**TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONER’S MEETING MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 20, 2021**

The October 20th, 2021 meeting of the Harmony Township Commissioners began at 6:00 pm.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

1. The meeting this evening is a regularly scheduled Public Meeting and is accessible by Zoom and in person subject to limited capacity requirements. The maximum occupancy is restricted to 50% and all persons in attendance must wear a mask regardless of being fully vaccinated. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided to you. If you do not wish to wear a mask you must leave the building. Any person may access the meeting via Zoom by telephone access. If any person is feeling ill, we ask that you kindly think of others and leave the building.
2. An Executive Session was held on September 28th, 2021 at 5:30 pm to discuss a resolution to a contract matter and proposed Agreement for possible development.
3. An Executive session was held on October 18th, 2021 at 4:30 pm to discuss a resolution to a contract and personnel matter involving entry into the DROP Plan.
4. An Executive Session was held on October 20, 2021, at 5:00 pm to discuss an Agreement for possible development.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners and Other Officials

Mr. Kokoski, President

Mr. Mosura, Vice President

Mrs. DeBona, Commissioner

Mr. Gunther, Commissioner - Absent

Mrs. Mylan, Commissioner

Mrs. Shannon Steele, Solicitor

Mr. Villella, Manager

Mrs. Winne, Tax Collector/Treasurer

Mr. Nordquist, Township Engineer

The following Township residents and Township representatives were in attendance as follows:

Fabiola Gergerich, 2623 Woodland Rd.

Mary Jane McAdams, 1517 Woodside Dr.

Rosemary Shrum, 2601 Woodland Rd.

Matt Molchen, 809 Ridge Rd.

Craig Winne, 16 Lenzman Ct.

Frank Presto, Road Foreman

Jim Ivancik, Code Enforcement Officer

Mary Romeo, Administrative Assistant

**Public Comment.**

***Manager Note: This Comment period is limited to Agenda Items only. All individual comments and dialogue are limited to 5 minutes.***

Fabiola Gergerich, 2623 Woodland Rd., Question about 2) and 4) under announcements are these related to Greg Paul’s property and does the township have a replacement for Chief Sivewright.

1. **Approval of the September 15th, 2021 Meeting Minutes.**

**Voice Vote**

**Motion Mrs. Mylan Second Mrs. DeBona**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. **Approval of the following reports:** The Township Manager is recommending the acceptance of the following Department Reports for the month of **SEPTEMBER 2021.**
2. Code Enforcement Department Report – May, June and July 2021
3. Road Department Report
4. Police Department Report
5. Sewage Department Report
6. Tax Collector/Treasurer’s Report as submitted for **SEPTEMBER 2021.**

**Voice Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. **Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of OCTOBER 2021.**
2. It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the **OCTOBER 2021** Accounts Payable in the total amount of **$187,366.35.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| General Fund \* | $ 116,823.79 |
| Wire Transfer Bond Principal and Interest U.S. Bank | N/A |
| Wire Transfer Health Insurance | $ 24,970.45 |
| Developers Escrow Fund | $ |
| Liquid Fuels | $ 6,032,74 |
| Sewer Fund | $ 38,923.74 |
| Police Pension Fund | $ 422.63 |
| 2018 Capital Program Fund | $ 193.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 187,366.35** |

***\*****Managers Note:* For the General Fund, the amount of $71,959.23 is attributed to State Aid and directed to Police Pension in the amount of $14,503.07 is directed to the Volunteer Firemen Protective Assoc.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. Mylan Second Mr. Mosura**

**Mosura Yes Mylan Yes DeBona Yes Gunther Absent Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. **Consent Agenda**

*Those matters included under the consent agenda are self-explanatory and are not expected to require further review or discussion. Items will be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired by any member of the Board of Commissioners, that item must be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.*

Motion to approve the following Items as listed on the Consent Agenda.

