

TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 15th, 2021
6:00 PM

The December 15, 2021, meeting of the Harmony Township Commissioners began at 6:00Pm. Announcements were made by President Kokoski.

- 1) The meeting this evening is a regularly scheduled Public Meeting and is accessible by Zoom only.
- 2) The Township Commissioners held an Executive session at 5:00Pm on Monday, December 13, 2021, for the purposes of personnel evaluations and contract related matters for municipal services.
- 3) The Township Commissioners held a Work Session at 5:30Pm on Wednesday, November 13th, 2021.

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
Mrs. Mylan, Commissioner
Ms. Shannon Steele, Solicitor
Mr. Villella, Manager
Mrs. Winne, Tax Collector/Treasurer- Present via Zoom
Mr. Nordquist, Township Engineer- Present via Zoom

The following Township residents and Township representatives were in attendance via Zoom:

Fabiola Gergerich 2623 Woodland Rd.
Rosemary Shrum 2601 Woodland Rd.
Matt Molchen 809 Ridge Road
Craig Winne 16 Lenzman Court
Mary Jane Mc Adams 1517 Woodside Dr
Jack Bedalota Sylvan Rd.
Frank Presto Road Foreman
Glen Angus Norwood Rd
Brad Payne 2526 Sunset

Public Comment.

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

Matt Molchen : 809 Ridge Rd. Made inquiry regarding New Business Finance Item 2. and why are they not responsible for the taxes and who would be.

Commissioner Mylan responded that the incentive was to get the property back on the tax rolls and for the new owner to begin paying.

Matt Molchen made inquiry why the Manager was receiving an additional four (4) weeks' vacation. Commissioner DeBona answered that this was due because Mr. Villella had spent the time at the Township Building maintaining operations while the rest of the Township employees received five (5) weeks off and received their vacation and other time. Solicitor Steele said that this was a one-time compensation incentive to the Manager that is added to the vacation time that has already accrued.

Matt Molchen made inquiry regarding the Administrative Assistant position and whether the position could be held off for another month or two (2). Was the position advertised and how many resumes were received?

Fabiola Gergerich 2623 Woodland Rd. stated that Matt Molchen touched on several items she was going to discuss. Ms. Gergerich asked why the Township could not get a different vehicle? Regarding 2 and 3 under Personnel, the employees could have worked during the Covid and the 5-week period. Does the new employee have IT experience?

Commissioner Mylan stated that her background would bring a new skill set to the job.

Craig Winne 16 Lenzman Court inquired about the Durango and when the Durango was ordered?

Manager Villella advised that the Durango was authorized by the Board of Commissioners via telephone polling to satisfy deadline for ordering.

Jack Bedalota commented about Manager Villella vacation and that he was receiving what the Unions already have. Mr Bedalota also inquired about the ordering of the police vehicle

- D) Approval of the November 17th, 2021, Meeting Minutes.**
Voice Vote
Motion Mylan Second DeBona
Motion Carried

II. Approval of the following reports: The Township Manager is recommending the acceptance of the following Department Reports for the month of **NOVEMBER 2021.**

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

5. Tax Collector/Treasurer's Report as submitted for **NOVEMBER 2021**.

Voice Vote

Motion Gunther Second Mylan

Motion Carried

III. Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of DECEMBER 2021

A.) It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the **DECEMBER 2021** Accounts Payable in the total amount of **\$ 386,071.26**.

General Fund*	\$ 325,845.70
Wire Transfer Bond Principal and Interest U.S. Bank	N/A
Wire Transfer Health Insurance	\$ 28,823.49
Developers Escrow Fund	\$ N/A
Liquid Fuels	\$ 11,959.00
Sewer Fund	\$ 17,955.45
Police Pension Fund	\$ 422.63
2018 Capital Program Fund	\$ 1064.99
TOTAL	\$ 386,071.26

Roll Call Vote.

Motion DeBona Second Gunther

Mosura A Mylan Y DeBona Y Gunther Y Kokoski Y

Managers Note: This December Accounts Payable is greater than normal due to obligations that are not traditional. The amount of \$218,230.58 is attributed to the initial payment for the 8th St Storm and Sanitary Sewer project which the Township has received \$185,495.00 from the Commonwealth. The Township is making a regular monthly payment to the VFD in the amount of \$10,571.85 per Agreement for services, Mockenhaupt Benefit Group for Police MMO and COLA calculations \$1675, 3rd quarter Workers Compensation of \$13, 546.12 and \$62,134.33 of pension payments per contract to Police and Service Employees equaling \$306,157.30.

