

**MINUTES**

**October 18, 2021**

**Hybrid Workshop of the Board of Supervisors (Zoom ID was advertised in advance in the Pike County Dispatch)**

**560 Route 6 & 209**

**6:30 p.m.**

Mr. Gary Williams said that a temporary repair at Vandermark Road was done the previous week. The ditch was filled, the accessibility of this road is quite bad, and it's not accessible from the bottom with decent equipment. The washout would be filled with some type of concrete, which would have to be pumped in from the top with a 425' 20" pipe, and it would run down the edge of the dirt road (above ground) towards the brook. Rachel added that the Engineer would mention if any approvals from the Conservation District would be required.

**2022 Budget Discussion:** \$6,250.00 needed to be added under the "Grant" section with a new subcategory of SRCP. The subsection 412.93 was being used for donating \$2,500 to Westfall Township, which is consuming services only, they are not providing any reports, and hence, they shouldn't be given any money this year. Some options to use that donation amount could be donating to Dingman Township, which had been covering this Township, or making some donations to the Library, Pike County Developmental Center, or Humane Society. Entering \$2,500 could be entered into the section 412 without any subcategory, and that would create the subcategory "412 -other". The budget for the "Inspector Supplies" line item should be \$1,900, as \$1,850 was the cost of the Permit Manager, and it went well with the subitem "Inspector Supplies" instead of "computer" which is where the expense had been posted in 2021 as opposed to where it was budgeted. The \$7,500 donation that this Township had been forwarding to Milford EMS was being used for paying for the insurance, supplies, facility and gas, and the Ambulance Tax was being used for the paid personnel. Rachel said that she had received a five-year report of fire, ambulance, and EMS calls at Econo-Pak, and she had handed it to Mr. Stroyan.

**Econo-Pak:** The original application did not include the conditional use application. The extension request from Econo-Pak needed to be accepted at tonight's meeting, because the existing 90-day extension was expiring on October 29. The agenda would have to be updated to include this item, and the new expiration date would be January 18, 2022. The Planning Board had discussed not holding any Hearings in the month of December, and if that is the case then another 90-day extension would be required. The Secretary said that Mr. Fuller himself would send the updated land development plan to the County and the Engineer for their reviews.

**MINUTES**

**October 18, 2021**

**Hybrid Meeting of the Board of Supervisors (Zoom meeting ID was advertised in advance in the Pike County Dispatch)**

**560 Route 6 & 209**

**7:00 p.m.**

A scheduled meeting of Milford Township Supervisors was called to order at 7 P.M. by Acting Chairperson Rachel Hendricks. Also present in person were Supervisor Gary M. Williams, Solicitor Anthony Magnotta, and Secretary/Treasurer Shahana Shamim.

Ms. Hendricks made a motion to amend the agenda to include under new business the extension of the Conditional Use and Land Development plan deadline for Econo-Pak to 90 days from that day. She added that the ending date would be January 18, 2022. Mr. Williams seconded her motion, and it passed. She added that the reason for this amendment to the agenda was that the request was received that day, and the deadline did not allow them to wait for the following meeting.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, Rachel Hendricks seconded, and it passed.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Shahana reported that since the last meeting she had received \$3,688.62 from R.E. Transfer Taxes, \$1,149.16 from Pike County Tax Claim Bureau, \$30.16 from Magisterial district Court, \$215.83 of Interim Tax and \$1,460.99 of property tax from the Tax Collector. She also reported the financial institution account balances as \$211,512.45, \$77,926.23, \$17,671.97, \$23,524.73, \$23,390.88, and \$79,970.82 in Wayne Bank (Investment), Wayne Bank (General), Wayne Bank (Payroll), NBT Bank, PLGIT (General), and PLGIT (Liquid Fuels) accounts respectively.

### **Roadmaster:**

Mr. Williams reported that there was a major washout on Vandermark Road in the Moon Valley community. He had received an estimate from the Engineer to fix that, and it eventually would have to go for bid. A temporary repair was done, the ditch line was extended downhill about 30', and it would last for that winter. One of the ditch lines was dug deeper, and it was widened, as a resident was getting water in her basement. It's a complicated ditch line to work on, as UGI's gas line runs through that ditch. Rachel asked the Secretary to add the Design for Moon Valley Road to the agenda of the next meeting.

Mr. Williams continued that three loads of salt would be delivered soon, and both trucks would be ready for snow within a couple of weeks. The snow plow operators in the area were being offered very high salaries, and this Township doesn't have enough funding to pay for such high salaries. A Commercial Drivers license is required for plowing snow here, and even PennDOT is not getting any applications for the snow plowing. Rachel asked Gary to meet with the Township's snow plow drivers and figure out the necessary budget changes for snow expenses for the year 2022. The Solicitor added that one of the Townships had to increase their snow plow salary from \$18.95 to \$22.95, as a lot of snow plow drivers had quit.

### **Public Participation #1:**

Ms. Simpson inquired if the sign right across from Chippy Cole belonged to the Township, and Gary replied that it belonged to PennDOT. Ms. Simpson added that the leaning tree on the road was a problem. Gary added that PennDOT had left some brush when they cut that tree, and Harvey and Nick had to clean it out.

Gary said that the bill provided by Sawkill Power on Route 01 was about half a million dollars, it was sent to Tim Knapp, and the response was "may be". Rachel added that the community has to have enough damage to receive PEMA or FEMA funding. She continued that

Jill Gamboni and State Representative Mike Peifer visited that place and Jill told her that she had searched for two weeks for funding sources, and what she had found was that there was not enough damage in Pike County to qualify for a damage designation to get any funding for those repairs. Sawkill Power is a commercial property, and flood insurance could have protected this property. Every place is under flood plain of some level, such as high risk or very rare, but most people in this area don't have flood insurance. Gary added that a bridge on Route 01 was taken out in a major storm he recalled, and it was a surprise. He continued that they were repairing the parking lot at Sawkill Power by putting huge rocks one at a time. The deed of Moon Valley Road is from 1995, and it became a Township road in 1995. It was a good road back then, it met the Township criteria, but it worsened over time, and it keeps washing out. Rachel added that trees help significantly in stormwater management.

