

SHENANGO TOWNSHIP – TOWNSHIP MEETING @ TWP BLDG September 21, 2023 6:30PM
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES **Page 1**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Tom Hubert, and opened with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at 6:30 P.M.

Supervisors present: James Stewart, Scott Malenky, Tom Hubert, Mike Weiser, and Dale Perry.

Public Comments: Pennsylvania State Representative Parke Wentling attended the meeting to explain various new grant opportunities and Representative Wentling offered to answer any questions from the Township and offered to sit with any of the township supervisors to go thru the grants that are available for the Township. He also explained the newest grant called the LSA grant, which comes from the gambling money which is also available to take advantage of. Those funds do not require a match from the municipalities. Representative Wentling went over various activities coming up and invited the Township residents to those to get acquainted with him.

Minutes: Motion by Scott Malenky, to approve minutes from August 17, 2023, seconded by Jim Stewart. All votes yes, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Hubert read the report. Tom Hubert went over all balances for all Township accounts. Tom stated there would be a budget meeting set up soon to talk about the 2024 Budget. He explained that the park donations were budgeted at \$2,000 and it turned out to be \$11,000 which was good as we want the park to be self-sustaining, and we received more in culvert permits than we budgeted. The pension amounts came in and we budgeted \$120,000 but we are getting \$130,000. That money comes in and goes back out and will be shown on next month's report. We received notice as well about the fire relief allocation, but Tom stated that that money comes in and goes to the STVFD. Expenses that stand out, \$16,000 for blighted homes, there will be a budget line for 2024. The minor equipment stands out due to the lawnmower that we purchased this year for the road department. All the insurance across the board was 10% higher than we budgeted for but will look into that with Brad Mantzell for next year. Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Mike Weiser. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Police Report: Chief Jason Newton gave the report. There were 22 911 calls, 38 assists, 4 disturbance calls, 12 suspicious and with all other miscellaneous, it came to a total of 285. West Middlesex Borough had 87 calls, which totaled all to 372. Budget wise for the month they used 4.2%, year to date was 70.6 and leaves them with 29.4. Chief Newton checked with the school on the police protection check and that would be here any day now. Tom Hubert stated when those funds come in and for the rest of the year, the police department would be right on budget for that. Motion by Jim Stewart to accept the police report, seconded by Dale Perry. All votes yes. Motion carried. Tom Hubert explained that the licenses for the police reporting system will not be able to be renewed as the software is becoming outdated and will need to be replaced. Ray Bogaty and Tom Hubert stated that we will need to advertise for bids. Motion by Tom Hubert to get approval to advertise for replacement of Record Management System for the police department, seconded by Scott Malenky. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Fire Report: Justin Barnes gave the report. For the month of August, there were 52 medical calls, 1 motor vehicle fire, 2 building fires, 6 motor vehicle crashes and 2 fire alarms and 2 tree/wire downs, with a total of

65 calls. Of the 65 calls, 50 were transports and 13 calls were for the outside of Shenango Township. Motion by Scott Malenky, seconded by Mike Weiser to approve the fire report. Fire Chief, Justin Barnes explained that the ambulance service is going to be as good as it is today, but they were going to start receiving more calls as the days go on. Chief Barnes explained that the lack of ambulances that are in the area results in the Township getting calls to respond outside of the area. There is a desperate need for help outside the area. Tom Hubert stated that he was understanding regarding that but we as a township cannot finance ambulance services for the county. We would need to sit and discuss the process as it is now. Chief Barnes said some of it is outside of his control as they must comply with mutual aid agreements. Motion by Scott Malenky, seconded by Mike Weiser to approve the fire report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

