

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MEETING OF:  
April 15, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors was held Monday, April 15, 2024.

Those in attendance were Chairman John J. Krause, Vice-Chairman Eric Wolfe, Supervisor/Roadmaster Lynn Brown, Secretary/Treasurer Holly Reinford, and Solicitor Rick Wiest. Also in attendance were Vince Meyers, Bob Free, Nancy Welty, Eric Dougherty, Darwin Hoppes, Becky Hoppes, and Sal Varacalli.

Chairman Krause opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Chairman Krause reminded the residents of the notices, regarding meeting conduct and public comment procedures.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The following miscellaneous correspondence was received and presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review; a list was also included in the public packet. Received from:

1. 3/1/24 – 3/31/24 Tax Collector’s Remittance Report
2. Notice of Schuylkill Conservation monitoring mosquito and dead birds for West Nile Virus
3. Comprehensive Floodplain Management Lunch and Learn Series
4. PMRS Employer Quarterly Update flier
5. Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program flier
6. PSATS Trustees Insurance and Retirement Services Election of Participation
7. Right to Know Request from Kyle Kozlansky; clean energy activist
8. Launch of new PA Broadband Development Authority Website
9. PMRS Quarterly contribution worksheet
10. COSTARS acknowledgement of approval for August 2024-July 2025
11. 1144 Deturksville Rd 3/14/2024 Inspection Report
12. Right to Know; Nancy Welty for violations of ordinances from 1998-2024
13. Right to Know; Nancy Welty for minutes in person from 1997 to present
14. Right to Know; Darwin & Becky Hoppes for 1144 Deturksville Rd inspection report
15. Schuylkill County change of assessment notice listing report
16. County of Schuylkill Tax Assessment Bureau: exoneration, real estate 33-04-0006.000
17. County of Schuylkill Tax Assessment Bureau: exoneration, real estate 33-04-0036.029
18. County of Schuylkill Tax Assessment Bureau: exoneration, real estate 33-04-0036.081
19. County of Schuylkill Tax Assessment Bureau: exoneration, real estate 33-11-0076.001

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20. Utility Tax duplicates
21. P&G Brokers insurance application
22. Letterhead stating Keith Heinbach's checking account is for tax collection purposes and not managed by Washington Township for CPA
23. Order denying trustee's motion for reconsideration and objection to order granting leave to amend claim – bankruptcy for resident
24. Schuylkill County Assessment Bureau; notice of Consolidated County Assessment Law requiring a forward copy of each building permit to the county assessment office
25. Notice of Liquid Fuels funds to be paid on 3/25/24 into PLGIT
26. HDH Group: notice of policy renewal
27. Certificate of liability insurance for Kevin E Raker Construction LLC
28. PSATS News Bulletin: PSATS Conference flier
29. FCCB – Statement
30. Fulton Bank – Statement
31. PLGIT - Statement

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** Resident Sal Varacalli spoke about the Supervisor position that Supervisor Brown currently holds and stated that anyone who may run against him should know the ins and outs of the work that he does and has done.

Resident Eric Dougherty said his property was inspected by Light-Heigel & Associates.

Resident Nancy Welty inquired about continuing the discussion of the property at 101 Natures Rd. Chairman Krause stated this has been closed out. Welty continued to inquire about the vehicles left on the property. Chairman Krause explained the vehicle seen from the road has antique plates and is not in violation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wolfe, approving the minutes for March 18, 2024, regular monthly meeting without correction. This motion unanimously carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILLS FOR APPROVAL:** Upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Supervisor Brown, the March 15, 2024 – April 10, 2024, Treasurer's Report was approved with a balance in all accounts, before receipts and bills, was \$1,446,115.64. Included in this motion was the approval of payment of all bills presented. This motion unanimously carried.

**RECEIPTS:** The report of receipts (March 15, 2024 – April 10, 2024) listing \$41,025.36 in EIT receipts and \$91,455.29 in regular General Fund receipts was approved as printed upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wolfe. This motion unanimously carried.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Solicitor Wiest stated he received a copy of a proposed ordinance for West Brunswick for recovery and reimbursement of emergency services. Chairman Krause inquired with Wiest if he could research what impact an ordinance like this has on insurance just by the presence of it.

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**ROADMASTER REPORTS:** Roadmaster Brown stated his crew graded all the dirt roads and removed the road closed signs from Sawmill Rd; Pine Grove took the gate down on their side. Hunter Drive and Trophy Drive were done and now they are moving onto Gristmill Rd. Roadmaster Brown said he feels we should have the road bids back by next month's meeting.

