chamber of Commerce- letter inviting the board to a meeting regarding broadband task force acquiring funding.
5. PennDOT- epermitting for Titus Nolt driveway returned for revisions 4/18/23 and under review as of 5/3/2023.
6. MRM Trust- MRM Trust notes from the April 2023 meeting.
7. Sch. Co. Chamber of Commerce- Broadband task force meeting date is set for May 22, 2023, at 5:30pm RSVP is required.
8. Corrado Custom Homes- certificate of liability.
9. Sch. Co. Assessment- copy of letter addressed to Keith Heinbach regarding real estate tax refund for parcel 33-04-0084.001.
10. Kawasaki- safety recall notice
11. PennDOT- Letter with change in national bridge inspection standards.
12. MRM Trust- 2023-24 Projected payroll form for workers compensation, due May 31, 2023.
13. Garcia, Garman & Shea, PC- copy of 2022 audit.
14. PA Dept. of Auditor General- copy of Wayne Township Firemen's Relief 2020-2022 audit report.
15. Jeremy Cassel- Notice regarding Hegins Area Ambulance dropping its advanced life support services (ALS) effective July 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Resident Jessica Holley stated there was a parcel recently sold by her and inquired if the township has any ordinances in effect regarding subdivisions and if there are, is there a minimum in parcel size and do they notify the adjoining parcels of a

subdivision possibility? Solicitor Rick Wiest advised Holley that Washington Township does not have its own subdivision or zoning ordinance, that is governed by Schuylkill County ordinance, and she can find all the information on the Schuylkill County Zoning and Planning website. Holley questioned if the board has any intentions to try and preserve Agricultural land within the community? Koch stated Holley can add her land to the ASA.

Resident Barry Newswanger inquired if the basketball courts can be repurposed into a pickleball court as it is a fast-growing sport for youth to elder residents. Chairman Krause and Vice-Chairman Gainer stated we can look into it and possibly install a pickleball court at the park. Chairman Krause said it would be a matter of painting new lines. Resident Newswanger added resurfacing the courts, sealing, painting lines, and adding a net.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Supervisor Brown, approving the minutes to the April 17, 2023, regular monthly meeting without correction. This motion unanimously carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILLS FOR APPROVAL: Upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Supervisor Brown, the April 2023 Treasurer's Report was report was approved with a balance in all accounts, before receipts and bills, was \$1,468,942.05. Included in this motion was the approval of payment of all bills presented. This motion unanimously carried.

RECEIPTS: The report of receipts (April 10 – May 12, 2023) listing \$42,793.87 in EIT receipts and \$162,973.36 in regular General Fund receipts were approved as printed upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Wiest was present with no new business.

ROADMASTER REPORTS: Chairman Krause inquired with Roadmaster Brown about road work. Roadmaster Brown stated we crack sealed Birds Hill Rd, Flat Hill Rd, Mountain Rd, Ferebees Rd, Schwartz Valley Rd, Summer Hill Rd, and the only one to maybe get done yet is Hickory Rd and then the crack sealer goes back. Brown said they will continue patching bad spots all over the township and cut the shoulders and mow when we get the permit for Blue Mountain Bridge in the fall. If the budget allows, they will pave the entrance to the township building.

Roadmaster Brown stated he got a quote back for Blue Mountain Bridge from Quality Bridge and Fab out of West Middlesex. They have supplied materials for other local bridges. Their company does the engineering, cuts everything to spec, including guiderails, beams, and decking. The final material cost will be \$138,514. The original budget was \$135,000 but Brown feels if he trims the budget off the paving and with AMS coming in under budget, that there will be money left over. Brown also stated that if we cut the end sections ourselves, we can save \$5,600 and rent a saw for two days at a total of \$850. Quality Bridge and Fab gave a lead time of 8 weeks from approval of quote. Vice-Chairman Gainer questioned the difference between this quote and the last quote; Brown stated this is just changing suppliers and the \$138,514 includes guiderails and auxiliary parts whereas the \$122,500 quote did not include them. Chairman Krause spoke with David from ARRO and was told there would be no problem getting a permit through the DEP and we are safe to order materials now. Supervisor Brown is thinking of the first week in August for the bridge.

Chairman Krause moved that Quality Bridge and Fab Inc proceed with the work for the bridge in the amount of \$138,514, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gainer. This motion unanimously carried.

Chairman Krause proposed a motion to approve Rylind's information for the concrete quality control plan and a motion for the rebar plan from Rylind construction, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

COUNTY ZONING: Planning and Zoning report; nothing to report per Koch.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

EMC Nick Miller stated the only major change going on currently is they contracted with Hegin's EMS for ALS provider. They are going out of business and sent a letter April 20th stating 90 days from that point on. Miller communicated with Pine Grove EMS. Medic 67 out of Tremont will go back to the old school way of things, it will be closer for our residents as well, and they are supported through Geisinger Medical. Tremont will be running a MICU during the day and a chase truck for the nighttime 12-hour shift.

EMC Miller reminded everyone of the conference on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at Mountain Valley Golf Course in Barnesville. Miller is going to it and stated he would report on the conference.

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Krause gave an update about the township windows. Stated Spotts Brothers came up with another possible solution. Krause ran their solution by a design professional via teams meeting. The professional connected with Spotts Brothers, and we haven't heard back from them. Follow up with Spotts Brothers is needed.

Supervisor Brown stated no update on the shale property.

Roadmaster Brown stated the crew radios work great but what about cost? EMC Miller said he called them five times without an answer and the solution he recommends to us is to just use them.

Chairman Krause inquired about our DCNR Grant status. Per Koch, follow up on it.

NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Krause stated no issues with the 2023 per capita exemptions. Vice-Chairman Gainer moved to accept all tax exemptions, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

Chairman Krause inquired about the Titus Nolt non-building waiver. Koch stated once approved, Holly Reinford can send it to the DEP. Krause stated he will look at it after the meeting and most likely sign it.

Roadmaster Brown received an email from the state rep's office about a request to put a cross walk on 443 at Red Lion Café. Brown consulted with Solicitor Rick Wiest since it is out of Washington Township jurisdiction. Vice-Chairman Gainer recommended that Washington

Township does not handle this request and either the requester pays, or the state pays to put in a crosswalk. Koch stated it was suggested we work with PennDOT, Brown had responded to the state rep and PennDOT sent an email to the requester that Washington Township oversaw it. Vice-Chairman Gainer stated that this is not a township road, this is a state road and, Washington Township has nothing to do with the matter. Chairman Krause agreed we have no maintenance agreement on that road.

Vice-Chairman Gainer moved to remove Dawn Koch from all bank documents and add Secretary/Treasurer Holly Reinford, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

Secretary/Treasurer Holly Reinford stated Abrams Angels Make-a-Wish was looking to rent the park for Sunday, June 25, 2023. However, the park is already rented that day. Vice-Chairman Gainer stated that if they can accommodate a schedule change, we can give them the rental for free.

Vice-Chairman Gainer moved to accept the public official liability renewal of \$4,848, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

Vice-Chairman Gainer moved to approve resolution 2023-12 to appoint Secretary/Treasurer Holly Reinford as Chief Administrative Officer for the pension plan, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

Vice-Chairman Gainer moved to appoint Secretary/Treasurer Holly Reinford as the right to know officer, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors of Washington Township, upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Supervisor Brown the meeting adjourned at 7:40p.m. This motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly Reinford
Secretary/Treasurer
Washington Township