

**HARMONY TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 16TH, 2022 MEETING MINUTES
6:00Pm**

President DeBona made the following announcements at the beginning of the meeting.

- 1) The meeting this evening is a regularly scheduled Public Meeting and is accessible by Zoom and in person subject to the occupancy limits of the Township facility.
- 2) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session on March 14th, 2022, addressing contract matters with a collective bargaining unit and personnel matters which was accessible via Zoom and in person.
- 3) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive session on March 16th, 2022, addressing personnel matters and employment.
- 4) The Board of Commissioners will no longer use the Zoom platform for meetings. The Regular Scheduled meeting of April 20th as well as the Workshop Sessions will be at the Township Building only.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners and Other Officials

Mrs. DeBona, President

Mrs. Mylan, Vice President

Mr. Angus, Commissioner

Mr. Molchen, Commissioner

Ms. Barlamas, Commissioner

Ms. Shannon Steele, Solicitor

Mr. Villella, Manager

Mrs. Winne, Tax Collector/Treasurer

Mr. Nordquist, Township Engineer-

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION: The Board of Commissioners would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge those organizations and individuals who gave of their time and resources to extend aid and services to Harmony Township and its residents during the period where a boil water advisory was in place.

COMMENDATIONS from the Harmony Township Board of Commissioners to the following businesses were read to the residents in attendance.

Commissioner Mylan read the Commendation for the Ambridge Water Authority

Commissioner Molchen read the Commendation for TENARIS

Commissioner Angus read the Commendation for BeeMac Trucking

Commissioner Barlamas read the Commendation for the Safran Family which was accepted by Jarret and Kerry Safran and phil and Brittany Safran.

President DeBona read the Commendation to the Harmony Township Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary. The Commendation was accepted by James Essek, Jim Curcio and Brandon Robinson. Mr. Essek accepted the Commendation and stated that the VFD has always been there to help even though the contract with the Township is for fire services. They have always been there to help and support the community in response to any emergency.

The Commendation for the Ladies Auxiliary was accepted by Ashley Weisend, Mary Weisend, Dana Hallisey and Sharon Speicher.

The Commendations are attached.

President DeBona also acknowledged the following individuals, their families and their contributions during the Boil Water Advisory. In addition, it was noted that many in the community brought food and cookies to the VFD regularly while the station was manned during the Boil Water Advisory

Brandon Robinson and Family

Harmony Township Employees-Police, Public Works, and Managers Office

Harmony Beer Distributors

Public Comment.

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

Rosemary Shrum of Woodland Road. Stated that the community appreciates the VFD and the work they do.

Inquiry was made regarding the number of applicants who applied for the Executive Assistant position. Commissioner Mylan responded there were about 30 applicants for the position.

- I. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of February 16th, 2022.

Voice Vote

Motion Molchen Second Barlamas

All in Favor Motion Carried

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

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 **FEBRUARY 2022**.

Voice Vote

Motion Angus Second Mylan

III. Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of MARCH 2022

A.) It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the **MARCH 2022** Accounts Payable in the total amount of **\$200,553.36**

General Fund	\$ 57,807.10
Wire Transfer Bond Principal and Interest U.S. Bank	\$ N/A
Health Insurance	\$ 28,820.40
Developers Escrow Fund	\$ N/A
Liquid Fuels	\$ 22,333.46
Sewer Fund	\$ 29,652.77
Police Pension Fund	\$ 422.63
2018 Capital Program Fund	\$ 61,517.00
TOTAL	\$ 200,553.36

Roll Call Vote.

Motion Barlamas Second Mylan
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.

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

1) Approval of Sewage Account Adjustments as presented.

Voice Vote

Motion Molchen Second Angus

V. NEW BUSINESS

Finance Committee

- 1) A Motion authorizing the President of the Board of Commissioners and the Township Manager to finalize the securing of the tax-free auto loan from First National Bank in the amount of \$51,100.00 for the acquisition of the 2022 Ford F350 Public Works Truck (\$37,889.00) from Bill McCandless Ford and Western Pro Plow and stainless-steel electric chain drive hopper and spreader from U.S. Municipal at CoStars pricing of \$13,190.68

Roll Call Vote

Motion Barlomas Second Angus
Mylan Y **Molchen** Y **Angus** Y **Barlomas** Y **DeBona** Y

- 2) A Motion **repealing** Item 1. Public Safety, Agenda of December 15th, 2021, 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.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Angus Second Molchen
Mylan Y **Molchen** Y **Angus** Y **Barlomas** Y **DeBona** Y

- 3) A Motion to authorize the purchase of a 2022 Ford Explorer Interceptor Police Vehicle in the amount of \$35,029.00 from McCandless Ford 8416 Sharon Mercer Road, Mercer, PA. 16137. This vehicle dealership is providing CoStars pricing.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Molchen Second Barlomas
Molchen Y **Angus** Y **Barlomas** Y **Mylan** Y **DeBona** Y

2018 G O Bond Series Capital Program Fund

Managers Note: It is the intention of the Board of Commissioners, that a separate Motion be established to authorize and /or ratify action taken on matters which are the subject of the 2018 GO Bond Series. All projects authorized and /or ratified will be paid for through the 2018 GO Bond Series Capital Program Fund.

Project: Utility Relocation Project

- 1) A Motion authorizing the following Change Orders for Mechanical/Plumbing as submitted by First American Industries.

