

**Main Township Supervisors Meeting
October 4, 2021, 7:00 pm**

First Order of Business

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

Present for the meeting were:

Randy Rhoads, Chairman	Philip Savidge, Police Officer
Robert Baylor, Supervisor	Matthew Turowski, Solicitor
Lisa Schell, Secretary	Larry Frace, Zoning Officer

Minutes of Meeting

Randy stated that the minutes were available for review at the meeting since the website is down and they were not posted to the webpage. Joyce Lingousky stated she did to ask about Mr. Klingerman about quoting the township's insurance, it was Mr. Bodman. Bob made a motion to approve the September 7, 2021, minutes with the change, Randy seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

General Fund

Previous Balance	231,460.03
Deposits Received	27,316.78
Bills Paid	(16,821.65)
Current Balance	<u><u>241,955.16</u></u>

Employer Tax Account Fund

Previous Balance	179.40
Transfer from General Fund	1,200.00
Commonwealth of PA	(239.40)
Current Balance	<u><u>1,140.00</u></u>

Special Account

Previous Balance	70,748.25
Transfer to General Fund	(3,873.96)
Current Balance	<u><u>66,874.29</u></u>

Fire Tax Account

Previous Balance	39,633.78
Deposit	0.00

Current Balance	<u>39,633.78</u>
State Account	
Previous Balance	154,040.09
Interest	<u>31.66</u>
Current Balance	<u>154,071.75</u>

Bob made a motion to approve the September treasurer's report as read; Randy seconded the motion.

Public Comment

Charlie Williams stated he heard that there is another supervisor retiring and he stated that Bobby Frey and Tom Shuman should be honored for their service to the community. Mr. Williams suggested that a citation should be issued to commemorate their years of service to the township.

Jerry Bodman stated that the Second-Class Township Code states that if the township provides money to the fire company for insurance or other expenses the fire company should provide an annual report to the board of supervisors for their expenditures. Mr. Bodman stated that in the last 20 years or so, he has never heard of the fire company providing a treasurer's report of their expenses and since they are talking about spending money for cameras and a key fob, he feels they should provide a report.

Lisa stated that at this time the only expense the township pays for is for their insurance and the township reports that under their treasurer's report. She also stated that the Fire Tax fund is listed in the township's treasurer's report and no money has been spent from that fund yet.

Mr. Williams stated that the Fire Company should only have to provide the township a treasurer's report for the tax dollars the township collects and felt they should not have to disclose money they collect from fund raising and donations since the township has nothing to do with those funds.

Ralph Defrain stated that he will let Dave Broadt know about the concern. He also stated that the fire company reports on their expenses at the Fire Company meetings which is open to the public.

Jesse Bredbenner stated that he would like to have the railroad bed behind his house closed and would like to know who owns it. The supervisors stated that they were not sure of who owns it now, but the township does not own that portion and cannot do anything about it. Randy also stated that if it is privately owned it is out of the township's hands for even trying to do anything about it, the police only have the authority for Fisher Run Road and Fire Tower Road. Jesse stated that there are many out of town people using it all hours of the night and he would like to block off the section behind his house. John Lenhart stated that the Fire Company uses the railroad bed for rescues, and it would interfere with that if it were blocked off. Larry Frace stated he will look into who owns the railroad bed.

Old Business

Yellow Truck

Randy stated that Bradco is finished with box on the truck, and they are just waiting on the new hitch which is backordered.

Chairlift

Randy stated that the outstanding items are done, but Larry Frace noted there is still one outstanding issue with the handicap sign that needs to be corrected and he will get in touch with them about it.

New Business

Resignation

Lisa read a letter dated September 22, 2021, from Thomas Shuman to the Main Township Board of Supervisors, stating that while it is a great pleasure serving the township for over 25 years, he has decided to resign for personal reasons as of September 30, 2021.

Bob Baylor made a motion to accept Tom Shuman's resignation; Randy seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Randy stated that they will advertise for the open supervisor position in the paper and stated they will be accepting letters of interest with a brief background, and if needed, they will talk to interested candidates during officer hours prior to next month's meeting. Mr. Turowski stated that the supervisors have 45 days from the date the resignation is tendered to act on it. The supervisors have 30 days after the vacancy occurs to fill the position. If they do not fill it within those 30 days, the vacancy must be filled in an additional 15 days by the vacancy board.