1. Approval of Sewage Account adjustments as presented.

**Voice Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mr. Mosura**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. **NEW BUSINESS**

**Finance Committee**

1. A Motion to authorize the acceptance of the 2021 Volunteer Fire Relief Association allocation and to authorize the distribution of the amount of $14,503.07 to the Harmony Township Volunteer Fireman’s Protection Association within sixty (60) days of receipt or earlier. The Township Treasurer is directed to file all required verifications of distributions to the Auditor General consistent with past practice. This amount is paid by the Commonwealth.
2. Authorize the electronic transfer of State Aid received from the Commonwealth $71,959.23 from the General Fund to the Township Police Pension Fund account effective October 21, 2021, and to pay the balance of funds to the Police Pension Fund in the amount of $42,639.77 on or before December 31, 2021.
3. To authorize a contribution in the amount of $19,494.56 to the Service Employees Pension Plan consistent with the 2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) prior to December 31, 2021. This is to be paid from the General Fund.
4. Authorize the Municipal Manager and the President of the Board of Commissioners to direct the MMO and Municipal Contribution to the appropriate Pension Fund.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan**

**Gunther Absent Mylan Yes DeBona Yes Mosura Yes Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. A Motion to authorize the Township Manager to establish the employee enrollment consistent with current collective bargaining agreements and employee eligibility. The cost of benefits for health care will increase by 3.5%, Vision a 0% increase, and Dental an increase of 0%. This program covers all full-time active employees and currently retired personnel subject to contract limitations.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mr. Mosura Second Mrs. DeBona**

**Mosura Yes DeBona Yes Gunther Absent Mylan Yes Kokoski Yes**

1. A Motion to authorize the transfer of 135,000 from the Harmony Township Municipal Authority to the General Fund Money Market as authorized by the Municipal Authority at the meeting of October 13th, 2021.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. Mylan Second Mrs. DeBona**

**DeBona Yes Gunther Absent Mylan Yes Mosura Yes Kokoski Yes**

1. A Motion to authorize the transfer of $135,000 from the Harmony Township General Fund Money Market to the Capital Improvement Fund.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan**

**DeBona Yes Gunther Absent Mylan Yes Mosura Yes Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. A Motion to authorize the President of the Township Commissioners and the Township Manager to finalize application processes for the 2022 TAN in the amount of $200,000.00 from the First National Bank. This amount, if drawn upon, will be paid from the General Fund.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan**

**Gunther Absent Mylan Yes Mosura Yes DeBona Yes Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

**Public Safety**

1. A Motion to accept Robert Sivewright into the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) effective November 1, 2021. The entrance into the DROP is irrevocable and for a maximum of three (3) years.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan**

**Mylan Yes Mosura Yes DeBona Yes Gunther Absent Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. A Motion to adopt **Ordinance No.** **441,** the Small Cell Wireless Facilities Ordinance, amending Section 318, Zoning of the Code of the Township of Harmony, by deleting and amending Section 318.54 and by adding a new section entitled “Wireless Communications Towers and Facilities,” this Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon enactment by the Township of Harmony.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mr. Mosura Second Mrs. Mylan**

**Mosura Yes DeBona Yes Gunther Absent Mylan Yes Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. A Motion to authorize Traffic Control and Engineering to perform the repairs to the red light at the intersection of Duss and Dearborn for the cost of $26,402.50.

***Manager’s Note:*** *The Township has received insurance proceeds in the amount of $24,801.00 which will be used to offset the repair costs. Due to a shortage in LED lighting the repair work will not begin until 2022.*

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. Mylan Second Mr. Mosura**

**Mosura Yes DeBona Yes Gunther Absent Mylan Yes Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

**Personnel Committee**

1. A Motion to authorize the Harmony Township Civil Service Commission to conduct the examination for promotion to the rank of Sergeant.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan**

**Mylan Yes DeBona Yes Mosura Yes Gunther Absent Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

**Public Works**

1. A Motion to authorize the submission of Grant Applications to the County of Beaver in accordance with the ARP (American Rescue Plan) Infrastructure Municipal Application for certain projects consistent with the EPA Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF). The Township Commissioners and Municipal Authority shall be contractually obligated on or before December 31, 2024, with a completion date of December 31, 2026.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan**

**DeBona Yes Mosura Yes Gunther Absent Mylan Yes Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

**Community Development**

1. A Motion to approve the Agreement for Harmony Ridge Real Estate to pay the Harmony Township Commissioners an amount equal to $8500 for plan submission subject to the review and approval of the Township Engineer.

