

TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 20TH, 2024

6:01 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 Meeting on March 06, 2024.
- 3) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session on March 06, 2024, for the purposes of personnel and contract related matters. personnel related matters.
- 4) The Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session on March 20, 2024, for the purposes of personnel and contract related matters.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners and Other Officials

Ms. Barlamas, President - Present

Mrs. Mylan, Vice President - Present

Mr. Angus, Commissioner - Present

Mr. Molchen, Commissioner - Present

Mrs. DeBona, Commissioner – Present

Ms. Shannon Steele, Solicitor-absent (Attorney Taryn Hardy attended)

Mr. Vilella, Manager - Present

Mr. Dan Barna, HRG Engineering - Present

Ms. Kristen Vasilakis, HRG Engineering - Present

Residents in Attendance

Fabiola Gergerich – Woodland Road

John Krepps – Woodland Road

Sharon Speicher – Beaver Road

Rosemary Shrum – Woodland Road

Greg Szuchy – 25th Street

Kaylie Szuchy – Manning Street

MJ McAdams – Woodside Drive

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 – Asked for clarification for item #1 on page 2 under the Consent Agenda what exactly is America250PA? The Township Manager answered her question; America250PA is a resolution proposed by Beaver County Council of Governments and that their mission to educate, preserve, innovate, and celebrate every Pennsylvanian is the four (4) pillars of interest for America250PA. The Township Manager approached the Board and recommended that Resolution for America250PA be

adopted by Harmony Township. Mrs. Gergerich asked where she could get more information regarding America250PA? People with internet access can research America250PA by researching through Beaver County websites. Mr. Gergerich's concern is that we are living in the era of COVID 19, and America250 PA may be a concern for some Pennsylvanians.

Her next question concerned item #1 on page 2 under Finance regarding the Tax Anticipation Note. She inquired about the total amount of taxes has been collected to date. President Barlamas answered the question; as of March 20, 2024, the total of taxes collected is \$400,000.00. The Board is quite happy with that total. However, Mrs. Gergerich did not seem to be under the same opinion as the Board.

Her next question concerned item #2 on Page 2 under Finance regarding the establishment of a Charitable Contribution Fund to help support programs through monetary donations. An example of this is the Shop with the Cop program. Mrs. Gergerich asked if Harmony Township usually fund raises? President Barlamas said that not the Township does not fund raise. The Township is only holding the money for the Shop with a Cop program. The Shop with a Cop program is a partnership between Shop N Save and the Harmony Township Police Department. Shop N Save does not want to hold the funds so Harmony Township will hold the funds through the Charitable Contribution Fund.

Commissioner Glen Angus made a motion to modify and Clarify the November 15th, 2023, Agenda and any related materials involving the Board of Commissioners and the Township Manager authorized to make an application for the 2024 Tax Anticipation Note in the amount of \$200,000.00 and the established tax-exempt interest rate and not the 2023 as originally stated. This was a typo.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second DeBona

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on February 21st, 2024, as submitted.

Voice Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second Mylan

Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting on February 07, 2024, as submitted.

Voice Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second Mylan

II. Approval of the following reports: The Township Manager is recommending the acceptance of the following Department Reports for the month of February/March 2024.

1. Road Department Report
2. Police Department Report
3. Sewage Department Report.
4. Tax Collector's Report as submitted February 2024.

Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Mylan Second DeBona

III. Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of March 2024

A.) It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the March 2024 Accounts Payable in the total amount of \$110,931.43

General Fund	\$ 49,778.00
2018 GO Bond Principal and Interest U.S. Bank	\$
Health Insurance	* \$ 31,082.83
Developers Escrow Fund	\$ N/A
Liquid Fuels Ck. 742	\$ 4,864.17
Sewer Fund RUN 1896-1798	\$ 24,783.80
Police Pension Fund	\$ 422.63
2018 Capital Program Fund	\$ N/A
TOTAL	\$ 110,931.43

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion DeBona Second Mylan

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

Manager Note. There are two (2) Invoices included in the above total, Plate Smart Technologies For \$3500 which shall be reimbursed from the Police Drug Task Force Fund and Santicola Steele and Fedeles in the amount of \$1087.00 for professional services for February/March 2024. The amount includes the retainer for the period.

