

**TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 19th, 2022
6:00PM**

ANNOUNCEMENTS. President DeBona made the following 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, October 5th, 2022.
- 3) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session at 5:00 Pm on October 5th, 2022, 2022 to discuss personnel matters and employment relationships.
- 4) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session at 5:00Pm on October 19 2022 to discuss personnel selection process.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners and Other Officials

Mrs. DeBona, President

Mrs. Mylan, Vice President. Available by telephone.

Mr. Angus, Commissioner

Mr. Molchen, Commissioner

Ms. Barlamas, Commissioner

Ms. Shannon Steele, Solicitor. Attorney Garen Fedeles served as Solicitor for this meeting.

Mr. Villella, Manager

Mrs. Winne, Tax Collector/Treasurer

Mr. Nordquist, Township Engineer

RECOGNITION OF CHIEF ROBERT SIVEWRIGHT. The Board of Commissioners on behalf of Harmony Township would like to extend our best wishes and heartfelt appreciation to Chief Bob Sivewright for his years of faithful and dedicated service to the community.

Commissioner Angus, representing the Board of Commissioners presented Chief Sivewright a plaque recognizing Chief Sivewright and his years of service to the Community as a Harmony Township Police Officer.

A Citation was presented to Chief Sivewright by State Representative Robert Matzie. Congratulations to Chief Sivewright on his retirement and service to the community.

Residents in Attendance

Fabiola Gergerich Woodland Rd

Rose Mary Shrum Woodland Rd

Sue Palombo Ridge Rd

Fernando Bevilacqua Highland Avenue

Greg and Ricki Paul 1280nBreitenstein Rd

Craig Winne Lenzman Court

Jack Bedalota Sylvan Rd

Mary Jane McAdams Woodside Drive

Marcia Lehman

Jack Lively Woodland Rd

Robert Matzie Highland Avenue

Jim Essek Ridge Rd

Public Comment.

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

Marcia Lehman presented information to the Commissioners on Protect PT .org and made comments regarding fracking.

Greg Paul announced that they had the 1st Annual Fall Festival. they experienced good attendance and felt it was fun for non-golfers. Greg Paul indicated in 2023 the golf course will celebrate 100 th Anniversary and they are planning events the first week of May. They are also planning to move forward with the Villas at Harmony Ridge, and he also indicated that progress depends upon how much Harmony Township will cooperate.

Jack Bedalota asked about progress of establishing a meeting with John Provich. The Commissioners are waiting for a response from Mr. Provich's legal counsel.

Fabiola Gergerich made inquiry regarding costs associated with the Solicitor going to Court . Manager Villella responded that the Solicitor is not required to appear in Court for the hearings on most occassions. Ms Gergerich also inquired about the voice vote and the ratification of the agreement with Constellation Energy. Commissioner Barlamas responded by saying that the agreement with Constellation will maintain the rate the Township is paying for electric currently and positioning the Township in the event of the increases projected prospectively. She inquired about the progress on the website. Commissioner Barlamas responded by stating that additional changes have been submitted to the website designer who is continuing to make changes and progress. An announce was made that the Township continues to look for pictures of the Township, the local mill sites, or any other local features.

Rosemary Shrum asked about the location of the electronic traffic minder signs and whether it may be possible to obtain additional signs.

OIC Brooks spoke of a possible grant opportunity to get additional signs. OIC Brooks also reminded residents that it is the holiday season and holiday gifts should not be left in

vehicles or in plain sight. A comment was made that Duss Avenue, a state road did not have speed limit signs.

I. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of **SEPTEMBER 21, 2022.**
Voice Vote
Motion Molchen Second Barlamas
All in favor Motion adopted.

II. **Approval of the following reports:** The Township Manager is recommending the acceptance of the following Department Reports for the month of **SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 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 Angus Second Barlamas

III. **Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of OCTOBER 2022**

A.) It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the **OCTOBER 2022** Accounts Payable in the total amount of \$ **307,245.80** for all applicable funds.

OCTOBER	
General Fund	\$ 90,248.55
Wire Transfer Bond Principal and Interest U.S. Bank	N/A
Health Insurance	\$ 27833.85
Developers Escrow Fund	N/A
Liquid Fuels	\$ 15,580.17
Sewer Fund	\$ 96,162.30
Police Pension Fund	\$ 422.63
2018 Capital Program Fund	\$ 4,075.30
Bill McCandless Ford	\$ 72,923.00
TOTAL	\$ 307,245.80

Roll Call Vote.

