

**TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2022  
6:00PM  
PROPOSED AGENDA**

**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, September 7th, 2022.
- 3) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session at 5:00 Pm on September 7th, 2022, to discuss personnel matters regarding pension dispositions.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners and Other Officials

Mrs. DeBona, President

Mrs. Mylan, Vice President **ABSENT**

Mr. Angus, Commissioner

Mr. Molchen, Commissioner

Ms. Barlamas, Commissioner

Mr. Garen Fedeles, Solicitor appearing on behalf of Shannon Steele, Solicitor

Mr. Villella, Manager

Mrs. Winne, Tax Collector/Treasurer

Mr. Nordquist, Township Engineer-

**Public Comment.**

**Residents In Attendance**

**Craig Winne Lenzman Court**

**Sue Palombo**

**Fernando Bevilacqua**

**Ron Churchin**

**Jack Bedalota**

**Rosemary Shrum**

**Fabiola Gergerich**

**Marcia Lehman**

**Terri Baumgarten**

**Joseph and Marie Kotula**

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

**Fabiola Gergerich make inquiry regarding following items:**

- 1) The deposit of the amount of \$ \$157,290.22.00 from the Harmony Township General Fund to the American Rescue Plan Account. Manager Villella responded that this deposit was the second deposit of funds from this Act.
- 2) The status of the Police Regionalization and the hiring of full-time police officer. President DeBona responded the regionalization was not best for the community at this time. However, now that Chief Sivewright is retiring the Board will consider the best way to proceed.
- 3) The adoption of the MS4 Ordinance. Manager Villella responded by saying that the Ordinance is required by the PA. Dept of Environmental Protection and aside from a few areas the Ordinance is as prescribed by the DEP for compliance purposes.

**I. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of AUGUST 17th, 2022.**

**Voice Vote**

**Motion Molchen Second Barlamas**

**Motion Approved**

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

**A.) It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the SEPTEMBER 2022 Accounts Payable in the total amount of \$ 196,488.31 for all applicable funds.**

	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 56,906.52</b>
<b>Wire Transfer Bond Principal and Interest U.S. Bank</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Health Insurance</b>	<b>\$ 27,833.85</b>

<b>Developers Escrow Fund</b>	N/A
<b>Liquid Fuels</b>	\$ 5425.12
<b>Sewer Fund</b>	\$ 101,082.45
<b>Police Pension Fund</b>	\$ 422.63
<b>2018 Capital Program Fund</b>	\$ 4817.74
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 196,488.31</b>

**Roll Call Vote.**

**Motion** Molchen **Second** Barlomas

**Molchen** Y **Mylan** Absent **Angus** Y **Barlomas** 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:*

**THERE ARE NO ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**V. NEW BUSINESS****A) FINANCE**

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

- 4) \$157,290.22.00 from the Harmony Township General Fund to the American Rescue Plan Account.
- 5) \$35,029.00 from the Harmony Township Capital Improvement Fund to the Harmony Township General Fund for the payment of the 2022 Police Interceptor.
- 6) \$ 52,204.52 from the American Rescue Plan Fund (ARPA) to the General Fund Money Market for the reimbursement of Highway/Storm Sewers (\$17,268.78), Engineering Fees (18,268.24), Traffic Control Devices (\$5493.00) and Intoximeter (\$ 11,174.50).
- 7) \$22,086.61 from the Capital Improvement Fund Money Market to the General Fund Money Market for the reimbursement of Highways/Storm Sewers (5<sup>th</sup> St and 8th St Ext Repairs-)

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion** Barlomas **Second** Angus

**Molchen** Y **Angus** Y **Barlomas** Y **Mylan** Absent **DeBona** Y

**B) PUBLIC SAFETY**

- 1) A Motion recognizing the achievements of representatives of the Harmony Township Volunteer Fire Department for having received full certification to be a firefighter by having completed the Firefighter essentials and completing the Firefighter I National Certification. The Harmony Township Commissioners extends their gratitude to all volunteers for their service. Those individuals are as follows:

Ryan Hallisey  
Bobby Townsend and  
Andrea Johnson.