IV. 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.

- 1. A Resolution 2024-03-20-01 of Harmony Township Commissioners supporting the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semi quincentennial (AMERICA 250PA) and their mission to educate, preserve, innovate, and celebrate every Pennsylvanian in every county This Resolution shall be sent to the Beaver County legislative delegation and the America250PA Commission.**

Voice Vote-Motion Carried

Motion DeBona Second Mylan

V. NEW BUSINESS

FINANCE

- 1. On November 15th, 2023, the President of the Board of Commissioners and Township Manager were authorized to make application for the 2024 Tax Anticipation Note in the amount of \$2000,000 at the established tax-exempt interest rate. The Board of Commissioners authorize RESOLUTION 2024-03-20-02 of the Harmony Township Commissioners adopted on this 20th day of March 2024 authorizing President of the Township Commissioners ad the Township Manager to finalize application processes for the purposes of securing a 2024 Tax Anticipation Note from the First National Bank in the amount of \$200,000. The tax-free interest rate will be 5.67% and**

will mature on December 31, 2024. The two (2) authorized signers for the loan shall be Constance Barlamas, President Board of Commissioners and Robert Villella, Township Manager. This TAN shall be repaid from the General Fund.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second DeBona

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

2. A Motion authorizing the establishment of a Charitable Contribution Fund to help support programs through monetary donations to enhance programs Shop with a Cop and others as authorized by the Board of Commissioners from time to time.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second Mylan

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. A Motion to authorize the submission of a Grant Application to the Beaver County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) FY 204 Project Application for the Removal of architectural barriers.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Molchen Second Mylan

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

2. A Motion authorizing the submission of a Grant pursuant to the COVID 19 ARPA PA Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion DeBona Second Mylan

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

PERSONNEL

1. A Motion appointing the firm of Mark C. Turley CPA for the conduct of the 2023 DCED Audit at the rate of \$7,000.00.

Motion Mylan Second DeBona

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

2. A Motion appointing United Code Consultants as Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer for Harmony Township at the rate of \$65.00 per hour and \$70.00 for Rental Inspections.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion DeBona Second Angus

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

3. A motion authorizing the appointment of Lori Thompson as Treasurer of Harmony Township in accordance with the provisions of the 1st Class Township Code.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Carried

Motion Mylan Second DeBona

Molchen Yes Mylan Yes Angus Yes Barlamas Yes DeBona Yes

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.

1. The Township has received our Liquid fuels money in the amount of \$108,000.00 and the money was deposited into the Liquid Fuels Money Market account.
2. The Township Manager met with the County Solicitor and the ARPA Consultant regarding the two (2) projects we have using the ARPA Grant funds. The first project is the Municipal Authority Project for the Rehabilitation of our Flow Monitor. The representatives are satisfied with the timeline presented. The project must be completed by October 31, 2024. At this point the Township is waiting for Norfolk Southern to provide a protection plan which includes flaggers and Norfolk Southern Representatives to be onsite at the time Harmony Township is doing the project.
3. The second project discussed using the current ARPA Funds available is the proposal to extend storm sewers and paving the road from the merge point on Mayfield to the intersection of Beaver Road. This project was more acceptable than the others discussed simply because it is consistent to prior ARPA projects and licenses and permits are not required. Harmony Township will be meeting with representatives from HRG Engineering and the Public Works Department to put together a plan to start this project.
4. Harmony Township Manager will be looking at the Insurance that the Board obtains, will be developing an insurance audit, and anticipates working with a Insurance Consultant to look at what we have currently and what we might need prospectively considering the enhancements to the Township Building due to the remodeling etc.