IV. 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 Mylan Second DeBona

Motion Carried

V. NEW BUSINESS

Finance Committee

- 1) A Motion authorizing the President of the Board of Commissioners and Township Manager to make application for a tax-free auto loan at First National Bank, Northern Lights Office, 1625 Beaver Road, Baden, PA. 15005 at a rate of 2.69% for the purchase of the 2022 Dodge Durango.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Gunther Second DeBona

Gunther Y Mylan Y DeBona Y Mosura A Kokoski Y

- 2) A Motion authorizing the exoneration and the abatement of taxes for Parcel No. 64-002.0803.000 for the period of 2007 up through and including 2019. Said parcel was acquired by Grant and Betsy Miller from the Beaver County Repository and the Board of Commissioners authorized the sale in April 21,2001. The owners, Grant and Betsy Miller shall be responsible for all taxes for tax years 2020 , 2021 and each year thereafter. The exoneration and abatement of the taxes shall be contingent upon the Board of School Directors taking like action.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Mylan Second Gunther

DeBona Y Mosura A Gunther Y Mylan Y Kokoski Y

Personnel Committee

- 1) A Motion authorizing paid Holiday time off for all workdays for the period December 26th to December 30th for the Township Manager, Administrative Assistant, the Sewer Clerk and Code Enforcement Officer.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Mylan Second Gunther

Mylan Y DeBona Y Mosura A Gunther Y Kokoski Y

Managers Note: This is a courtesy which has been extended each year to members of the Administrative Staff consistent with that provided to the Road Crew contract.

- 2) A motion authorizing an additional four (4) weeks’ vacation to the Township Manager which may be paid out as compensation at the end of any employment relationship or to be used as time off . This vacation is in addition to what the manager has accumulated per his contract and during his tenure of employment.’

Roll Call Vote

Motion DeBona Second Mylan

DeBona Y Mosura A Gunther Y Mylan Y Kokoski Y

- 3) A Motion authorizing the appointment and hiring on a probationary basis of Denise Germanowski in the capacity of Administrative Assistant to the Manager / Board of Commissioners at the rate of compensation established at \$18.50 per hour, and subject to a probationary period of six (6) months. This is an at will position.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Gunther Second DeBona

Mosura A Gunther Y Mylan Y DeBona Y Kokoski Y

Public Safety

- 1) A Motion authorizing ratifying the purchase of a 2022 Dodge Durango, 4 dr AWD Pursuit in the amount of \$39,149, CoStars pricing from New Holland Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram, 508 West Main Street, New Holland PA. 17557. Payment to be made from the General Fund and/or other Township resources established for capital improvement purchases.

Roll Call Vote

Motion DeBona Second Gunther

Mylan Y Mosura A DeBona Y Gunther Y Kokoski Y

- 3) A Motion to authorize Payment Application Number 1 in the amount of \$218,230.58 which includes Change Order Number 1 as submitted by S.E.T, Inc. for the 8th St Extension Storm and Sanitary Sewer Project in the amount of \$4689.19 resulting from unforeseen existing conditions at the project work area. This project is a Grant from the Small Streams and Sewer Program of the DCED and financed by the Commonwealth Finance Authority, the Harmony Township Commissioners and Municipal Authority.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Gunther Second DeBona

Mosura A Gunther Y Mylan Y DeBona Yes Kokoski Y

- 4) A Motion to authorizing an Agreement with the Beaver County Humane Society for the 2022 calendar year for animal control services in the amount of \$400.00 per month.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Mylan Second DeBona

Gunther Y Mylan Y DeBona Y Mosura A Kokoski Y

VI. Reports

- A. Township Manager's Report.** The Manager has submitted updates to the Board of Commissioners on a regular basis from the last meeting. Manager Vilella spoke briefly about the projects submitted to the Beaver County Commissioners for the American Rescue Fund Act funding. As soon as he

receives notice from the Commissioners he will report to the Board of Commissioners.

B. Consulting Engineer's Report. An Engineers Report for the month of October/ November 2021 has been submitted.

Mr Nordquist stated that he had submitted his report for the month and his information is consistent with what Mr Villella presented and that he has not received any additional information from Mr Pauls representative regarding the subdivision plan.

C. Solicitor's Report. The Solicitor has entered her invoice for services and setting forth the work performed for the month of October/ November 2021.

VII. Elected Officials' Report

Commissioner DeBona thanked Mr. Gunther for his years of service to the community and the Township. Commissioner Kokoski shared in that sentiment Commissioner Mylan thanked the Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr Gunther thanked the everyone .

Merry Christmas was extended to everyone.

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

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

Fabiola Gergerich: 2623 Woodland Rd. Made inquiry regarding the Police Regionalization. It was indicated that Baden initially would not continue with the program, and it has been on hold. The Township is hoping that the situation will change in the new year.

Ms. Gergerich also asked if meetings will be in person in January?

Commissioner Mylan responded stating it is the Township intention to keep everyone safe.

Ms. Gergerich stated that it is a flu and we will all get it at some point.

Ms. Gergerich wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

There will be a special meeting of the Harmony Township Commissioners on Monday, December 20,2021 at 3:00Pm at 2501 Woodland Road, Ambridge, PA. 15003 for the purpose of adopting the 2022 General Fund, Sewer Fund and Liquid Fuel Fund Budgets and to adopt the Ordinance levying taxes, making appropriations, and adopting the budget for the 2022 year and any other business the Commissioners may wish to address.

The Township Building will be closed from December 24th through December 31st and will reopen on Monday, January 03, 2021.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and all employees of the Township we extend to all our Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season!

X. ADJOURNMENT

Voice Vote.

Motion Gunther Second DeBona Time of Adjournment: 6:49Pm