EMC Report: Director Joe Varga gave the report. Not a lot since the last meeting. Joe Varga stated that he wanted to wait until after the election to finish ID's, but Tom Hubert stated they needed to be done before then. Motion by Mike Weiser to approve the EMC report, seconded by Dale Perry. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Road Report: Don Hoover gave the report. There were 723 hours worked, 551 hours of road maintenance, 119 hours of township & park maintenance, & 53 hours of vehicle maintenance. Don Hoover stated that they sealed about 6 ½ miles of road which included, Koncar Rd., Mitchell Rd., Minner Rd., Besco Rd., and Grange Rd. Roadmaster, Mike Weiser, Matt Lawhead and Don Hoover met with DEP and walked Hogback Creek. The report will not be available for a couple of weeks, but it sounds like we will get the same response as the Army Corp. of Engineers. The woody vegetation has been cut and kept up on, the small stuff will be cut over the winter and the shilling in spots is bad enough that it will need corrected. They will be sending links for the Roadmaster to follow up on to receive grants to get equipment in to take care of that. The grants take place from February to May. We will need to get bids to clean the bottom of the creek and they did say there was erosion, but Mike Weiser will need to get with the borough to see who is responsible for that. Mike Weiser stated that we really don't own anything there, so he was not sure why we were maintaining that. The culvert underneath Kiwanis Road is starting to wash away, and the repair will be extensive so we will need to bid that out. Don Hoover mentioned that we will need to get some street signs replaced. Don Hoover explained that Dan Rupert is working on a road list for next year already. There is no activity at COG fields so the gate will be shut until next year. Mike Weiser will also be working on the water lines for the bathrooms. Mike Weiser also stated he was going to go to the park and work on the Township Park bathrooms so that the bathrooms will be able to be kept open all winter. Motion by Jim Stewart to approve the road report, seconded by Dale Perry. Jim Stewart stated that the Wheatland Road properties that were demolished, are all leveled and seeded. There was a question regarding trees on one of the properties about being cut down due to the roots being under the road it is PennDOT's responsibility.

Municipal Authority Report: Scott Malenky gave the report. Scott stated one of the residents from Mercer West Middlesex Road, wants restoration done with a few homes and the excavation companies are still planning to do that. The Authority is sending copies again of certified letters that were sent out previously to the West Middlesex Sewer Authority per their request. Scott, discussed properties that owe 2k or more for unpaid bills, extensions or tap in fees will have letter sent out to them again. The Authority is also sending letters to the Phase 2 residents for unpaid tap in fees and they have until Jan 31, 2024, to satisfy accounts

and will be subject to daily fines if not taken care of. Phase 1 residents already had letters sent out previously. Tom Hubert talked about the bridge at the end of Williams Drive. There are logs backing up and causing stormwater damage. The township needs to find out who put in the bridge and who will be responsible to maintain it. The township is responsible for waterways in the Township but the bridge is owned by someone other than the township. Mike Weiser has to check into some way to get this taken care of and getting machines in there will be a problem as they will get stuck. Motion by Scott Malenky, seconded by Tom Hubert to approve Municipal Authority Report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

COG Report: Dale Perry gave the report. He stated that the Shenango Valley Shuttle service is supporting 120,000 trips a year for the buses. This was started in 1971 and 32 municipalities are involved. People are fully staffed in the shuttle service but there is a need for drivers. Dale did bring up the garbage removal with COG and they were not interested in that sort of thing. Dale motioned to approve the COG report, seconded by Scott Malenky. Tom thanked Dale Perry for asking about the garbage removal. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Report: Dale Perry gave the report. Dale stated that Vertical Bridge, the company that is installing the tower off of Route 318, has moved the tower 80 feet to keep it from the fall zone. Mercer County Regional Planning has not approved that as of yet so the Planning Commission has tabled that until further notice. Tom Hubert is checking to see if there is a special permit required for towers. Motion by Mike Weiser, seconded by Dale Perry to approve the report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