**Roll Call Vote.**

**Motion Molchen Second Barlamas**

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

- 2) A Motion authorizing the Civil Service Commission or its duly designated representative to administer the Exam for full time patrolman and to advertise for the exam. The Township Manager will coordinate with the Civil Service Commission the date of the exam for the written, physical, and oral examinations, as well as to establish an eligibility listing. Job offers are subject to a psychological exam and background testing

**Roll Call Vote**

**Motion Angus Second Barlamas**

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

**C. PERSONNEL**

- 1) A Motion to accept the notice of intention to terminate participation in the DROP effective September 30, 2022 from Robert Sivewright , and to begin receiving normal retirement payments effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Consistent therewith it is the intention of the Harmony Township Board of Commissioners to award Robert Sivewright his service revolver and his badge as Chief of Police for his years of service and commitment to the Township and citizens of Harmony Township.

**Roll Call Vote.**

**Motion Molchen Second Angus**

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

- 2) A Motion authorizing the Township Manager, Robert Vilella to serve as Chief Administrative Officer of the Police Pension Fund.

**Roll Call Vote.**

**Motion Barlamas Second Molchen**

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

**D. PUBLIC WORKS and STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

- 1) A Motion Repealing Ordinance No.346, Harmony Township Stormwater Management Ordinance, Chapter 27 of the Harmony Township Code of Ordinances and adopting Ordinance No. 443 of 2022 as recommended by the PA. Department of Environmental Protection publication of the Model Stormwater Management Ordinance and satisfying both Act 167 requirements and for MS4 communities the regulatory requirements of the NPDES Permits.

**Roll Call Vote.**

Motion Angus Second Barlomas  
 Mylan Absent Angus Y Barlomas Y Molchen 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.

**The Township application to the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency for Body Worn Camera Use and Policy Development has been recommended for funding by PCCD staff and the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee.**

**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.

## VII. Elected Officials' Report

**Paula Winne advised the residents that the Per Capita Tax is now being collected by Berkheimer Associates. If anyone has questions those should be directed to the School District or to Berkheimer.**

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

*All individual comments and dialogue are limited to 5 minutes.*

**Ron Churchin had concerns about the political signs. He recognized there is a limit to what one may do on public property but is there anything able to be done about political signs and the use of profanity.**

**Solicitor Garen Fedeles reminded the resident of the right to free speech even though it may be considered offensive and the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment.**

**Jack Bedalota made inquiry about the recycling center and some of the other properties on Duss Avenue.**

**Fernando Bevilacqua stated that 1.5 to 2 years ago he had made a donation to the Police Department for body cameras and whether the cameras were being used by the Department. It was referenced that tteh camera technology had changed and there was a need to establish policies and protocols for the use of the cameras. Mr Bevilacqua indicated that he realized that technology changes and he was curious about the equipment usage.**

**Marcia Lehman spoke to the need to consider changes to the township ordinance for fracking and oil drilling. She also introduced Terri Baumgarten from Aliquippa who is on the Clean Air Council.**

**Rosemary Shrum made inquiry as to the status of the Oak Alley situation the Ambridge Regional Industrial Park wanted the Township to vacate. Manager Villella indicated that the vacating of the alley would not benefit all the property owners that still rely upon the road for access to and from their businesses.**

**Mrs. Kotula voiced concern over the status of Forest Rd and its condition. President DeBona asked Manager Villela to speak, and he advised Mrs. Kotula the Township has been engaged in storm sewer work on the roadway and will review the road and its condition in relation to other roads in the township in need of restoration.**

**IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**Community Movie** Night will be held on October 1, 2022, at the lower parking lot of the Township building. The movie to be shown will be **Minions the Rise of Gru**. The Commissioners would like to thank those persons and organizations who have volunteered their time and services, Felicia Mycyk, Alan Freed Photography, The Ambridge Library, Julie Mulcahy, Librarian, First National Bank, Incom Supply.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion Angus Second Molchen Time of Adjournment: 6:47Pm**