

**MINUTES**  
**September 21, 2020**  
**Zoom Meeting of the Board of Supervisors**  
**7:00 p.m.**

A scheduled meeting of Milford Township Supervisors was called to order at 7 P.M. by Chairperson Penney Luhrs through a Zoom call, the meeting ID for which had been advertised in advance in the Pike County Dispatch. Also present were Vice-Chairman Gary M. Williams, Supervisor Rachel Hendricks, Solicitor Anthony Magnotta, Zoning Officer Shawn Bolles, and Secretary/Treasurer Shahana Shamim.

Gary M. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, Rachel Hendricks seconded, and it was passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Shahana reported that she had received \$363.29 from Mears, \$132.69 from the Interim Tax, \$18,474.76 from Real Estate Tax, \$1,982.00 from Real Estate Transfer Tax, and \$55.00 from Ott Consulting. She also reported the account balances as \$130,341.06, \$16,871.34, \$26,179.69, \$7,044.53, and \$77,764.77 in Wayne Bank (Investment), Wayne Bank (Payroll), NBT Bank, PLGIT (General), and PLGIT (Liquid Fuels) accounts respectively.

**Roadmaster:**

Gary M. Williams, the Roadmaster, reported that roadcrews had finished mowing the sides of the roads. He reported that as of then only one full time road crew employee was working, as the other part timer got injured on his own time. The Solicitor inquired if the Gas Company had started working. Mr. Williams replied 'yes'.

**Zoning:**

The Zoning Officer informed the Supervisors that there was a conditional use application from Ms. Natasha Ferousis for a private recreational facility, and the decision would have to be made in the next Planning Board meeting, which was scheduled for the following day, as the 60-day time period would be reached by Thursday of that week. He asked Supervisors to vote for advertising this hearing for Supervisors' second meeting of October of 2020. Kevin Stroyan, the Vice-Chairman of the Planning Board was also present at the meeting, and he said that this applicant was may not be well-prepared for this hearing, as she had not been for the August Planning Board meeting. Shawn replied that the advertisement could be done without waiting for the next Supervisors' meeting in case this application gets approved by the Planning Commission. Rachel made a motion to advertise this hearing for October 19, 2020 Supervisors' meeting, contingent upon the approval of the Planning Board. Mr. Williams seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Public Participation #1:**

None

**Correspondence:**

Shahana presented correspondences including Light Up the Spectrum, PMRS, Code Inspections, UGI Customer Care Team, Hickory Hills POA, Milford Borough Council, PA Department of Community & Economic Development, NEPA, Mike Peifer, HRG, Storm Water Solutions, Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, Auditor General, and Pike County Planning.

**Old Business:**

- a. **Sewage (Act 537 Plan Draft):** Kevin Stroyan, The Vice-Chairman of the Planning Board, said that they would have a meeting the next day. He continued that the Supervisors had agreed that more than 60 days would likely be needed to review and comment on the draft of Act 537 Plan. The Township was not fiscally in a position to pay HRG officials for attending the meeting, and those officials could be included towards the end. It was surprising that HRG had a \$140,000 document, and answering questions about the document is not included in the cost. The Planning Board workshop, which would happen on the first Wednesday in October, will be held only to discuss this draft. 400 pages in this draft are new texts; some Members of the Planning Board are new; and the Planning Board would get only three hours per month to discuss this draft. He suggested sending another letter to Mr. Spatz, and reiterate the fact that the Planning Board needed more time for the review. Rachel added that Mr. Spatz's reply indicated that it would be up to the Supervisors if they would allow more time for the Planning Board to review. The Solicitor commented that HRG might submit the draft and add a comment of giving 60 days for the review and there being no comments. Ms. Hendricks made a motion to send a letter back to HRG stating that the Township has granted the Planning Board an additional 60 days to review and comment on this draft. Penney seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Stroyan commented that HRG had sent the draft to the Planning Commission, and there were no public meetings of the sewer group. He wondered how it was decided to send this draft to the Planning.
- b. **Bond Reduction for Shohola Dollar General:** The Zoning Officer commented that he had visited this store, and he had seen that their landscaping and vegetation were in good shape. Rachel Hendricks made a motion to grant 80% reduction of the bond for this store, and then keep following up for the remaining percentage of the bond, Mr. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- c. **Zoning Permit Fees:** Penny Luhrs noted that the Zoning Officer had sent an updated version of the fee schedule. She added that that new fee schedule was quite satisfactory to her, and Gary M. Williams agreed with her. Ms. Hendricks commented that she thought that zoning fees were still too high with a cap at \$10,0000, and applicants might come back asking for their money back. She added that she would go with the majority. Penney made to motion to accept this amended fee schedule, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