**COUNTY ZONING:** Nothing remarkable per Secretary/Treasurer Reinford; there have been a lot of solar permits.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

**OLD BUSINESS 3/18/2024:** Follow-up 1144 Deturksville Rd: Chairman Krause stated Light-Heigel & Associates conducted an inspection of the property on a snowy day and we received the inspection report on 3/14/2024. In reviewing the report there were some violations with notes regarding dead batteries and New Jersey tags. Resident Becky Hoppes questioned if the entire property was inspected and if fines were going to be issued. Chairman Krause stated Hoppes can request the report via Right to Know and that no, fines will not be imposed at this time as the owner will have time to correct the violations noted.

Follow-up 1140 Deturksville Rd: Secretary/Treasurer Reinford stated she has not heard or seen of any more work being done on the property. Resident Becky Hoppes stated there are vehicles, a boat, and a camper still residing on the property, and they haven't seen anyone in weeks. Chairman Krause directed Secretary/Treasurer Reinford to send a letter inquiring about a time frame for cleanup.

Follow-up 31 Dad Burnhams Rd: Secretary/Treasurer Reinford said Garman received the certified letter with a driveway permit and stopped into the Township with the completed permit. The permit was forwarded to Light-Heigel & Associates.

Secretary/Treasurer Reinford let the board know that the Teener League had emailed requesting the use of the ballpark whenever it is not rented out. Resident Justin Daubert was in attendance on behalf of the Teener League and Todd Lengle with a check for use of the field. Chairman Krause told Daubert to keep the check and put it back into their fund to help support the kids. The Board spoke about the requirements to use and keep using the ball field; cleanup/keep it tidy, contact Washington Township if there are any problems, and if there is any type of cleanup happening out there, please contact parents and kids to help. Daubert was also requested to provide a schedule of practices and games to Secretary/Treasurer Reinford.

Roadmaster Brown had already touched on Sawmill Rd in his Roadmaster report, but Sawmill Rd is open on the Pine Grove side and Washington Township side.

Secretary/Treasurer Reinford stated she had two residents ask where our ordinances are located online and posed the question to the Board on whether we want them uploaded onto our current website. Chairman Krause said he understands other Townships have them on their websites. Chairman Krause moved to put the ordinances onto the website, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

There were two sealed bids received for the advertised sale of the 1997 Ford Super Duty. Vice-Chairman Wolfe opened the bids, and the Board reviewed them; one was from Dave Cook out of

Port Carbon for \$6,551 and the other was from Gerald G Martin and Sons Excavating for \$12,200. Chairman Krause moved to award the bid to Gerald G Martin and Sons Excavating in the amount of \$12,200 for the sale of the 1997 Ford Super Duty, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

**FOLLOW-UP 4/15/2024:** Follow-up 1144 Deturksville Rd: Chairman Krause directed his commentary to resident Eric Dougherty acknowledging his earlier public comment of having the inspection done today before the meeting. Resident Becky Hoppes stated she got a copy of the report and questioned vehicles in the back of the yard. Chairman Krause stated the second inspection happened today and when we receive the report they can do another right-to-know request.

Follow-up 1140 Deturksville Rd: Secretary/Treasurer Reinford stated she reached out to Ramon Gholson and left a voicemail without a response and reached out to Vikki Barr (Gholson) via email without a response. Reinford did note she had driven past recently, and it appears work has restarted on cleaning up the property. A certified letter will be sent to Mrs. Barr requesting communication about the status of the property.

Follow-up 31 Dad Burnhams Rd: Secretary/Treasurer Reinford stated she has not received any follow-up communication to the driveway permit she submitted to our point of contact at Light-Heigel. Chairman Krause directed Reinford to try following up with them again.

**NEW BUSINESS 4/15/2024:** Office Windows: Chairman Krause stated the office windows have been an ongoing issue. We had them back out during the rainstorm to address the leaking window due to the windows being too tight for the opening. Secretary/Treasurer Reinford stated last Friday during the heavy rains it did not appear to be leaking anymore. Stated they caulked the outside of the window and opened the interior to monitor leaks.

March 2024 Tax Exemption Requests: Chairman Krause motioned to accept the March 2024 tax exemptions submitted by tax collector Keith Heinbach, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors of Washington Township, upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Supervisor Brown the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. This motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly Reinford  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Washington Township

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