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan**

**Mosura Yes Gunther Absent Mylan Yes DeBona Yes Kokoski Yes**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**

1. **Reports**
2. **Township Manager’s Report.** The Manager has submitted updates to the Board of Commissioners on a regular basis from the last meeting.
3. The Agreement between the Harmony Township Commissioners, the Borough of Ambridge and Berkheimer Associates finalizing a Settlement Agreement in the amount of $100,000 has been accepted by the Ambridge Borough Council and will be submitted to Berkheimer Associates for their execution.
4. A meeting was held with the Township and NIRA representatives to formulate a list of projects that will be submitted to the Beaver County Commissioners for the ARP Grant Funding. This is the initial list of projects to be submitted for the first round of the $42 Million received. An extensive list of projects will be submitted on or before the November 1st deadline. A second list of projects should be prepared for the second round of ARP funding to be received by the County.
5. Based upon information reported by TENARIS they are beginning to roll pipe again from the TENARIS Harmony Township facility (IPSCO/KOPPEL). The pipe is being shipped from the TENARIS Koppel mill.
6. Thank you will go out to Bandon Robinson and his crew for the perennial plantings at the 24th Street Gateway. Thanks to the Road Crew and Mike Thomas for prepping the holes for planting in this area. The plantings were paid for by a grant received by the Township from NiSource/Columbia Gas for $2000. Thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary for their contributions to the site plantings.
7. The 8th Street Ext. Storm and Sanitary Sewer Project has been completed. This project funding is from the Small Water and Sewer Program of the DCED and Commonwealth Finance Agency.
8. One of the adult exercise equipment pieces was damaged over last weekend. Frank Presto brought a severed piece of equipment into the Municipal Building after it was discovered at the Beaver Rd. Park. The report has been turned over to the Police for investigation. The equipment had to be removed due to the safety risk. A claim has been submitted to the Insurance Company.
9. **Consulting Engineer’s Report.** An Engineer’s Report for the month of October has been submitted.
10. **Solicitor’s Report.** The Solicitor has entered her invoice for services and setting forth the work performed for the month of September/October 2021.
11. **Elected Officials’ Report**

Mrs. Mylan toured the new Public Works Building. Wanted to also thank Mr. Ivancik for all his hard work. Thank you to Mr. Villella for all his hard work. Mr. Villella thanked Mrs. Winne. Mrs. DeBona thanked the Police Department for all they do and thanks to Officer Scheers for his help in the community. Mrs. DeBona also wanted to thank Rep. Rob Matzie for stopping the water project on Big Sewickley Road. Mrs. DeBona also thanked Columbia Gas.

1. **Public Comment.** The Public is invited to comment on any item of interest.

***Manager’s Note: All individual comments and dialogue are limited to 5 minutes.***

Mrs. Rosemary Shrum, 2601 Woodland Road – loves the “24th Street Gateway.” Can the recycling bins be moved to behind the Municipal Building? She also thanked the Commissioners for all they do.

Mary Jane McAdams, 1517 Woodside- wanted to know if people who have septic and do not receive a sewer bill can get the newsletter.

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**HALLOWEEN will be held on October 28th, 2021, from the hours of 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Please be mindful of children, ghosts, goblins, and all things that go bump in the night.**

**The Township Building will be closed on November 2nd, 2021, for Election Day and November 11th, 2021 for Veteran’s Day.**

**A Township Workshop meeting is scheduled for November 18th, 2021 at 5:30 pm.**

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Voice Vote**

**Motion Mrs. DeBona Second Mrs. Mylan Time of Adjournment: 6:40 pm**

**All in Favor – Motion Carried**