- a. **Joint Municipal Letter to Legislators regarding EMS:** Rachel Hendricks informed the other Supervisors that she had acquired the statistics of ambulance calls from the County, and she had forwarded it to Dingman Township in addition to sending it to Mr. Williams and Mrs. Luhrs. She continued that high call volumes usually happen during the daytime, and it also peaks during summertime and during winter storms. Call numbers reduced

during COVID-19 time. The Fire department's service, which is vital and critical, is appreciated. Transparency is needed now, as a large amount of taxpayers' dollars would be given to them under the referendum. A workshop with the Fire Department should happen within a couple of weeks. These joint workshops would be new to Milford Borough and Milford Township, but they are not new to Dingman Township. Shohola Township could be included in these workshops also. Milford Township could set a date for this workshop and advertise. She made a motion for setting a date for a meeting with the Fire Department, Milford Borough, and any other interested Municipalities to discuss the increase in funding for EMS services for the year 2021, Gary seconded, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Pike County Developmental Center – Financial Support Request:** Penny Luhrs inquired if the Township should ask for financial reports from this organization. Rachel Hendricks commented that the Township had removed all donations except for Fire & EMS from the budget, so unless the Township expects surplus income, which is probably not going to happen in the current year, she did not think they were in a position to make such a donation. Penney suggested waiting until the end of the year to see whether the Township is left with some extra money, which could be donated.
- c. Hickory Hills Estates POA – Request for meeting in the parking lot on October 11, 2020:** Gary M. Williams commented that this organization should not be allowed remove the Township building chairs from the building for their meeting. Shahana informed the Supervisors that members had told her that they would bring their own chairs. Gary M. Williams made a motion to allow this organization to conduct its meeting in the Township building parking lot on the requested date, Rachel Hendricks seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- d. Comprehensive Plan:** Kevin Stroyan informed the Supervisors that Westfall Township had contacted him. He continued that they had told him that they wanted to have an informal meeting in their building to discuss the Joint Comprehensive Plan with one of the Supervisors, and two Planning Board Members of this Township. Westfall Township would have their Zoning Officer, one of their Supervisors, and one of their Planning Board Members. He recommended attending this meeting, as funding is available for Joint Comprehensive Plans. Penney Luhrs made a motion to send Rachel Hendricks, Kevin Stroyan, and one other Planning Board Member to this meeting in Westfall Township building sometime the following week, Rachel Hendricks seconded, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Stroyan commented that Westfall Township would not advertise this meeting, as no quorums would be present at this meeting.
- e. Road Task Force:** Rachel said that Mr. Mrozinski from Pike County Planning had sent a letter for renewing the representative and the alternate position. Penney said that Gary's term as the roadmaster of the Road Task Force was going to expire at the end of the year. Mr. Williams said that he had been the representative for the past 14 years and there had been no Alternatives. Rachel Hendricks made a motion to reappoint Gary M. Williams as Road Task Force representative, Penney Luhrs seconded, and it passed unanimously.

The Solicitor said that the phrase "adopting the resolution" needed to be added to the motion of adopting the modified fee schedule. Rachel Hendricks amended that motion as adopting the resolution for the modified fee schedule, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously.

**Public Participation:**

Mr. Fred Weber commented that he was not happy with the sound system of that night's Zoom meeting, and he could not hear a lot of things. Rachel asked him to try the dial numbers of the Zoom contact for the next meeting.

There was no other business or executive session needed. Penney Luhrs made a motion to pay the bills and adjourn, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously. Adjournment was at 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shahana Shamim

Secretary/Treasurer