

**TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MINUTES, AUGUST 17TH, 2022
6:00PM**

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- 1) The meeting this evening is a regularly scheduled Public Meeting and is accessible in person subject to the occupancy limits of the Township facility.
- 2) The Board of Commissioners held a Workshop Session on WEDNESDAY, JULY 6th, 2022 and AUGUST 3rd, 2022 at 5:30Pm.
- 3) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session at 5:00 Pm on August 3rd, 2022 to discuss to discuss privileged and confidential relating to the conduct of investigations conducted by the Police Department.
- 4) The Board of commissioners held an Executive Session at 5:00Pm on August 16th, 2022 to discuss personnel matters regarding pension dispositions.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners and Other Officials

Mrs. DeBona, President - Present

Mrs. Mylan, Vice President - Present

Mr. Angus, Commissioner - Present

Mr. Molchen, Commissioner - On Vacation, Called in via Telephone

Ms. Barlamas, Commissioner - Present

Ms. Shannon Steele, Solicitor - Associate Garen Called in via Telephone to represent Shannon

Mr. Villella, Manager - Present

Mrs. Winne, Tax Collector/Treasurer - Present

Mr. Nordquist, Township Engineer- Present

Public Comment.

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

- I. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of **JUNE 15th, 2022.**

Voice Vote

Motion. Terry Mylan **Second** Matt Molchen

II. **Approval of the following reports:** The Township Manager is recommending the acceptance of the following Department Reports for the month of **JULY/AUGUST 2022**.

1. Code Enforcement Department Report-
2. Road Department Report
3. Police Department Report
4. Sewage Department Report.
5. Tax Collector/Treasurer's Report.

Voice Vote

Motion Glenn Angus **Second** Connie Barlamas

III. **Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of JULY/AUGUST 2022**

A) It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the **JULY/ AUGUST 2022** Accounts Payable in the total amount of \$ **537,830.49** for the months of **July and August 2022, all applicable funds.**

	JULY	AUGUST
General Fund	\$ 76,809.02	\$ 34,450.73
Wire Transfer Bond Principal and Interest U.S. Bank	N/A	171,356.25
Health Insurance	\$ 20,927.37	27,833.85
Developers Escrow Fund	N/A	N/A
Liquid Fuels	\$ 7563.94	5034.39
Sewer Fund	\$ 97,736.39	95,273.29
Police Pension Fund	\$ 422.63	422.63
2018 Capital Program Fund	\$ N/A	N/A
TOTAL	\$ 203,459.35	\$334,371.14

Roll Call Vote.

Motion Terry Mylan **Second** Connie Barlamas
Molchen Y **Mylan** Y **Angus** Y **Barlamas** Y **DeBona** Y

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:

Voice Vote: All In Favor: YES

V. NEW BUSINESS

A) FINANCE

- 1) A Motion to authorize the transfer of \$67,500.00 from the Municipal Authority Sewer Fund to the Harmony Township General Fund.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Terry Mylan **Second** Connie Barlamas

Molchen Y **Angus** Y **Barlamas** Y **Mylan** Y **DeBona** Y

- 2) A Motion to authorize the transfer of \$67,500.00 from the Harmony Township General Fund to the Harmony Township Capital Improvement Fund Money Market.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Connie Barlamas **Second** Glenn Angus

Angus Y **Barlamas** Y **Mylan** Y **Molchen** Y **DeBona** Y

B) PUBLIC SAFETY

** Terry Mylan made a motion to table this motion for now*

- 1) A Motion-authorizing the purchase of a 2022 Ford Interceptor Utility Model K8A AWD Police Vehicle in the amount of \$34,748, CoStars pricing Kenny Ross Ford, 104 Blackhills Rd., P O Box 269, Adamsburg, PA. 15611. Payment to be made from the General Fund and/or other Township resources established for capital improvement purchases.

Roll Call Vote.

Motion _____ **Second** _____

Barlamas _____ **Molchen** _____ **Mylan** _____ **Angus** _____ **DeBona** _____

C. SANITARY SEWER SERVICES

- 1) A Motion to authorize the President of the Board of Commissioners to enter into an Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services to become an active vendor with the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) in PA.

Roll Call Vote.

Motion Glenn Angus **Second** Terry Mylan

Molchen Y **Mylan** Y **Angus** Y **Barlamas** Y **DeBona** Y

Managers Note: Explanation and Purpose. The LIHWAP begins in PA on January 4, 2022 and is part of an overall emergency effort to prevent, prepare for and respond to the COVID -19 pandemic, with the health force and ensuring that low income households have access to drinking water and waste water services. This program is intended to benefit particularly those with the lowest income that pay a high proportion of household income by providing funds to owners of public water or treatment works to reduce arrearages.

D. PUBLIC WORKS

1) A Motion to authorize repairs to be made to 5th Street including the removal of certain panels of concrete of the road surface. The Township will be responsible for the purchase of the concrete and materials estimated to be approximately \$3500 and the placement of the concrete will be by S. S. Concrete for the price of \$2200. All costs will be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Roll Call Vote.

