

The Harmony Township Board of Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

The regular Meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. following the Work Session.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present:

Glenn Angus, Chairman
Paul Kokoski, Vice Chairman
Donald Gunther
John Cermak

Board Member Absent:

Bradley Payne

Other Township Representatives Present:

Rick Start, Amato, Start and Associates, P.C.
Chris Suehr, NIRA Consulting Engineers, Inc.
Bob Vilella, Township Manager
Paula Winne, Tax Collector/Treasurer
Hedy Marinaccio, Administrative Assistant
Jim Ivancik, Code Enforcement Officer
Robert Sivewright, Chief of Police

Absent:

Frank Presto, Road Foreman

Residents in Attendance:

Robert and Rosemary Shrum
Jack Bedalota
Sam Vallecorsa
MaryJane McAdams

I. Mr. Cermak made a motion to approve the March 21, 2018 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Gunther seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

II. Approval of the following reports:

1. Code Enforcement Department Report
2. Road Department Report
3. Police Department Report
4. Sewage Department Report

Mr. Kokoski made a motion to approve the above listed reports. Mr. Cermak seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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- III.** Mr. Gunther made a motion to approve the List of Accounts Payable from the General Fund, the Sewer Fund, the Police Pension Fund, and the Liquid Fuels Fund as of Wednesday, April 18, 2018, with the addition of a bill for a court recorder for a hearing, and also payment for gasoline purchased at Leopardi Service Station. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- IV.** Mr. Cermak made a motion to approve the Tax Collector/Treasurer's Report. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- V.** Public Comment on Agenda Items -None
- VI.** New Business:
1. Mr. Cermak made a motion to authorize the Township Manager to invest General Fund proceeds into a 90-Day Certificate of Deposit with an organization in compliance with Act 72 and having experience with PA Municipalities. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 2. Mr. Kokoski made a motion to approve Right-To-Know authorization for Bob Vilella, Township Manager. Mr. Gunther seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 3. Mr. Gunther made a motion to appoint Jim Essek as Emergency Management Coordinator subject to approval of state and other required agencies. Mr. Cermak seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 4. Mr. Kokoski made a motion to purchase Quickbooks and required software from MGSoft-Net in the amount of \$734.00 to provide sharing between Manager and Administrative Assistant computers for efficiency and clarity. Mr. Cermak seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 5. Mr. Gunther made a motion to authorize the Township to enter into an Agreement with Hanson for the 2018 hot patch for the Road Crew. The hot patch is an amount equal to \$50.00 per ton as negotiated by the Beaver County COG. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 6. The following items were presented to and approved by the Municipal Board at the April 11th meeting and are respectively brought before the Board of Commissioners for a vote:
 - a) Mr. Cermak made a motion to authorize the Township Manager to invest an amount equal to \$250,000 of sewer fund revenues into a 90-day Certificate of Deposit with an organization in compliance with Act 72 and other applicable laws and authorized to operate in the

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has experience with PA municipalities. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

- b) Mr. Cermak made a motion to authorize a fee in the amount of \$25.00, in addition to the sewage fee principal and interest costs that have been assessed upon each account requiring notification by mail of the intent of the Township Municipal Authority to terminate water services for failure to pay the fees due on a timely basis. These fees will be in addition to the sewage fee assessment, the interest and any cost assessed by the Township and the Ambridge Water Authority.
- c) Mr. Cermak made a motion that hereby authorizes the Township to impose an additional fee of \$1.00 per month upon every residential dwelling unit and business for fire hydrant maintenance fees. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- d) Mr. Gunther made a motion to authorize the Township Manager to pay for the cost associated with the acquisition of a Mahindra 2555 tractor with attachments in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 from the Sewer Fund Account at First National Bank. Mr. Cermak seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Angus -yes
Mr. Gunther -yes
Mr. Cermak -yes
Mr. Kokoski -yes

With all in favor, motion carried.