B. Consulting Engineer's Report. President Barlamas welcomed the new Engineering firm, HRG Engineers, to their first meeting. The Engineers introduced themselves: Kristen Vasilakis, EIT Asst. Project Manager Staff Professional. Ms. Vasilakis will be the Engineer who will attend the Harmony Township Board Meetings. Dan Barna, Project Manager will also be working with the Township and will attend Board Meetings when asked. The Township Manager commented that his meeting with HRG went very well and he is excited to see what HRG can do for Harmony Township; especially regarding Grants which HRG has been very successful helping other Municipalities with obtaining Grant money.

C. Solicitor's Report. Attorney Hardy submitted Solicitor's Steele report. The Solicitor's invoice was submitted for her services for the Month of February 2024. The report contains mostly executive session information which cannot be discussed publicly.

VII. ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORT

1. Commissioner Angus had nothing to report.
2. Commissioner DeBona mentioned that the weather is getting nicer, and more
3. children are out riding bikes and skateboards etc. She cautioned residents to be more diligent in their driving.
4. Commissioner Molchen congratulated Lori Thompson on her Treasurer position. Commissioner Molchen will be leading the Parks and Recreation Committee and there is a need to volunteers. Please contact The Township Township Manager if you would like to Volunteer.
5. Commissioner Mylan mentioned that the VFD Ladies Auxiliary will having a Designer Purse and Bingo Bash on Saturday, April 6, 2024. Should be a fun time for everyone.

6. President Barlamas wished everyone a Happy Easter. There has been an update to the Committee appointments as follows:

- A. Public Safety and VFD Relations
Chairperson – Commissioner DeBona
Vice Chairperson – Commissioner Molchen
- B. Public Works
Chairperson – Commissioner Molchen
Vice Chairperson – Commissioner Angus
- C. Health, Sanitation and Code Enforcement
Chairperson- Commissioner DeBona
Vice Chairperson – Commissioner Mylan
- D. Buildings and Grounds
Chairperson – Commissioner Angus
Vice Chairperson – President Barlamas
- E. Parks and Recreation
Chairperson – Commissioner Molchen
Vice Chairperson – Commissioner DeBona
- F. Finance
Chairperson – President Barlamas
Vice Chairperson – Commissioner Mylan
- G. Personnel
Chairperson – Commissioner Mylan
Vice Chairperson – President Barlamas

The Board welcomes any ideas from residents and volunteers are always needed and welcomed.

VIII. 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.*

1. John Krepps - Asked if Harmony Township still has a program with the Beaver County Humane Society regarding the voucher program for feral cats. The Township Manager confirmed the program still exists. However, a representative from the Humane Society will call the person requesting a voucher and will also contact the Township to confirm that the resident does live in Harmony Township. Apparently, there have been cases where individuals have been obtaining vouchers from other Municipalities other than where they reside. The Township Manager encourage Mr. Krepps to call the Humane Society for further information on the program.
2. Sharon Speicher- Inquired about the Volunteer Service Credit program that Paula Winnie mentioned last year. President Barlamas answered her inquiry. The Board spoke to the VFD regarding this credit and the VFD decided that the need for the new Fire Truck was a priority so the Volunteer Service Credit Program was repealed. Ms. Speicher that the Township Manager regarding a Home on Beaver Road which previously had mattresses and debris in the front Yard. The Township was able to get the trash removed from this property and since that time the house has been sold and the new owners are doing a wonderful job restoring the home.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Workshop Meeting: April 3rd, 2024 @ 6:00PM

Regular Meeting: April 17th, 2024 @ 6:00PM

Township Offices closed March 29th for Observance of Good Friday.

Harmony Twp. VFD Ladies Auxiliary is holding a Designer Purse Bash and Bingo Bash on Saturday, April 6th, 2024. Doors open at 3:00pm – Starts at 4:00 pm.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Voice Vote – Motion Carried.

Motion Molchen Second Angus Time of Adjournment: 6:29PM