

# TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

MAY 17TH, 2023

6:00 PM

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.** The meeting this evening is a regularly scheduled Public Meeting and is accessible in person subject to the occupancy limits of the Township facility.

- 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 an Executive Session after the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners on APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 to review collective bargaining positions.
- 3) The Board of Commissioners held a Workshop Session on Wednesday, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2023.
- 4) The Negotiation Committee met on Wednesday, MAY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 at 1:00Pm to discuss matters pertaining to collective bargaining agreements.
- 5) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session at 5:30 Pm on MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 to discuss collective bargaining matters.

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

### Residents in Attendance

Craig Winnie- Lenzman Court  
Fabiola Gergerich-Woodland Road  
Rosemary Shrum-Woodland Road  
Sharon Speicher-Beaver Road  
Greg Szuchy-25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Jack Bedalota-Sylvan Road  
Angela Meyers-Woodside Drive  
John Markvan-Adams Drive  
Kaylie Szuchy-Manning Street

**Public Comment**

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

**Fabiola Gergerich** questioned The amount of \$6500.00 price for the 2022 Audit. She wanted to know how many hours curtails that price. There is not a determinate amount of hours. The audit will take place between May through September. Under Public Safety Mrs. Gergerich wanted to know if the Police examination was for the Chief position. The Board confirmed that the Police examination is for the Police Chief position.

- I. Approval of the APRIL 17TH, 2023, Meeting Minutes amended.  
Voice Vote -Motion Carried  
Motion Molchen Second Barlamas
  
- II. Approval of the following reports: The Township Manager is recommending the acceptance of the following Department Reports for the month of MAY 2023.
  - 1. Code Enforcement Department Report
  - 2. Road Department Report
  - 3. Police Department Report
  - 4. Sewage Department Report APRIL 2023.

Voice Vote- Motion Carried  
Motion Angus Second Mylan

III. Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of MAY 2023

A.) It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the may 2023 Accounts Payable in the total amount of \$179,577.50.

General Fund	\$ 39,605.37
2018 GO Bond Interest U.S. Bank	\$ N/A
Health Insurance	\$ 30,142.33
Developers Escrow Fund	\$ N/A
Liquid Fuels	\$ 5,097.13
Sewer Fund	\$ 102,658.04
Police Pension Fund	\$ 422.63
2018 Capital Program Fund	\$ 1652.00
TOTAL	\$ 179,577.50

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried  
Motion Barlamas Second Mylan  
Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

IV. **Consent Agenda** – NO CONSENT AGENDA

*The 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.*

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

- 1) A Motion to authorize the REPEAL OF Ordinance No. 445, the Volunteer Service Credit Program.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Barlamas Second Mylan

Molchen Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes Mylan Yes DeBona Yes

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**Finance**

- 1) A Motion to ratify the public sale of the 2011 Ford F350 in the amount of \$15,000 "AS IS" to Frank Presto.

- 2) A Motion to authorize the sale of the 2014 Ford Explorer "AS IS" to Curtis Skelton offering the highest bid of \$7,200.00 as verified by Municibid.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second Barlamas

Molchen Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes Mylan Yes DeBona Yes

- 3) A Motion to authorize the President of the Board of Commissioners and the Township Manager to execute the Audit Engagement Letter with the Certified Public Accounting firm of Mark C. Turnley, CPA for the conduct of the 2022 DCED Audit of all Township funds at a cost equal to \$6500.00. The cost will be paid through the General Fund.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second Barlamas

Molchen Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes Mylan Yes DeBona Yes

**Public Works**

- 1) A motion accepting the bid of Shields Asphalt Paving, in the amount of \$ 99,637.50 for the Forest Road Paving Project, subject to a satisfactory agreement, bonding and other criteria as required by the Engineers and Solicitor being fulfilled.

Roll Call Vote – Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second Angus

Molchen Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes Mylan Yes DeBona Yes

**Personnel**

- 1) A Motion to authorize the appointment and hiring of Lori Thompson in the capacity of Executive Assistant to the Manager at the rate of compensation equal to \$20.00 per hour and eligible for certain benefits as Life Insurance, Personal/Sick Days and Vacation.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

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

### **Public Safety**

- 1) **A Motion to authorize the Harmony the Harmony Township Civil Service Commission to extend all qualifying employees of the Harmony Township Police Department an appropriate examination and to establish the most qualified individual for that position and to report the results to the Board of Commissioners.  
Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried  
Motion Angus Second Molchen  
Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlomas Yes Molchen Yes DeBona Yes**

### **Community Development**

- 1) **A Motion to authorize the scheduling of a Public Hearing and to advertise an amendment to the harmony Township Zoning Ordinance as follows:  
A Motion authorizing amending §909. Non-Conforming Lot of the Harmony Township Code Ordinances to read as follows: “A non-Conforming lot as defined within §909 may be used for the erection of a structure or building even though its area and width are less than the minimum required by this Chapter provided the following conditions are met:**
- a) **The front yard setback for the principal and accessory structure in Zoning District R-1 and R-2 must be equidistant from the street and conform with neighboring and adjacent structures.**
  - b) **The minimum side yard shall be two (2’) feet.**
  - c) **The required off street parking shall be met by the proposed use.**
  - d) **Only those uses permitted by this Chapter within the zoning districts within which the lot occurs, shall be permitted.”**
- Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried  
Motion Angus Second Barlomas  
Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlomas Yes Molchen Yes DeBona Yes**