- e) Mr. Cermak made a motion to authorize the following course of action on those accounts having well water and not subject to water termination procedures for outstanding or delinquent sewage fees. All costs of recovery, including but not limited to Township employees, equipment and legal services and court costs and related matters associated with the course of action selected will be borne by the user:

After proper notification, through the United States Postal Service or by posting of the property, to cap off the sewer lines of the user and prohibit access to the sanitary sewer system. The party shall be assessed all costs associated with tapping off the lines as well as the cost of restoration and any costs associated with reestablishing service. Any property where the sewage lines would be capped off would be identified as being unfit for human occupancy. Also, authorization to establish a Basic Wage Rate Table that would identify an hourly cost that would be associated with the work force engaged in the project as well as a cost per hour for the equipment. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

- 7. Mr. Gunther made a motion to update the Hazard Mitigation Resolution. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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8. Satisfaction of Recycling Grant: The Township has a loan with the First National Bank and the DEP for certain recycling equipment. Recently, the Township received an amount equal to \$89,558.72 (March 16, 2018). According to First National Bank (FNB), the principal is equal to \$92,478.59.

Considering that the Township received the funds from the DEP and the Grant has been closed out by the DEP, it would be appropriate to satisfy the Grant Loan. FNB does advise that there may be a penalty for early payment. The Board of Commissioners can authorize the satisfaction of the Recycling Grant Loan in the amount of \$92,478.59 and said amount to be paid from the General Fund.

Mr. Cermak made a motion to approve the above described payment. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

10. Recycling Dumpster Placement: The Township received a proposal from Valley Waste for the placement of a dumpster at the VFD site. Currently, there are two other dumpsters at this location for both cardboard and paper products. This dumpster would be for other recyclables such as plastic, aluminum and glass. The dumpster would also have restriction type bars that would prohibit a person from placing something inappropriate in the dumpster.

The dumpster will be at a cost equal to \$115.00 per month, plus a one-time cost of \$50.00 for delivery. Initially, the dumpster will be emptied every two weeks or as often as necessary as residents utilize this alternative.

This alternative is being offered to demonstrate that the Township is expanding our recycling program. In the future, it is possible to seek out another 902 Grant from the DEP with the intent to provide recycling bins for our community. The recommendation is to utilize a 65# bin for residential curbside recycling.

Mr. Kokoski made a motion to approve the third dumpster for recycling at the VFD site. Mr. Gunther seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

11. Mr. Cermak made a motion to authorize payment for the court stenographer services at the Provich hearing held on April 12, 2018 in the amount of \$522.50. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
12. Mr. Gunther made a motion to pay Nino Leopardi Service Station for fuel purchases from his business. Mr. Leopardi is currently compiling the invoice as there appears to be discrepancies with the total of \$654.00. Mr. Kokoski seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
13. Mr. Kokoski made a motion to have Mark Turnley, CPA perform the Township's Financial Audit again this year. Mr. Cermak seconded the motion. All in favor,

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motion carried.

VII. Township Manager's Report -complete report attached

1. Township received notice on 4/16/18 from Civil and Environmental Consultants at 333 Baldwin Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 advising that pursuant to 2012 Oil and Gas Act and to inform the Township that PennEnergy Resources is applying for a permit to drill and operate an Unconventional Well from the PA Department of Environmental Protection for a gas well. The name of the applicant and the Project Location is identified on the aforementioned communication which may be reviewed in the Township offices.
2. Exploration is underway for the possibility of securing funding for an INTOXIMETER for our Police Department. We have talked briefly to Ambridge Police representatives and they are in favor of the project and splitting the cost equally. The cost of the device is equal to \$9000.00 and the cost to the Township/Borough will be \$4500.00 each. The device will be maintained at the Harmony Township Police Department, and prior to use by any department, there must be a Harmony Township officer onsite. In short, we will provide them entrance to our building and will be present when any testing is performed.

We should be able to reach out to select businesses in the area and secure the funds with some assistance from the Township if necessary. If the township can secure independently then any department such as Ambridge or Baden, who have both indicated an interest to use the machine at our facility would pay approximately \$150 to the Township for the services of the device. Currently, they are going to the Hospital or paying Economy for the use of the equipment. In addition, a Speed Minder device is being considered for use in select areas of our community.

Additionally, in an effort to get delinquent sewage accounts paid by a few who have well water, Harmony Township will follow the lead of other Municipal Authorities who send legal notice to the property owners advising our intent to dig up and cap off sewage lines with the owner bearing all costs including restoring sewage service once the delinquency has been satisfied.

VIII. Consulting Engineer's Report -Attached

Regarding the Villas at Harmony Ridge, a letter has been drafted as a follow-up to Mr. Suehr's initial review letter clarifying all the items needing to be addressed with the Planning Commission.

XI. Solicitor's Report -none

X. Elected Officials' Report -none

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With no further business to discuss, Mr. Kokoski made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Cermak seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.