Change Order 1. Trench Drain in the amount of \$5200, and

Change Order 2. Meter Pit. Installation and purchase in the amount of \$2001.91

- 2) A Motion authorizing the following Change Orders for Electrical as submitted by Yates Electrical, LLC.

Change Order 1. Tele data racks. Installation of separate data racks for the Police, Administration and connections for computer, phone service and hardware. Cost \$1153.45

Change Order 2: Fire Department Siren. The installation of a starter to match breaker settings, relocation of the radio equipment controlling the siren to the wall outside of doorway and to rework conduit and wiring to make a complete system. Cost: \$2446.48.

- 3) **Columbia Gas New Meter Service.** Install new meter service to main on Woodland Road. Cost: \$3720.51

- 4) **Generator.** The cost of the generator is equal to \$ 25,936.49. The purchase of the generator has been previously approved by the Board of Commissioners.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Myran **Second** Angus
Barlomas Y **Myran** Y **Molchen** Y **Angus** Y **DeBona** Y

Community Development

- 1) A Motion authorizing the adoption of Resolution No. 2022-1316-2022, Application I.D. #9155466 approving the submission of a Grant application to the Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant requesting the amount of \$839,000 and designating the President of the Board of Commissioners and the Township Manager as the officials to execute all documents and agreements on the Township's behalf.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Molchen **Second** Myran
Molchen Y **Barlomas** Y **Angus** Y **Myran** Y **DeBona** Y

Personnel

- 1) A Motion authorizing the extension of the Agreement with the Township Manager, Robert J. Villella for a period of two (2) years retroactive to January 01, 2022, to December 31, 2023.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Angus **Second** Barlomas
Angus Y **Myran** Y **Molchen** Y **Barlomas** Y **DeBona** Y

- 2) A Motion authorizing the hiring of Stephanie Ruggeri in the capacity of Executive Assistant to the Manager at the rate of compensation equal to \$19.00 per hour, healthcare effective April 1st 2022 and subject to a probationary period of six (6) months. This is an at will position.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Barlomas **Second** Myran
Myran Y **Molchen** Y **Barlomas** Y **Angus** Y **DeBona** Y

- 3) A Motion pursuant to the 1st Class Township Code (Pa Statute §55641) Provisional Appointment, authorizing the appointment of Anthony Phan, Dante Sciretta and Gino Trella as a part time police officer in Harmony Township. When there are urgent reasons to fill a vacancy in the Police force and there are no names on an eligibility list for such appointment, the Board of Commissioners may nominate a person (s) to the Civil Service Commission for a noncompetitive exam. The Board of Commissioners authorize the Civil Service Commission to hold such noncompetitive exam within three (3) weeks and to certify a list of eligibles and an appointment shall be made from the name(s) submitted by the Commission.

Roll Call Vote

Motion Barlomas **Second** Molchen
Myran Y **Molchen** Y **Barlomas** Y **Angus** Y **DeBona** 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 Villella provided information regarding the Grant that was submitted to the DCED for the Municipal Building Renovation/Rehabilitation in the amount of \$839,000. Information was provided regarding the Forest Rd situation and that Jim Nordquist and Frank Presto went to the site and made the review of the situation. There was discussion regarding the work to be performed through the American rescue Plan funding.
- B. Consulting Engineer's Report.** An Engineers Report for the month of February /March 2022 has been submitted.
Jim Nordquist of NIRA spoke of the ARPA projects and that survey crews from NIRA have been to various sites where the work is anticipated to be performed. Both Jim Nordquist and Frank Presto spoke of the Forest Road situation.
- C. Solicitor's Report.** The Solicitor has entered her invoice for services and setting forth the work performed for the month of February/March 2022.

VII. Elected Officials' Report

Commissioner Molchen read a statement resigning his position from the Harmony Township Municipal Authority.

Paula Winne, Tax Collector announced that there were two (2) weeks left to pay the real estate taxes at the Discount Period.

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 requested the members of the respective Commissioner Committees be placed on the website.

Commissioner Molchen stated that he and Commissioner Barlamas will be working to make an introduction to social media and updates to the Township webpage.

Fabiola Gergerich made an inquiry as to the reason for Mr. Provich having requested a change of venue at the Magistrate Court.

Fabiola Gergerich stated that she has concerns regarding the limits on no burning in the Township. Manager Villella stated that 50% of the calls received for the Volunteer Fire Department are based on people burning yard waste.

Commissioner Angus stated the recommendation for no burning was made by the Fire Chief years ago and that was also due to Harmony Township being situated in a basin.

Rosemary Shrum made inquiry regarding the protocol for appointment to the Municipal Authority.

Craig Winne asked about the situation at the intersection of Harmony Road and Lenzman Cr. This was a repair made by the Ambridge Water Authority.

Jack Bedalotta asked if anything is being done with the Villas location.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Township will be picking up yard waste as they do regularly. Township residents should contact the Public Works Department.

Manager Villella advised that he attended a meeting with the Commissioners today regarding 2022 ARPA funding and they are providing a Grant for radios for public safety, which would include police and fire departments, the Grant will be funded on an 80/20 basis.

A reassessment was also performed by Beaver County Commissioners and all properties are reassessed and home owners may receive information regarding their property.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Angus Second Mylan Time of Adjournment: 7:10 pm