

TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

November 15, 2023

6:10 PM

- 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 November 1st, 2023.
- 3) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session on Wednesday, November 01, 2023, at 6:30pm to discuss contract matters and property related issues.
- 4) The Board of Commissioners held a Budget Meeting Workshop on November 8th, 2023, at 5:00 pm.

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 – 260 Woodland Road

Greg Szuchy – 806 25th Street

Kaylie Szuchy - Manning Street

Denise Campbell-Sylvan Road

Jack Bedalota-Sylvan Road

Angela Meyers-Woodland Road

Public Comment - None

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 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 18th, 2023, as submitted.

Voice Vote - Motion Carried

Motion Mylan Second Molchen

II. Approval of the following reports: The Township Manager is recommending the acceptance of the following Department Reports for the month of October/ November 2023.

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 October 2023.

Voice Vote – Motion Carried

Motion Angus Second Barlamas

III. Approval of Accounts Payable for the month of November 14, 2023.

A.) It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to ratify and approve the November 2023 Accounts Payable in the total amount of \$289,519.97.

General Fund	\$ 57,314.52
2018 GO Bond Interest /Principal U.S. Bank	\$ N/A
Health Insurance	\$ 29,917.05
Developers Escrow Fund	\$ N/A
Liquid Fuels	\$ 11,201.75
Sewer Fund	\$ 96,414.67
Police Pension Fund	\$ 422.63
2018 Capital Program Fund	\$ 94,249.35
Transfer ARPA to Cap Prog Fnd. Included in 2018 Cap Prog fund Total	* \$ 19,555.50 <input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL	\$ 289,519.97

* This transfer is necessary to satisfy the Forest Rd. Paving Payment Application 1. Roll Call Vote. Motion Carried.

Motion Barlamas Second Mylan

Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes Molchen 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. NEW BUSINESS

A) Finance

- 1) A Motion to adopt the 2024 Budgets, to include the General Fund, Liquid Fuels Fund, and the Sewer Fund Budgets in the following amounts:**

	2024	2023
GENERAL FUND	\$ 2,667,868.00	2,612,326.00
LIQUID FUELD	\$ 136,846.00	1,19,029.00
SEWER FUND	\$ 973,272.00	1,001,672.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,777,986.00	3,733,027.00

Roll Call Vote – Motion was called by Commissioner Barlamas to table this Motion until the December 6th Meeting. Beaver County will have notified the Township regarding the new millage rates for 2024.

Motion Angus Second Molchen

Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes Molchen Yes DeBona Yes

- 2) A Motion to authorize the 2024 budget Adoption ordinance establishing the rate of real estate tax for the 2024 year upon receipt of final assessment criteria developed by the Beaver County Assessment Bureau which would include general and debt service purposes. All other taxes and fees imposed pursuant to the local Tax Enabling Act and other applicable codes by Ordinance and Resolution will remain in full force and effect. The Budget will be advertised and made available for public inspection at the Municipal Building.**

Roll Call Vote – Motion was called by Commissioner Barlamas to table this Motion until the December 6th Meeting. Beaver County will have notified the Township regarding the new millage rates for 2024.

Motion Barlamas Second Molchen

Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes Molchen Yes DeBona Yes

- 3) A Motion authorizing the President of the Board of Commissioners and Township Manager to make an application for the 2023 Tax Anticipation Note in the amount of \$200,000 at established tax-exempt interest rate.**

Roll Call Vote- motion was called by Commissioner Barlamas to table this Motion until the December 6th Meeting. Beaver County will have notified the Township regarding the new millage rates for 2024.

Motion Barlamas Second Mylan

Angus Yes Barlamas Yes Molchen Absent Mylan Yes DeBona Yes

B) Finance

- 1) A motion authorizing the transfer of funds in an amount equal to \$19,555.50 from the Harmony Township American Rescue Plan Fund to the Harmony Township 2018 GO Bond Series Capital Program Fund checking for the first installment of the payment to Shields Asphalt Paving, Inc. for the Forest Road Paving Project.**

Roll Call Vote

Motion Barlomas Second Molchen

Angus Yes Barlomas Yes Molchen Absent Mylan Yes DeBona Yes

C) Community Development

A Motion authorizing the adoption of Resolution No. 2023-11-15-2023, Application I D. #9954487 approving the submission of a Grant application to the Statewide Local Share Account Grant requesting the amount of \$1,000,000.00 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 Barlomas

Angus Yes Barlomas Yes Molchen Absent Mylan Yes DeBona Yes

VI. Elected Officials' Report

A. Township Manager's Report. The Manager has submitted updates to the Board of Commissioners on a regular basis from the last meeting.

