

Main Township Supervisors Meeting
March 4, 2024, 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	Phil Savidge, Police Officer
Pamela Slusser, Supervisor	Adam Eckley, Zoning Officer
Joshua Shuman, Supervisor	Matthew Turowski, Solicitor
Lisa Schell, Secretary	

Public Attendees: 18

Minutes of Meeting

Randy stated the February meeting minutes were posted to the webpage for review. Pam made a motion to approve the February minutes; Josh seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Feb-24

General Fund

General Fund

Previous Balance	282,826.75
Deposits Received	31,975.88
Bills Paid	(20,257.36)
Current Balance	<u>294,545.27</u>

Employer Tax Account Fund

Current Balance	<u>1,087.05</u>
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Special Account

Current Balance	<u>104,376.62</u>
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Fire Tax Account

Current Balance	<u>73,908.22</u>
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State Account

Previous Balance	138,743.66
Interest Earned	577.15
Bills Paid	0.00
Current Balance	139,320.81

Pam read the February treasurer's report; Pam made a motion to approve the report; Josh seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Public Comment

Diane Littlewood from Wonderview, wanted to bring to the supervisors attention the continued concern over the entrance to Wonderview. She has talked to Main Township, Catawissa Township, county commissioners and the state begging for help to make the entrance way safer. An LTACH assessment was completed and warranted a guard rail, but Catawissa Township does not want to do anything about it. She stated there are more homes in Wonderview in Main Township than there are in Catawissa Township and asked if the supervisors would be willing to have a roundtable with Catawissa to work out a solution since the main issue is safety. Diane also stated that speeding is still an issue as well. She stated she appreciates what the police have been doing, but it is still bad.

Mr. Turowski stated that Main Township has no jurisdiction to anything since the area is in Catawissa Township and that area also intersects with a state road so they would have to coordinate with them as well. If the supervisors would decide to work with them on a fix, then the township would assume some municipal issues with it as well.

Randy stated that Catawissa's solution was to turn that portion of the road over to Main Township, which was not an option due to the multiple issues involved. Randy stated that the Catawissa supervisor came to our meeting to hear what was decided, and when the Main Township turned down the proposal, he walked out.

It was also noted, that if guide rails are put at the entrance, they may hinder the fire trucks from getting in and out of Wonderview.

Karen and Lou Mixen, 385 Riverview Ave, Wonderview, stated that they agree with Diane Littlewood on the issues of the entrance and speeding in Wonderview.

They also stated there is a water drainage issue on the lot they own. There is no ditch on the north side of the road since it is filled with silt and the water flows at street level and runs over top it and seeps underneath making it a bog on their lot. The water is not running into the pipe starting at Robin Hamaker's driveway.

Josh stated that it will have to be dug out, it is too wet right now, but if it dries some that they can get a backhoe in there, the silt can be pulled onto the road and removed. Mr. Mixen provided his phone number to the supervisors so they can get in touch when they look at the area.

Mr. Bodman complimented the supervisors and road crew on their work on the roads this winter.

Mr. Bodman also asked why there were no payroll taxes paid out of the tax account. Lisa stated that the tax account is going to be closed and the payroll taxes are now being paid from the general fund.

Jonathan Broadt, Fire Chief, provided the 2023 stats:

67 Total Incidents

22 of the 67 were fire related

12 of the 67 were brush, wildfire related

Jonathan stated it was one of their busiest years yet. He also apologized for not attending the last few meetings but he has been working 2nd shift.

Old Business

New Building

Randy stated that they are still waiting for a new proposed design/construction estimate from a different company. He expects to receive the information soon and the supervisors will review and hopefully get a bid packet out so they can get it advertised, possibly for two months to get interest.

Fire Tax

Tom Arnold stated that the fire company received three bids for a new truck, and they signed a proposal for the lowest bid of \$313,000 for a 3,000-gallon tanker truck. This would replace their 1988 truck, which they would try and sell if they can if there is any value in it. They need a down payment to get started and would like to pull the \$70,000 in the fire tax account for the down payment. The fire company would then put up the rest of the payment needed. Tom stated that they are also looking into getting a state loan at a 2% interest rate, but the application is 35 pages long and they need assistance from Bloomsburg to complete it, which will take time. Tom stated they want to put money down as soon as possible since there are only two chassis left for this year and the next model year will cost \$35,000 - \$40,000 more due to changes with the motor and emissions.

Mr. Turowski asked if the deposit would be lost if something went wrong or the company went out of business, and Tom felt it would be. Mr. Turowski stated that if the fire tax was used now as the deposit and the fire company could not get the loan or raise the additional money needed and the purchase fell through, he would advise not to use all the fire tax money for the down payment, since it would just be lost for nothing.

Randy asked if the truck would need to be titled in the township's name as well since they are using fire tax money to help fund it. Mr. Turowski stated that if the township is using the fire tax to help purchase the new truck it should be

dual titled, or the township be added as a lienholder.

Randy asked if the fire company has enough money now for the down payment. Tom Arnold stated yes, they do, but they want to know that the fire tax money can be used towards the purchase. Randy stated that he has no issues with promising money for the truck but feels more comfortable using it once the truck is delivered in 13- 16 months. The fire company was agreeable to that.

Pam then made a motion to earmark the \$73,908.33 which is the balance in the fire tax account now and any accumulated dollars in the 13 – 16 months until the new fire truck costing \$313,000 is delivered. Josh seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Charlie Williams asked if the fire tax money will now be put in CDs as previously discussed. Randy stated that they will look into rates again with Journey Bank as well as another institution, since short-term CD's are now offered, so at least the account would earn @ 5% interest and no penalty if the money is held in the CD for 7-12 months.

New Business

Matt Frey stated that the fire company received a key for the front door and elevator. Randy stated that he attended the fire company's meeting in February and had them sign for a key for the front door and elevator in case of an emergency. This was recommended by the state elevator inspector during the most recent audit.

Matt Frey also stated the Egg Hunt will be held on March 24th at 1:00pm at the township.

Sewage Officer Report

Lisa stated no report was received for February.

Zoning/Construction Report

Adam stated he issued one permit for 475 Riverview Ave, for an addition.

Pam made a motion to approve the zoning report; Josh seconded it; all were in favor.

Police Report

Phil provided the February report:

- 200 hours worked
- 1,092 miles
- 80 incidents
- 28 traffic citations
- 1 non-traffic citations
- 1 criminal arrests

Both Phil and Mike attended training provided by the District Attorney's office.

Phil stated that the next Neighborhood Watch meeting is scheduled for March 25th at 6:00 pm.

Pam made a motion to approve the Police Report; Josh seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Other

John Lenhart stated that history was made tonight since the fire company has never owned a new truck.

With no further business to discuss, Pam made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 pm; Josh seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Schell
Secretary