2021 – 2022 Snowplow Agreements

Randy stated that the township will send out the new snow agreements for this winter. Catawissa Township's is \$600 for plowing the entrance to Wonderview; and \$300 to Roaring Creek Township for plowing the end of Fisher Run Road.

Snow Plowing Help

Randy stated that the township is also looking for anyone interested in helping plow snow for the township as well. Michelle Loff asked if it is a paid position, and Randy stated yes. They would like to have enough employees for all three shifts to be working if there is a big storm. He also stated that there are always two people in the trucks in case there is an issue.

Kubota Tractor Repairs

The parking brake issue with the Kubota is now fixed and back in working order. Jerry stated that the township should look to eventually replace it since it is costing the township so much money with all the repairs.

Randy stated that the clutch pack on the Case International went out and Larry Marhelko will fix it even though it is being traded since that is the right thing to do. He also stated the new tractor should be here in mid-December.

Sewage Officer Report

Lisa read the September report submitted by William Brior. He investigated a sewage complaint and did a site investigation and testing for 2319 Brookside Road.

Mr. Brior also maintained the township's Act 149 files for September 2021.

Bob made a motion to accept the Sewage Officer Report; Randy seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Zoning/Construction Report

Zoning Permits – no permits were issued.

Construction Permits – no permits were issued.

Zoning Issues – 286 Main/Mifflin Road

The owner filed appeals on both citations and a hearing was held of September 2, 2021, and he was given a 60-day continuance to come into compliance. Larry stated that the owner is cleaning up the property and if he does clean it up the magistrate will reduce the fines.

Larry also stated in regard to the fence question from last month's meeting, that the old zoning ordinance did not have any specifications on fences; however, the new zoning ordinance states that if a landowner puts up a fence on their property, they must provide adequate space of at least 18" for maintenance of the property line. He also noted that agricultural fences are not under the zoning law.

Mr. Turowski stated that there is a doctrine in Pennsylvania, whereby the fence might possibly be considered the consensual boundary line, but that is a private issue between the affected landowners.

Larry also stated that in regard to the demolition permit issue that was discussed last month, he clarified that no permits are needed since the area is not habitable. DEP wants permits for "habitable" structures due to asbestos and lead since you need to provide weigh slips for where the materials went.

Larry also stated that he has been receiving a number of complaints in Wonderview about grass and junk. He stated that township has ordinances on storage of junk, refuse, garbage rubbish and abandoned/junk vehicles and for grass, weeds and other vegetation that exceeds 10", and he cannot handle a number of the other complaints since the township does not have a property maintenance code. Larry stated that the property maintenance code has been time tested thru the courts. Larry stated that there is a lot of good things with a property maintenance code and there are also negative things. He stated that nothing is "grandfathered in" with the code, so a new neighbor may move in and not like something that has been on a property for years. The code can also be expensive for zoning fees since the zoning officer must take pictures, do inspections, do the proper paperwork, and attend hearings. He also noted that a township can only adopt certain pieces of the codes, but they would have to be very careful since only certain parts can be exempted since a number of sections refer to other sections of the code.

Bob made a motion to accept the Zoning Report; Randy seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Police Report

Philip read the police activity for the month of September:

Hours-150
Miles Driven- 1,450
Non-Traffic-0
Traffic citations-14
Incidents- 9
One guilty plea for spreading rubbish on Main-Mifflin Road.

Phil stated that he attended training on operating the computer system in the vehicle. The officers will be able to run a license plate and get the title information right from the police car. They are also alerted of any warrants before they even approach the vehicle which enhances their safety.

Bob made a motion to accept the police report; Randy seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Other

Randy stated that he received Mr. Bodman's letter in regard to the township right of way, in which he is still working on. He also brought up an issue of a relative of a supervisor working for the township. Randy stated that he had asked three different people to clean the township building and he does not show favoritism. If anyone else is interested in janitorial services or any other job, please let him know and they will be considered at the January Reorganization meeting. Randy did note that Carolyn Baylor is doing a very good job of cleaning the building, especially with all the mess made from the construction work.

Michelle Loff stated that DEP was spraying for mosquitos in the county, but she called and Main Township was not one of the areas to be sprayed. Randy stated the mosquitos were bad all over due to the rain and suggested that she could spray her own yard, since DEP sprays more for areas with lying bodies of water.

Charlie Williams stated that he saw a legal transfer in the paper to Main Township and asked what it was for. The supervisors are not sure what it was since they have not received any money, except for the American Rescue Funds which were received.

With no further business to discuss, Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm; Randy seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Schell
Secretary