

**Main Township Supervisors Meeting**  
**September 3, 2019 7:00 pm**

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present for the meeting were:

Bobby Frey, Chairman

Lisa Schell, Secretary

Tom Shuman, Supervisor

Matthew Turowski, Solicitor

Robert Baylor, Supervisor

Jack Pollard, Police Officer

**Minutes of Meeting**

Lisa read the minutes of the August 5, 2019 meeting. Dave Broadt noted one change regarding Dave Kennedy burning a fence. He stated that he had no issues with what was burning and felt he had no authority to do anything about it. Bob Baylor made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction and Tom seconded it.

**Treasurers Report**

**General Fund**

Previous Balance in General Checking:	\$165,750.95
Deposits Received	\$ 26,722.96
Bills Paid	<u>\$ 18,077.94</u>
Current Balance	\$174,395.97

**Employer Tax Account Fund**

Previous Balance	\$ 459.77
Deposit from General Fund	\$ 1,200.00
Deposit from General Fund	\$ 1,200.00
PA UC Fund	\$ 40.00
PA UC Fund	<u>\$ 597.76</u>
Current Balance	\$ 2,222.01

**Special Account**

Previous Balance	\$ 200.00
Deposit Commonwealth of PA	<u>\$3,873.36</u>
Current Balance	\$4,073.36

**State Fund**

Previous Balance	\$172,051.44
Interest	\$ 292.49
Bills Paid	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Current Balance	\$172,343.93

## **Public Comment**

Kim Orzolek asked that next time the township stones and chips roads they put a sign up on the road so people do not start pulling up the road like they had to do when they worked on Mt. Pink and then drivers had to back out on Mainville Drive which is very dangerous. Bobby Frey stated that the township was sitting there to make traffic aware when Mt. Pink work was being done but the signs were not up.

Mr. Bodman asked what the large payment was for Larry's Lumber? Bobby stated that it was for the pipe for Maple Drive needed to be fixed prior to the road project.

Mr. Bodman asked why each month there a number of checks are written to employees. Lisa stated that the police are paid bi-weekly and other employees can request a bi-weekly check as well if they choose to. Also, the township does not have a credit card so sometimes the payments are reimbursements for items bought.

Mr. Bodman also asked about the status of the Agricultural Security Area. Mr. Turowski stated that he has been working on confirming the addresses and PIN#'s with Renee Newhart at the Columbia County Tax Office to confirm all the properties are correct and then will figure out what the next steps will be. Once all current properties are confirmed he suggests the township have a meeting which will meet the requirements of the 7-year review and at that time any name changes will be made.

Dave Broadt read a letter dated September 3, 2019 to the Main Township Supervisors from the Main Township Volunteer Fire Company. The letter asked the Main Township supervisors about the possibility of the supervisors enacting a "Fire Tax" in Main Township. The letter went on to state that there are a number of reasons for the request such as the increasing number of classroom hours required to achieve a Fire Fighter One certificate which is quickly becoming the State standard of required training. One of the other main reasons is the cost of equipment just keeps going up and though the Fire Company has been striving to work within their financial means from donations, grants and fund raising, it does not allow them to save any money toward major repairs or upgrading to newer trucks and equipment as needed. Dave stated that since 80% of the township does not do its fair share of making donations, the Fire Company asked the supervisors to help them get ahead of future problems and introduce a 1 mill Fire Tax for Main Township properties beginning on January 1, 2020 and they would no longer ask for donations. The Fire Company inquired on September 3, 2019 with Renee Newhart at the Columbia County Tax Assessment Office and found that the total assessed value of Main Township is \$21,248.15 per mill and 1 mill is equal to \$1,000 of assessed value, so if the township would enact a 1 mill Fire Tax, the Fire Company would bring in approximately \$21,428. Dave stated that the average home in Wonderview would be billed an extra \$40 - \$50 a year. Dave stated that the original plan was to ask the township to consider a \$50.00 per parcel tax, however, Mr. Turowski looked into that option but found that it cannot legally be imposed, a local tax must go by millage. It was noted that Benton Boro, Benton Township, Buckhorn, Roaring Creek, Franklin Township and possibly Locust Township have a Fire Tax in place, some more than 1 mill, some less.

Mr. Edwards suggested that even if a Fire Tax is adopted the Fire Company still send out a letter stating that donations are still greatly appreciated.

The supervisors asked Mr. Turowski what they would need to do in order to adopt a Fire Tax. Mr. Turowski stated that the township would need to adopt a resolution for calendar 2020 and

advertise the new tax when adopting the 2020 budget, since the Second-Class Township Code (Section 3205(3); allows supervisors, by resolution, to levy taxes on all real property in the township. Once such tax is an annual tax not exceeding 3 mills to purchase and maintain fire apparatus and a suitable place to house fire apparatus, to make appropriations to fire companies located inside and outside the township. The township would have to record the fire tax as a separate line item.

### **Old Business**

#### **Road Project**

Bobby stated that the road project is complete and added that Midland Asphalt Materials, Inc. did a good job and it even came in under budget by \$2,213.40.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business to discuss.

#### **Sewage Officer Report**

Lisa stated that no report was received for this month.

#### **Zoning/Construction Report**

Larry Frace was not in attendance to give this month's report.

#### **Police Report**

Jack read the August report:

- Total hours- 190
- Total miles-1,020
- Traffic citations-19
- Non-traffic citations - 0
- Reportable accidents – 0
- Non-reportable accidents - 0

Jack stated that the police care is out of service due to an accident.

Bob Baylor made a motion to accept the police report and Tom seconded the motion.

Mr. Bodman asked Jack what type of accident happened with the police car. Jack stated that it was a minor accident on the Mountain Road where he had a sneezing attack and drifted off the road and hit a tree damaging the front end and fenders. Bobby stated that they think the vehicle will be totaled since the current value of the vehicle is only \$2,000 - \$3,000, so they are looking for a new vehicle. Bobby located one today, an SUV 4-wheel drive police vehicle; however, you can no longer buy a turn-key police vehicle off the lot, you need to have the lights, siren and cage installed which takes a few weeks to have done.

Kim Orzolek suggested the supervisors consider that the vehicle have the proper air bags and Bobby stated that a police fitted vehicle has all the safety features since they are made for high speed driving and impacts.

Tom stated that he attended a meeting on 911 police radios, and it will cost around \$15,000 for the Motorola radio for the police car and two portable ones.

With no further business to discuss, Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm; Bob seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Schell