Motion Connie Barlamas **Second** Terry Mylan
Mylan Y Angus Y Barlamas Y Molchen Y DeBona Y

E. COMMUNITY DEVELOPEMENT

1) A Motion authorizing the Township Manager to apply for an extension to Contract No.C000073129, Harmony Township Municipal Building Renovations in the amount of \$225,000 for a two (2) year period beginning January 01, 2023, to December 31, 2024.

Roll Call Vote.

Motion Glenn Angus **Second** Connie Barlamas
Angus Y Barlamas Y Molchen Y Mylan Y DeBona Y

VI. Reports

- 1. Township Manager's Report.** The Manager has submitted updates to the Board of Commissioners on a regular basis from the last meeting.
- 2. Consulting Engineer's Report.** An Engineers Report for the month of July/ August 2022 has been submitted.
- 3. Solicitor's Report.** The Solicitor invoice has been entered for services and setting forth the work performed for the month of June/ July 2022.

VII. Elected Officials' Report

Connie Barlamas- Playground plan is finalized and will be started in September.

Terry Mylan - We will make decisions about where the new speed signs will go. Thanks to road crew for painting new signs on Highland before the school year.

Matt - Mentioned the recent car thefts, wants to do a community crime watch crew. Sue Polomo wants to head it.

Grace Debona - Asked OIC Brooks and Officer Doug Edgell to talk about how to stay safe in the community. Both reiterated that it's important to lock doors and follow good safety practices.

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

All individual comments and dialogue are limited to 5 minutes.

Fabiola Gergerich - Asked about the investigation by the Police Department, also asked about what is going on with a rental unit that she believes is a "marijuana" unit . OIC Brian Brooks advised that unless people file complaints, there is nothing PD can do about it if they don't know about it. Also inquired about LIHWAP- would the citizens be stuck paying for people who can't pay? Bob explained how the program works and that it would not fall on the residents. It's individual applications, etc. Fabiola also asked about the 2nd extension of the renovation project and how long will the extension last? Explanation is that the grant was received right before Covid, then prices skyrocketed, which is why the renovation was originally extended. She also asked how many speed signs we have, and why is the Township purchasing land and what is their intentions with it? It was explained that undeveloped land could potentially be converted to walking trails, etc. for the Township.

Sandra Charko - Owns the burned property at 602 Stephens Street. Brought paperwork that listed what she believes the property could potentially be worth if it was restored, and said that her structural engineer's review says that downstairs in one unit is in remarkable condition, but it smells, needs cleaned, and needs painted. Her structural engineer says there is no need to demolish it. Bob informed the board and room that nobody has seen these papers before today, which she admitted. Bob explained about the fire escrow, and waiting on plans for the facility. Also advised Sandra that this meeting is not the place for this discussion. Needs reviewed by legal, code enforcement, etc. and needs professional engineer plans for building, or if not, it needs permits to demo. Grace maintained that we need to reschedule this discussion for a different time. Sandra continued to speak about the letter she received from the Township, and said there is no rodent issue at the property, and she has a master's in reading and vector is a math term and shouldn't be applied. Bob explained that it is a term used from the International Property Maintenance code is where the term comes from.

Craig Winne - He had a neighbor with a breathing issue, complimented OIC Brian Brooks and how he handled elderly lady with his compassion.

Lisa Phillips - Her neighbor's property with a fallen tree on it has a sheriff sale going to happen soon, but she is concerned nobody will buy the property. Troy addressed that he was able to track the owners down and they were given time to bring it to compliance. Citations are a next step. Wheels are in motion and the Township is following through with the legal steps. She says it smells, is an eyesore, it's been so long already and she wants it expedited. The tree is still on the house. Fabiola interjected to ask why Frank Presto and the road crew can't do it. Frank explained they can't just go on private property and remove it due to legal and liability issues.

Joe Kotula - Had questions about 42, 46, and 47 Forest Road. Said the person who just moved into 47 is leaving trash out, 42 is where everything is overgrown, and asked why Frank Presto can't trim the house. It was again explained about legal and liability issues. Bob advised that since Joe was last here in February, the Township has made progress on some of the issues. Also advised that Duquesne Light no longer cuts overgrown trees and has not done so for a while.

George Krash - Asked for any updates on the storm sewer project or when they will be paving Forest Road. Jim Norquist explained why they were holding off for now. Also asked if 24th street is a state road, and why are tractor trailers allowed to use the road?

Rosemary Shrum - Asked about the new speed limit signs again. OIC Brian Brooks says they are still deciding the best placement, and again reminded that these are mobile signs but the police are coordinating where the best spots for the speed signs are. She also asked about the needles found by the curb on the property next door and Brooks advised that they are diabetic needles.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

YOGA in the Park will be available every Monday from 7:00 to 7:45 Pm at Beyersdale Park located at the corner of Dearborn and Essex. There will be new hours and possibly a new location in September. The Board of Commissioners want to thank Denina Bautti for volunteering to teach YOGA for all age groups and fitness levels and abilities. More information is available on the Township website. www.harmonytwp.com.

Sewer Bills are due on or before August 27th, 2022.

The Township Building will be closed in consideration of the Labor Day Holiday, September 5th, 2022.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Glenn Angus **Second** Connie Barlamas **Time of Adjournment:** 7:16 PM