

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

Supervisors present James Stewart, P.J. Giardina, Thomas Hubert, Michael Weiser and Dale Perry. Also present were Secretary Gina Smith, Solicitor Brett Stedman, Police Chief Jason Newton, Road Foreman Dan Rupert, Fire Chief Justin Barnes, EMC Director Joe Varga, and Tax Collector David Pringle.

Comments from Residents/Taxpayers of Shenango Township: Resident, Anthony Degennaro, from 61 Lilac Drive in Shenango Township brought to light clogged drains & culverts near his property are causing flooding and debris to his property. Mr. Degennaro has asked that the Township do something to correct the problem. Supervisor Michael Weiser stated that there were culverts pipes put in and they were extended too far which in turn will cause the issue that the property owner is experiencing. Mr. Weiser suggested that we get in touch with the vacant land owner next to the resident's property to take a backhoe onto the property, when dry, and fix the clogged drain issue. Chairman, Tom Hubert, knows the owner of the vacant land, and has offered to call and get permission to have this done. Resident has also complained that there are people speeding up and down the road, Chairman Tom Hubert has asked the Police Chief to send a police cruiser to monitor the road.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by James Stewart, seconded by Michael Weiser to approve the minutes dated 1-2-2024 & approve the Re-Organizational minutes dated 1-2-2024. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Chairman, Tom Hubert gave the report. Mr. Hubert read all bank balances as of 2-10-2024. Mr. Hubert explained that we received Transfer tax from the sale of a property and that the balances look good starting the first of the year but we do need to be mindful of the expenses as we have been taking from the savings. Real Estate taxes will be coming in and that will go back into savings to replace what was taken. Our Liquid Fuels advocate will be meeting with Chairman Tom Hubert, Secretary Gina Smith, and Road Foreman Dan Rupert to answer questions regarding what can be used by Liquid Fuel funds and any updated news on reporting. Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by P.J. Giardina. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Police Report: Police Chief Jason Newton gave the report. For the month of January, 2024 there were 18 911 calls, 7 alarm calls, 25 Assists and 10 vehicle accidents. All total were 238, and West Middlesex Borough had 96 incidents, for a total of 334. Budget wise for the month was 12.2%, leaving them with 87.8%. Chief Newton brought up Oak Leaf Estates and how rundown it has become and suggests that the Supervisors come up with some type of cleanup in that area. It was stated that there are roughly 230 lots within the park and most do not have anyone living in them. David Pringle stated many tax billings are returned. Mr. Hubert would like to see about removing or demolishing ones that are non-liveable. Township will be contacting Zoning Officer, Jeff Richardson to inquire what the next step will be. Motion by Michael Weiser, seconded by James Stewart to approve the Police report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Fire Report: Fire Chief Justin Barnes gave the report. 33 Medical calls, 16 Vehicle crashes, 4 tree/wire downs, 3 Mutual Aides, 1 Police Assist, 1 Odor investigation for a total of 58. 731 total incidents were ran for 2023, an increase of 300 from the previous year. Motion by Michael Weiser, seconded by P.J. Giardina to approve the Fire report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

EMC Report: EMC Coordinator Joe Varga gave the report. Mr. Varga has flyers available for the Skywarn Storm training and those flyers will be available on the Website. Mr. Varga announced that he will have the EOP Plan that will be available in March. On Wednesday, February 21, 2024 there will be Emergency Management training. Motion by James Stewart, seconded by P.J. Giardina. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Road report: Road Foreman Dan Rupert gave the report. 56 hours of Township and Park maintenance, 114 hours of Vehicle maintenance, 277 hours of Snow removal and 653 hours of Road maintenance for a total of 1,100 hours. Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by James Stewart to approve the road report. All votes yes, motion carried. Supervisor, Michael Weiser informed us that the electric company will be pulling the high tension wires out of the COG Ball fields but is not sure of when they will be starting.

Municipal Authority Report: No report

COG Report: Dale Perry gave the report. Mr. Perry stated that the buses are all running and everyone is happy. The Shuttle Service is going computerized. Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by Tom Hubert to approve the report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

MCRPC report: Dale Perry gave the report. Regional Planning is moving forward to come up with a Comprehensive Plan to attain money to do the projects that they want to do. Dale state that Dan Gracenin of Regional Planning wants to stop the migration out of our community. As of the 2020 Census, Dale stated that 2,000 people have already left this area. Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by P.J. Giardina to approve the report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Report: James Stewart gave the report. Mr. Stewart reported that the auction barn plans on Route 18 property was approved and Mr. Stewart explained that the new company will have Vintage equipment and cars stored within the building and will be a heavy equipment auction area. Mr. Stewart also explained that there is enough room for them to put in a road behind the building to store other heavy equipment as well but the plan is in the future. Dale Perry stated that the tower plans were approved and that it will give Verizon the option for high-speed internet. Motion by P.J. Giardina, seconded by Dale Perry. All votes yes. Motion carried.