- 1. Allegheny Land Trust is conducting a Study at Big Sewickley Creek. It is important that the Township Cooperates on this matter.**
- 2. Purchased Product for the Intoximeter. The Intoximeter needs calibrated every year. Total cost of supplies was \$1,400.00 from the ARPA Fund.**
- 3. Grant for Police Body Cameras need a separate service to house the Body Camera footage. Revised quote and the Justice Department will refund 50% of the cost.**

B. Consulting Engineer's Report. An Engineers Report for the month of November 2023 have been submitted.

- 1. All storm sewer work has been completed Friday 18th. Partial payment has been approved.**
- 2. The decision for the approval of the Small Water Program Grant is still delayed until November 21st.**
- 3. Working with the Township Manager on the LOC Share Grant.**
- 4. Wright Storage Facility is under review.**

C. Solicitor's Report. The Solicitor has entered her invoice for services and set forth the work performed for the month of November 2023.

- 1. Negotiations with the Police are complete. Negotiations with the Public Works Department will begin soon.**

D. Tax Collector/Treasurer's Report- Tax Collector Report. The Tax Collector has submitted her reports for November 2023.

- 1. Congratulations to President DeBona and Commissioner Barlomas on their re-election.**

- E. Commissioner, Matt Molchen, commented on the there is still a need for Volunteers for the Winter Community Day Event on Saturday, December 9th. He also congratulated President DeBona and Commissioner Barlamas on their re-election.
- F. Commissioner, Connie Barlamas, mentioned having a Winter Community Day for light up night and to work with the Ladies Auxiliary on the project. The Ladies Auxiliary will be selling Poinsettias on December 8th, 9th and 10th. The Winter Community day will be on December 9th and there will be a need for volunteers.
- G. Commissioner, Terry Mylan, spoke regarding the Finances and projected deficit. Taxes have not been raised in quite a few years and the finance committee has been checking all of the services and there is a shortage of \$400,000 for 2024 without the Tan account. A large portion of the Township money comes from Grants which the Township Manager, Bob Villella, has been instrumental in procuring. Ladies Auxiliary for all their hard work. Bidding out for services and projects need to be a priority.
- H. Board President, Grace DeBona, wished Happy Birthday to the Township Manager, Bob Villella.

VII. 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.

Craig Winnie: inquired about the following:

- 1. Will the bidding be made public? All projects are publicly bided.

Denise Campbell: inquired about the following:

- 1. Is Code Enforcement permitted on Private Property? Because a hose on Woodland road had 13 months to install a fence around their pool and the fence is only on two sides of the pool. The Code Enforcement Officer, Troy Gump, said that he is not permitted on the property due to safety reasons. The Board said they would call Dennis Smith, Code Inspector, regarding this matter.

Jack Bedalota: Congratulated President DeBona and Commissioner Barlamas on their re-election.

Fabiola Gergerich: inquired about the following:

- 1. Is the issue regarding Jack Livey been resolved? That is a Municipal Authority Board question but as far as this Board knows that the issue and negotiations are still active.
- 2. Regarding the Police Department is there going to be a place for a Sergeant. That is a Personnel question and cannot be commented on this subject at this time.
- 3. Winter Community Day Event perhaps the Children could write Christmas cards to Men and Women in the armed forces overseas? Angela Meyers soke and said she maybe able to get the cards from where she works.

VIII . ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be as follows:

December Workshop: December 6th, 2023 @6:00Pm

December Regular Meeting: December 20th, 2023 @ 6:00Pm

The Township Building will be closed on November 23rd and 24th, 2023 in recognition of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The Harmony Township Board of Commissioners welcomes volunteers to participate in the 2023 Winter Community Day Event being held at the Harmony Township VFD Building on December 9th, 2023, from 11 to 5pm. Activities are to be: Petting Zoo, Bouncing Houses, The Dave Granati School of Rock, Ice Sculpting, Food Trucks, a visit from the Jolly One in a red suit and more. The ladies Auxiliary will also have a variety of poinsettias available for your home, business or gifts. We are hopeful that residents and other interested parties will want to participate. Please consider volunteering or contributing to this event so it will become memorable event for our community. You may forward your contribution to the Harmony Township Recreation Fund c/o the Harmony Township Commissioners, 2501 Woodland Road., Ambridge, PA 15003. As an integral part of our community, we appreciate your support and hope that you will enjoy yourself at this amazing seasonal event.

December 8th, 9th and 10th, 2023, the Ladies Auxiliary will be selling a variety of poinsettias for the Holidays. Please support the VFD Ladies Auxiliary who help fund the VFD services. You may call in advance for sales by contacting the Flower Ladies ... Ashley @ 724-407-3232 and Ronda @ 724-601-3632.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Voice Vote. Motion Passed.

Motion Barlamas Second Molchen Time of Adjournment: 6:55 pm