MPO Report: Dale Perry gave the report. Dale stated that \$90,000 dollars was lost from the people of Youngstown Ohio not being involved in the Metropolitan Organization. Everyone is worried about the Wilson Road backup and feels that there will be an influx of vehicles once the 400 some employees are hired at the Fed Ex building. Chris Conti is now in charge of the DCED and the 504 Planning and Funding for the Gateway Project & Statewide Web. Dale Perry suggested that the line where Hermitage and the 376 corridor needs looked at and there are no funds available to look at this year. Plans and engineering is required. Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by Scott Malenky to approve the report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Animal Shelter Report: Tom Hubert gave the report. The shelter has decided to go back to the original site for the new Shelter on Lynwood. They are working an architect. The new building will be by Happy Tales. They have too many animals and not enough space for them. Spay and neuter is always encouraged. Tom Hubert motioned to approve the report, seconded by Jim Stewart. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Recreation Board Report: Tom Hubert gave the report. Our dedication was held and Tom Hubert thanked Gina Smith for helping to put all together. The Pikna's donated the food and we had roughly 70 to 80 people at the dedication and Yvonne Hassell was very excited. Yvonne's family attended. The camera's are now up at the park and it covers all of the park. The ice rink liner came in and we are looking to add advertisement on the boards to pay for the liner. Tom Hubert would like to apply for a grant to put in a walking trail at the park and another grant to fix up the COG park. Tom Hubert motioned to approve the report, seconded by Scott Malenky. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Zoning Permits: (1) permit for a Ground Mount Solar System

Correspondence: Correspondence included a Final issued NPDES permit for the Church of God Campground facility on Campground Road & also an NPDES permit for Oakleaf Estates Mobile Home Park.

Old Business: Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Mike Weiser, to table the spraying of the COG Field for Mosquitoes and Ticks until February, 2024. Mike Weiser would like to get another quote in the spring. Scott Malenky wants a quote for both parks. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Jim Stewart made a motion, seconded by Tom Hubert to approve Ordinance #190-2023 park rules & regulations. Tom Hubert seems to think the signs helped with the language at the park. All votes yes. Motion carried.

New Business: Motion by Jim Stewart, seconded by Scott Malenky to approve the property assessment reduction reimbursement for David M & Brenda L. Hoover. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by Scott Malenky to approve Resolution #10-2023 naming of New Wilmington Road. Mike Weiser asked if all were going to use this name. Mike Weiser stated that there were various names that everyone was using and a resident was not getting their mail because of this which is why this needed to be done. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Weiser, seconded by Jim Stewart to approve Resolution #11-2023 police pension participation contribution (0%). All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Scott Malenky to authorize advertisement for running a sewer line from the park to the main on Rt. 318. Tom Hubert explained that the Township is incurring charges to have the septic pumped at the park, and quite a lot of the smell at the park from the bathrooms would be eliminated. Tom Hubert explained that the bid is being advertised for all companies to have a chance to bid instead of the township picking who will do this. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jim Stewart, seconded by Dale Perry to approve trick or treat hours on October 31, 2023 from 5 to 7pm. All votes yes. Motion carried..

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Dale Perry to appoint Gina Smith to finish out the remaining year of 2023 being the Right To Know Officer because of the passing of Tara Johnson. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Scott Malenky to advertise the budget meeting and any other business deemed necessary, on October 3, 2023 at 6:30pm. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert for Road Master, Mike Weiser to spend up to \$18,000 to replace the culvert pipe under Kiwanis Road, seconded by Jim Stewart. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Dates to Note:

- Tax Collector's Office Hours @ Township, September 27, 28, 29, 2023 from 1-3:45 or by appointment
- Fall Festival October 21, 2023 Noon-3:00pm

Payment of bills: Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by Scott Malenky to approve payment of bills from August 18, 2023 to September 21, 2023. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Janine Haines, resident of the township has offered to hold a Thanksgiving Dinner @ the Township building for the first responders and anyone that has no where or no one to spend Thanksgiving with. Details for this dinner will be announced through the Township's website, Facebook, and an advertisement at the township building.

Adjournment: Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by Scott Malenky, to adjourn. All votes yes. Motion carried.