MPO Report: Dale Perry gave the report. Mr. Perry talked with Mike Kelly's office regarding Appalacian Regional Planning (ARP) which explains grant availability to whomever needs that. Mr. Perry will have future meetings with Mike Kelly's office to inquire how our area can benefit from these funds. Mr. Perry has invited anyone who would like to attend. Dale Perry would like to have sidewalks put in in West Middlesex and also to see what can be done with the Route 18 Construction/traffic of the road. Mr. Perry requests a 7% match from Shenango Township to do a study on the Route 18 construction/traffic. Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by P.J. Giardina to approve the report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Animal Shelter Report: Tom Hubert gave the report. Mr. Hubert stated that there will be a change in officers as the director of the shelter has resigned. There is a future meeting for the new building for excavation. They are looking for an architect to come in to help with where the utilities should go. Mr. Hubert said that ground breaking is being planned for the new building in March or April of 2024 and will be done in phases. They are using a grant of \$135,000 that needs to be used by June 2024. The building will be roughly 6200 square feet. There is also funds of 450,000 also to come as well. Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Mike Weiser to approve the Animal Shelter report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Recreation Board Report: Tom Hubert gave the report. Businesses are still sending money in for the ice rink banners which has been going well. The park is getting used more and more as the weather changes and Mr. Hubert explained the bonding of the kids with different games going on up there. There will be a live Christmas Tree donated by Turkey Run Landscaping to plant for our tree ceremony for the Light Up Night that is held each Christmas Holiday. A resident asked about the possibility of a dog park in the future at the park. Mr. Hubert stated that he plans to apply for another grant and possibly that would be planned for. Mr. Hubert also mentioned that he would like to have a fence installed also where the hill is in the park so that no one is

jumping off the side of the hill within the park near the road department. Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by P.J. Giardina to approve the report. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Zoning & Building Permits issued: A zoning permit for a 6' fence & a Building Permit issued for a Single Family Residence

Correspondence: Raymond Omer, Superintendent of the West Middlesex School District, had sent an example of a LERTA(residential tax exemption) Resolution. Mr. Hubert would like the Supervisors to take a look at the example that another surrounding school district took advantage of and if it is something that our township supervisors would like to do and the solicitor has looked it over, Mr. Hubert will have it on the next meeting agenda to vote on.

The latest correspondence can be requested in the Township Office on the Route 318 Bridge replacement for anyone interested.

The auction barn, located on 3420 New Castle Road, was spoken about in the above Planning Commission Report by Supervisor Jim Stewart.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Dale Perry to approve Leon Consolidation Final Plan Lot 1A conditionally to receive a new set of plans by where there will be a signature line for Shenango Township Chairman of the Board and Planning Commission Chairman. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by P.J. Giardina to approve Giertych & Pascarella Lots 1 and 1A Sub-division. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by James Stewart to approve Lot 1 Rodney R & Ronald E Root – creating a 7-acre lot out of 33 remaining. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by James Stewart to approve Osborne & Bugher Sub-division where-by Parcel A will be conveyed to Osborne (3.39 acres, 360 feet long, 83 feet wide). All votes yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence letter received from Richard Epstein, resigning as the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor per conflict of interest with our new Solicitor, Brett Stedman. The new Solicitor for the Zoning Hearing Board will now be Zach Bombatch from Bombatch Law LLC

Old Business: Motion by James Stewart, seconded by Dale Perry, to approve Waltz Consultants as Sewage Enforcement Officer (rates included). All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by P.J. Giardina to approve Zoning Determination Letter & Stormwater review plans for the Vertical Tower project. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Castle Properties which requested a tax abatement in Shenango Township was turned down by the County for receiving the abatement as they determined that the area was not blighted or run down. Solicitor, Brett Stedman, explained that we could re-approve the abatement by adopting a resolution to include the parcels involved to allow the abatement in that area. Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by P.J. Giardina to approve the abatement. Votes were 4-1(Dale Perry) All votes yes. Motion carried.

New Business: Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Dale Perry to approve Item #1 Culvert materials from Lane Enterprises. All votes yes. Supervisor, P.J. Giardina abstained due to conflict of interest. Motion carried. Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by James Stewart to approve Item #3 Limestone from East Fairfield Stone Co. & Item #7 Petroleum Products from Reed Oil. All votes yes. P.J. Giardina abstained due to conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by P.J. Giardina to reappoint Wayne Gill to the Zoning Hearing Board and appoint new member Clarence Clark to the Zoning Hearing Board. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Michael Weiser to reappoint Hanson Sponsellor and Ed Pikna to the recreation board. Appoint Janine Haines, as a new member to the recreation board. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by James Stewart to appoint Don Perry to Auditors board. 4-0 with 1 abstention(Dale Perry) by reason of conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Motion by James Stewart, seconded by P.J. Giardina, to accept resignation from Patrolmen Jack Gladysz. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Dale Perry to allow Police Chief Jason Newton to advertise for full-time police officer. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Tom Hubert, seconded by Dale Perry to seek a DCED grant for improvements to the township park and ballfields on Wheatland Road. Supervisor P.J. Giardina requested that we add to our website ideas of changing the name of COG park to our own identity. Asking school to submit ideas and having the community to vote on it. Tom Hubert elaborated on what the grant would be for. Possible bases and backstops for the COG fields, fencing for the township park, and possible dog area. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Motion by James Stewart, seconded by P.J. Giardina to authorize Dale Perry to attend Penn-Northwest Mercer County Economic Summit, paying mileage and event ticket. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Dates to note:

- Real Estate Tax Bills will be mailed March 1, 2024
- Tax Collector collection dates will be March 6,13,20, &27, 2024 from 1pm to 4pm at the Shenango Township Bldg.

Payment of bills: Motion by James Stewart, seconded by Michael Weiser, to approve payment of bills from January 3, 2024 through February 13, 2024. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Resident, Mrs. Lawhead asked if there would be any funding that the township can be reimbursed for when fixing the roads that are traveled daily from the 318 Bridge being repaired. The detoured roads are being torn up from that issue. Roadmaster, Michael Weiser commented that they are keeping track of all expenses incurred while the bridge is out. Dale Perry reminded the Supervisors about the voting of the flag for the Hershey Conference in April. That is to be put on the next agenda for March, 2024.

Adjournment: Motion by Dale Perry, seconded by P.J. Giardina to adjourn. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Supervisors proceeded to executive session to discuss the expiring road contract. This contract will be on the March, 2024 agenda for a final vote.