

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING OF:
September 16, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors was held Monday, September 16, 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 Craig Rhein, Pamela Rhein, Blake Renninger, Emily Hoffman, Dryden Huff, George Shiffer, Bob Free, Christian Lengel, Nancy Welty, Katie Holden, Zeke Holden, Amy Wolfe, Dave Lymaster, Harvey Barry, and Bonita Maurer.

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. 8/1/2024-8/31/2024 Tax Collector's Remittance Report
2. Right to Know Request: South Manheim Township pay and benefits request
3. United States Bankruptcy Court dismissal of Debtor 1
4. List of bidders for county Judicial sale
5. Williamson Friedberg & Jones LLC letter to Ed Wenger, Zoning Officer regarding 334 Birds Hill Rd
6. Schuylkill Planning & Zoning; Administratively Incomplete Plan Being Return: Subdivision Plan McHugh Subdivision
7. Schuylkill County Assessment Office: Change of Assessment Notice for 11 properties
8. McHugh Subdivision testing for 10 lots from HNT; forwarded two copies to DEP
9. County of Schuylkill Tax assessment Bureau; Exoneration, Real Estate for Parcels: 33-05-0087.001, 33-08-0055.001, 33-15-0027.002
10. Schuylkill County Township Officials Association Convention Invitation
11. FEMA National Flood Insurance Program Community Self-Assessment
12. MRM Trust Notes
13. COSTARS 2023-2024 Season Salt Contract Update
14. Mackin: Turkey Farm Road bridge inspection
15. PMRS Processing System Report 2023
16. GASB 68 Report for 2023
17. Driveway Permit Application and Land Development Plans to Light-Heigel & Associates
18. Municipal Notification of Planned Land Development for 31 Dad Burnhams Rd

19. FCCB – Statement
20. Fulton Bank – Statement
21. PLGIT - Statement

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Resident Craig Rhein asked when the building of hog and poultry houses will stop, as other townships around Washington Township do not have any. Rhein also shared his concern regarding the Kurtz Solar Farm. Solicitor Wiest suggested that anyone concerned about this project should attend the Schuylkill County Zoning Meetings. Wiest explained the agenda can be found online and residents may also call the Zoning office as Washington Township's zoning is governed by the county.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wolfe, approving the minutes for August 19, 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 August 15, 2024 – September 11, 2024, Treasurer's Report was approved with a balance in all accounts, before receipts and bills, was \$1,168,296.47. Included in this motion was the approval of payment of all bills presented. This motion unanimously carried.

RECEIPTS: The report of receipts (August 15, 2024 – September 11, 2024) listing \$55,256.13 in EIT receipts and \$23,926.78 in regular General Fund receipts was approved as printed upon motion of Chairman Krause, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Wiest stated he spoke with Solicitor Shelby Hostetter about the property on Birds Hill Rd per Ed Wenger's advice. She indicated she doesn't have a problem with it and would get back to Ed Wenger and/or Susan Smith. This matter is considered closed by Washington Township.

ROADMASTER REPORTS: Roadmaster Brown stated the Loop Rd bridge is completed, and Loop Rd is now open. His road crew will finish mowing within the Township, place winter markers, and continue paving.

COUNTY ZONING:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

OLD BUSINESS/FOLLOW-UP 8/19/2024: Follow-up 1140 Deturksville Rd: Chairman Krause stated this item can be removed from the agenda.

Follow-up Griffiths – ASA; Secretary/Treasurer Reinford stated this will be an approval for the September 16, 2024, meeting.

NEW BUSINESS 8/19/2024: July 2024 Tax Exemption Requests: Chairman Krause motioned to accept the July 2024 tax exemptions submitted by tax collector Keith Heinbach, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

Resident David Aungst attended to discuss his barn rebuild at 334 Birds Hill Rd. Aungst stated the original foundation remained in place but was capped by concrete which brought it less than five feet from the road. Chairman Krause asked Aungst if the barn itself were less than five feet from the road, to which Aungst stated the barn would be five feet or more from the road as it would be rebuilt in its original location. The Board of Supervisors and Solicitor Wiest collectively suggested and agreed that if Aungst backfilled with stone to cover the foundation and the barn was five feet or more from the road, that would be acceptable. Aungst agreed to this suggestion. Solicitor Wiest stated he would write up a letter and send it to Schuylkill County Zoning that Washington Township has no further involvement.

OLD BUSINESS/FOLLOW-UP 9/16/2024: Follow-up Elizabeth Griffiths – Modification of an Agricultural Security Area. Chairman Krause motioned to accept Elizabeth Griffiths’ modification of an Agricultural Security Area, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wolfe. This motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS 9/16/2024: August 2024 Tax Exemption Requests: Chairman Krause motioned to accept the July 2024 tax exemptions submitted by tax collector Keith Heinbach, seconded by Supervisor Brown. This motion unanimously carried.

Christian Lengel, on behalf of the Teener League, asked the Board of Supervisors if the league could haul in and spread dirt on the field as well as add batting cages. Lengel provided a sketch overview of the batting cages. Chairman Krause motioned that the Teener League may haul in dirt and put in batting cages for use by the league and residents, seconded by Vice-Chairman Wolfe. This motion unanimously carried.

Washington Township received an email from a resident on Loop Rd asking for speed limit signs along the road. Roadmaster Brown stated two “narrow road” signs and two “watch children” signs have been and will be placed along the road.

3272 Sweet Arrow Lake was discussed, as it came in as a complaint by a resident, that they are looking to sell their home and have concerns about junk on a neighboring property. Chairman Krause stated this is to be handled by the county.

9 Pickerel Lane was discussed, as it came in as a complaint by a resident, that there is talk of potential AirBnB cabins being built as well as a cesspool. Secretary/Treasurer Reinford had reached out to County Zoning to pass along the concern. At this time no permits or construction have been obtained or started.

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 7:21 p.m. This motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

September 16, 2024

Holly Reinford
Secretary/Treasurer
Washington Township

September 16, 2024