### **Reports**

- A. **Township Manager’s Report. The Manager has submitted updates to the Board of Commissioners on a regular basis from the last meeting.**
1. **Beaver Road Playground work has started.**
  2. **Harmony Township has made the 1<sup>st</sup> Payment for the Intoximeter.**
  3. **Bob Vilella and Frank Presto met with PennDOT regarding Stormwater Project on 989 and Beaver Road.**
  4. **Met with a Security Company regarding the installation of Cameras at the new Beaver Road Playground.**
  5. **Met with Sheetz regarding the closure and remodeling of the Sheetz, Store in Baden, PA.**
  6. **Received information from CDBG and Home Improvement Program.**

- B. Consulting Engineer's Report.** An Engineers Report for the month of April/May 2023 has been submitted.
1. Received and Excellent Bid for the Paving of Forest Road Project. The executed contract will be mailed out soon.
- C. Solicitor's Report.** The Solicitor has entered her invoice for services and setting forth the work performed for the month of April/May 2023.
1. Harmony Township was involved in a civil litigation case. The case was dismissed.
  2. The Solicitor, Shannon Steele, explained that presently a Collective Bargaining discussion is taking place with the Police Department.
- D. Police Report.** Officer Brooks informed the Board that Officer Michael Scheers and Officer Gino Trello will be receiving awards granted by the Office of the District Attorney. Officer Trello received his award as a Master operator (SWAT) which requires 10+ years of service to SWAT. Officer Scheers received a purple heart for being injured while on a SWAT call. Additionally, he received an award for drug enforcement. His efforts resulted in an arrest and conviction of a drug delivery which caused a death.

**VII. Elected Officials' Report**

1. **Connie Barlamas** mentioned how the board will be Quarterly auditing the vendors used. Comcast is first on the list. Also, Overtime for the Township is getting high. Overtime presently is at 39% which it should be at 25% for the year. The Board will be monitoring the overtime situation.
2. Terry Mylan thanked the Police Department for their extra patrolling of the Harmony Township neighborhoods. She also, wanted to congratulate Offer's Trello and Scheers on their awards. Mrs. Mylan mentioned that she will be attending the workshop held by Representative Matzie's office for "Grants 101" a Grant Writing Workshop being held on MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 at the Beaver County 911 Center from Noon-2:00pm.
3. **Matt Molchen** spoke regarding the New Playground. Work has begun on the installation of the Beaver Road Playground. The design was changed a little there and now incubuses a larger footprint. The Merry Go Round was moved to the other side for better access. The Playground should be completed in (2) weeks. The Township received from Sheetz, Inc. (3) Light Poles which will be installed at the Playground which will provide the necessary lighting. The Township is inquiring to install 360 degree cameras which will show a full view of the Playground. The Entire Playground is Wheelchair accessible. Mr. Molchen also welcomed Lori Thompson as a Full Time employee of Harmony Township.
4. **Grace DeBona** commented that she is grateful for the Sale of the Police Car and Police Truck. The money received from the Sale of these (2) vehicles was more than expected. She also congratulated Officer Scheers and Officer Trello their awards. Commissioner DeBona

mentioned that the Board is contemplating selling the Police Tahoe SUV and using that money towards the payment of \$75,000.00 for the Fire Department's new Pumper. Commissioner DeBona also welcomed Lori Thompson to Harmony Township as a full time employee.

**IX. 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.*

**John Markvan** 1340 Adams Drive has storm water runoff collecting on his property.

His complaint is that he was never contacted by the Public Works Department to discuss this matter. The Public Works Department did install an asphalt hump to divert the water which has worked; however, his neighbor had a berm installed by the Public Works Department which causes flooding on his property when it rains heavily. The water diverted floods Mr. Markvan's Driveway. Frank Presto commented that he did speak with Mr. Markvan regarding this problem; however, Mr. Markvan said that he did not remember that conversation. Mr. Presto said that he would meet with Mr. Markvan on Thursday morning June 18, 2023.

**Rosemary Schrum** questioned the status of the condemned house on Woodland Road owned by Mr. Klimkowski. She is complaining of all the garbage piled up outside the house. The Township Manager, Bob Vilella, spoke to this matter and explained that Mr. Klimkowski has been working daily to clean out the house. There are certain provisions under the civil laws and a letter was issued to Mr. Klimkowski regarding the timeline. Mrs. Schrum wanted to know who is responsible where the speeding lights are installed in the township. She said that the Police moved the one that use to be on Woodland Road to Highland Road. However, speeding on Woodland has increased. Commissioner DeBona explained that the light was moved to Highland for the school year. Since school will be out for the summer the Board will discuss the issue of returning the light to Woodland. Mrs. Schrum would also like to see more progress on hiring the Chief.

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

The next Workshop Session of the Board of Commissioners will be held at 6:00Pm on JUNE 7TH, 2023.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Harmony Township Commissioners will be JUNE 21ST, 2023, at 6:00Pm.

Work will begin on the installation of the Beaver Road Playground facilities the week of MAY 15TH and the rubber play surface installed shortly after.

Dearborn Street will be ready for Columbia Gas to begin paving as the PW Dept. has completed the storm sewer work on that road.

Congratulations to Officer Michael Scheers! The Beaver County District Attorney's Office has advised that Officer Michael Scheers has been nominated and selected to be the recipient of the Drug Enforcement Award. The recognition is highly regarded for the individual law enforcement officer who has shown exemplary skills in drug enforcement cases. The Law Enforcement Memorial Service will be

**conducted on May 19, 2023 beginning at 10:00Am and will be held at the Law Officers Memorial Site located outside the Beaver County Court House.**

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**Voice Vote-Motion Carried**

**Motion Angus Second Molchen Time of Adjournment: 6:45 PM**