Motion Molchen Second Mylan

Molchen Y Mylan Y Angus Y Barlamas Y DeBona Y
Managers Note to Accounts Payable. Included within this total is the payment of vehicles for the Police and Public Works Department. The amount is paid from loan proceeds that have been deposited in the Capital Improvement Fund and waiting for the vehicle's arrival. Also, in the General Fund the amount of \$17,542.01 which is a State Aid Distribution for the Harmony VFD Protective Assoc. This amount is deposited in the General Fund but is a state aid grant.

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:

THERE ARE NO ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A) FINANCE

A Motion authorizing the transfer of funds to the plans as provided in the following:

- 1) A Motion to authorize the acceptance of the 2022 Volunteer Fire Relief Association allocation and to authorize the distribution of the amount of \$17,542.01 to the Harmony Township Volunteer Fireman's Protective 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 and directed to the General Fund to the Township Police Pension Fund account effective October 21, 2022, in the amount of \$49,173.00 on or before December 31, 2022.
- 3) To authorize a contribution in the amount of \$18,610.00 to the Service Employees Pension Plan consistent with the 2022 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) prior to December 31, 2022. to be paid from the General Fund and State Aid.
- 4) To authorize the retention of the amount of \$25,326.00 as reimbursement to the General Fund for the 2022 payments to the Union Plan (Western PA. Teamsters and Employers Pension Fund)
- 5) 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 Barlamas Second Molchen

Molchen Y Angus Y Barlamas Y Mylan Y DeBona Y

- 6) 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 5%, Vision and Dental an increase of 0%. Employee contribution equal to 7%. This program covers all full time, active employees, and currently retired personnel subject to contract limitations.

Roll Call Vote

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

- 7) A Motion to ratify the decision of the Harmony Township Commissioners via poll vote as of September 27, 2022, to enter into an Agreement with Constellation New Energy, Inc. for supplying electric service to Township facilities at the rate of \$0.07488 for a term of sixty (60) months beginning November 23, 2022, and ending November 22, 2027.

Roll Call Vote

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

B. PUBLIC SAFETY

- 1) The Harmony Township Civil Service Commission has established an eligibility list in accordance with the Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations and have provided same to the Board of Commissioners. A Motion authorizing the promotion of **Giovanni Trello** from Part Time Police Officer to Full Time Police Officer and to be compensated in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement of the Harmony Township Police Association effective January 01, 2023, or as otherwise determined by the Board of Commissioners.

Roll Call Vote.

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

C. PERSONNEL

- 1) A Motion to ratify the action of October 5th, 2022, terminating the probationary employee effective Friday, October 7th, 2022.

Roll Call Vote.

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

- 2) A Motion to ratify the action of October 5th, 2022, directing the Manager to advertise for the open position.

Roll Call Vote.

Motion Mylan **Second** Angus
Molchen N **Mylan** Y **Angus** Y **Barlomas** Y **DeBona** Yes
Motion to Ratify Barlomas **Second** Mylan

V. 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 August/September 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 August/September 2022.

VI. Elected Officials' Report

Commissioner Mylan urged everyone to support the Harmony Township VFD Ladies Auxiliary and to remind residents Halloween is on the 31st of October from 6:00 to 8:00Pm. and to watch children.

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

All individual comments and dialogue are limited to 5 minutes.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

***Info Nite will be held Oct. 20, 2022, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm to discuss Feral cats and TNR Program (Trap, Neuter and Release) a representative of the Beaver County Humane Society will be in attendance.**

***Halloween is scheduled for October 31, 2022, from the hours of 6:00pm to 8:00pm**

***A Budget Workshop Meeting is scheduled for October 26 and November 2nd, 2022, at 6:00Pm.**

***The Township Offices will be closed on November 8th for Election Day and November 11th for Veterans Day.**

***The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be November 16, 2022.**

All persons in attendance were asked to stay and have cupcakes in coffee with retiring Chief Sivewright.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Barlamas Second Molchen Time of Adjournment: 6:37P