Ms. Terri Christensen handed out information about the calls handled by Milford Ambulance for the time span of 9-20-2021 through 10-18-2021. She said that Dingman Township had put an ambulance on Buist Road, but they never informed the Milford EMS until the last Ambulance meeting of the municipalities. Rachel said that Dingman Township Supervisors had asked to meet with the Supervisors of this Township on the coming Thursday. She continued that there's money on table, from the County, and there's accountability needed when taxpayers' dollars are being spent. A report of how the 2020 EMS donation was spent would be required before this Township can issue the same donation at the end of the current year. The Milford Ambulance writes checks to Delaware Valley EMS, and it's this Township's expectation to receive reports on those expenditures as well, which the Fire Department's Treasurer had last reported on in August. Ms. Simpson commented that EMS service is expensive, the calls are divided between paid people and volunteers, and residents probably think the help that they get comes from God. Rachel explained that people of this Township voted for the ambulance tax referendum, and this is the first year that residents are paying taxes for EMS. The number of EMS volunteers had declined after COVID-19 hit, acquiring paid EMS personnel became critical, and this Township and Milford Borough had generated \$58,000 - \$60,000, and \$45,000 respectively this year from the ambulance tax. These two Municipalities are paying at a rate of \$500 for each 12-hour shift, and Dingman Township had forwarded \$45,000 to Milford EMS, which covers a portion of Dingman Township, such as the Raymondskill, Woodlands, and Sawkill areas. She asked Terri to also provide a report of how the ambulance tax dollars from this year were spent for DVEMS, the paid EMS service provider.

Terri said that the Upper Dingman and Lower Dingman were mentioned at the recent meeting and the FD is working to calculate the population of Dingman Township that is in its coverage area. Rachel suggested that somebody from the Fire Department could get a map from the County, and then the coverage area with the map of Dingman Township could be matched. Mr. Williams added that there are a thousand homes in Woodlands. Ms. Simpson inquired about transports. Terri added that Milford Ambulance transports patients to the hospital, but it doesn't bring patients back from the hospital. She continued that DOA on the report meant deceased on arrival and QRS meant quick response service. Milford Ambulance is not equipped for QRS, and Matamoros is. They have a licensed vehicle for that, they can go to the scene, and help until a licensed EMT or a paramedic arrives. Dingman Township had requested hours and mileages, and she didn't keep those records, as no one had ever asked for that information before. Rachel added that Westfall Township was doing volunteers only this year but they will get paid EMS staff from Port Jervis, and they might be covering 12 hours next year. She further added that the two Fire Chiefs would have a conversation to coordinate the schedule of their coverages. She

asked Terri to send the handout to Dingman Township, Westfall Township, and Milford Borough, as these Municipalities were going to have their meetings the next evening.

**Secretary's Report:**

Shahana presented various correspondences received, including from John D. Fuller, Brian Snyder, Solicitor, Kirk, Summa & Co., LLP, certificates of liability insurances, PSATS Trustees Insurance & Retirement Service, Pike County Tax Administration, PIRMA, and Vito Dibiasi.

**Old Business:**

Mr. Williams made a motion to place the two items "Water Protection Ordinance - Wellhead/watershed zoning amendment" and "Office Computers – professionals and budget" to the next meeting's agenda, as the Chairperson was absent, Ms. Hendricks seconded, and it passed.

**New Business:**

**a. Extension of the Conditional Use & Land Development Plan deadline for Econo-Pak to 90 days:** Ms. Hendricks made a motion to approve the 90-day extension request for Econo-Pak's conditional use and land development application. She added that, that will be 90 days from today, and the extension would expire on January 18, 2022. Mr. Williams seconded her motion, and it passed.

**b. 2021 Audit Service – Kirk, Summa & Co., LLP:** Rachel said that this company had sent a request to do the audit for this year, and it needed to be advertised before the end of the year. She made a motion to approve their request for auditing the 2021 records, and to place the appropriate advertisement, Mr. Williams seconded, and it passed.

**Public Participation #2:**

Mr. Vito Dibiasi said that Milford Borough and Milford Water Authority would send a letter to the Township asking for the Source Water Protection Plan to be appended to the proposed Wellhead/Watershed Zoning Amendment. He continued that there was a forum on Zoom, the attendees understood the importance of the aquifer, and some supported the Conservation Easement idea. They hope that they can pursue money for that easement through the Biden administration, federal, state, and private programs, and he urged the Supervisors to be on board. The Shepstone ordinance needed to be in a better shape, and Nature Conservancy gets involved in these types of things. The Nature Conservancy is a private corporation, and they are involved with the State College. He also urged the Supervisors to review the Charlie Schmehl ordinance, which is a model ordinance. He also urged the Supervisors to listen to Delaware Riverkeeper, who had sent a six-page letter with concerns. He added that new quarries are not needed, golf courses, mining activities, oil and gas exploration, sand and gravel mining needed to be revisited, and those should not be in conditional use on top of the aquifer at all. Mr. Williams asked him to provide names and addresses of 109 members of Mr. DiBiasi's aquifer group.

There was no other business or executive session needed. Mr. Williams made a motion pay the bills and adjourn, Ms. Hendricks seconded, and it passed. Adjournment was at 8:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shahana Shamim

Secretary/Treasurer