

MINUTES
February 7, 2022
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.

Hazard Mitigation Plan: Ms. Hendricks said that Action Worksheets are required for every hazard and due to the County later this week. Each action item could handle a number of hazard types. She continued that addressing steep slopes for stormwater runoff could be addressed, and numerous hazards by updating the Comprehensive Plan. At the Hazard Mitigation meeting, it was discussed that power outages are an issue, and a tree maintenance program could potentially help with minimizing power outages, but the questions are how it could be handled, and who would be responsible for that. Mr. DiLorenzo added that there are an awful lot of dead trees along the side of the roads. He further added that a list of trees could be identified but going around and taking all the trees that are dead but not fallen yet could be quite costly, and grant monies would be required for it. Mr. Williams added that once a dead tree is marked, the Township would become liable to get rid of it. He added that reporting dead trees to the power company is better than marking those dead trees. Ms. Luhrs added that a lot of trees were taken down on 739, and Mr. Williams said that that was done by the power company. Ms. Luhrs added that from the business perspective, it's better to be proactive by taking the trees down before they damage the power lines. Mr. Williams added that there are two dead trees in Moon Valley Road, and those have become hazardous. Mr. DiLorenzo added that trees fall after storms, and power outages happen. Ms. Hendricks added that the availability of funding could be checked with Tetra-Tech, and one of the goals is to work with the Borough and the Water Authority for the availability of water during long term power outages. Residents could be educated about the availability of outdoor water during long-term power outages. Mr. DiLorenzo suggested doing summertime open houses, people might ask questions, and those can be answered.

Mr. DiLorenzo said that at the emergency meeting, UGI never spoke about giving free heaters, and Ms. Hendricks added that it was not in their social media as well. Penney added that she had received a notification about \$75 credits going on the bills, and she hoped that everybody would get that. Rachel added that UGI was doing robocalls about stopping to work at 11:00 P.M. She continued that it's important to have phone numbers with UGI, and Mr. Tim Knapp and Mr. Ed Robinson were able to exchange phone numbers at the emergency meeting, but that was after the whole day without heating had passed. Those things needed to be sped up for future occurrences. The Fire Chief's and the captain's phone numbers are quite helpful too. People had put their phone numbers on their doors, they had received calls from UGI, and that was helpful. Mr. Knapp had informed her that there would be an after-action meeting, and the Supervisors of this Township would be invited so that future emergencies could use what was learned. UGI did a fantastic job, the Township did a fantastic job in communicating, and the Secretary had posted information on the website from home instead of coming to the township building, where there was no heat.

The action items for the Hazard Mitigation Plan were due to the County by Wednesday. If a funding is available for the tree maintenance, then it would be an interest, and it won't be an interest if funding is not available. Mr. DiLorenzo added that the availability of tree maintenance

programs needed to be looked at, and if it's not available, then we need to forget about it. Rachel added that she would communicate with Heather Apgar of Tetra-Tech for those details.

MINUTES
February 7, 2022
Hybrid Meeting of the Board of Supervisors
560 Route 6 & 209
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 Hybrid call, the meeting ID for which had been advertised in advance in the Pike County Dispatch. Also present were Supervisors Rachel Hendricks (Vice Chairperson) Gary M. Williams, and Secretary/Treasurer Shahana Shamim.

Minutes of previous workshop and meeting reviewed for possible additions or corrections before approval by the Board: Gary M. Williams made a correction to the minutes of the previous workshop. Ms. Hendricks made a motion to approve those minutes and the meeting minutes with this correction, Mr. Williams seconded, and it passed.

Minutes of the Emergency meeting of January 27, 2022 for possible additions or corrections before approval by the Board: Ms. Hendricks made a motion to approve these minutes Mr. Williams seconded, and it passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Shahana reported that since the last meeting she had received \$500 from Planet Aid, \$9,475.98 from R.E. transfer tax, \$54.18 from Pike County Probation Office, \$1,850 from Leiby Trucking, and \$800 from Sewage. She added that she had confirmed with the Real Estate Transfer Tax office that the \$9,009.79 check that she had received at the previous meeting was correct. She also reported the financial institution account balances as \$109,842.79, \$77,854.88 \$17,992.58, \$33,849.99, \$8,387.11, and \$70,271.14 Wayne Bank (Investment), Wayne Bank (General), Wayne Bank (Payroll), NBT Bank, PLGIT (General), and PLGIT (Liquid Fuels) accounts respectively.

Roadmaster:

Gary M. Williams the Roadmaster reported that the transmission of the Kodiak was acting up, and it was not shifting right. He continued that fixing it would cost \$12,000, it's not worth it, to put that much into this 26-year-old Kodiak, and some people were interested in buying it. \$1,850 from Leiby Truck was received, as they had struck the ceiling of the salt shed, and he had authorized Lattimore Construction to go ahead and fix the ceiling. Replacing the Kodiak needed to be thought about, and he had spoken to Peterbilt and Mack. The required equipment would cost about \$128,000, and the outfitters, such as the plow, sander, and hydraulic would cost about another \$50,000. There are three openings in Dunmore, and a new one could be acquired by December of the current year. Ms. Hendricks asked the Secretary to put this item into the agenda for the next meeting, and she asked Gary to obtain the list of specifications and the financing options before the next meeting. Gary said that all the finances had been done through Wayne Bank. In reply to Chris Jones' inquiry, he said that 2011 Ford 5500 was still being used for the plowing, the Kodiak is a 1996 model, and it is 26 years old.

Gary said that Nicole Herman from PCLP had told him that they had some streetlight bulbs, 100 Watts and 70 Watts, in stock, they were ordering more to start the work of changing the streetlights to LEDs, and she would provide the exact Wattages and locations. In reply to Rachel's inquiry, Gary said that he did not need to purchase the \$5,000 spreader, as they were able to repair the existing one. Rachel thanked Gary and Mr. DiLorenzo for helping with the power issues in the Building during the gas outage, and thus the electric heaters were able to function inside the building and prevent frozen pipes.

Zoning:

Ms. Hendricks reminded everybody that the Hearing for Econo-Pak was scheduled for March 7th at 7:00 P.M., as advertising time was not available for tonight's meeting, and Mr. Fuller was not available for the meeting scheduled for February 22nd.

Public Participation #1:

None

Correspondence:

Shahana presented various correspondences received, including from Rachel Hendricks, Mike Mrozinski, HRG, Planning Board, Tetra-Tech, Pike County Commissioners Office, Pike County Planning Office, Pike County Public Safety, United States Department of Commerce Census Bureau, Pike County Conservation District, UGI Utilities, Koberlein Environmental Services, Pike County Tax Administration, John Fuller, Pike County Light & Power, Planning Board Solicitor, and Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System.

Old Business:

a. Scope of work for comprehensive plan RFP – Advertisement: Rachel said that a legal ad has to be placed for this RFP, and the County had posted all the information on the State's Engineering website. She added that she had sent the link to Mr. Shepstone so that he would know that it was there. She made a motion to make this legal advertisement with the deadline that is listed on that website, Penney seconded, and it passed unanimously.

b. Hazard Mitigation Plan Action Items - due to the County 2/9: Rachel said that she would communicate with Heather Apgar of Tetra-Tech about what was discussed in the workshop.

c. Act 537 Plan Draft – inquiry from the Planning Board: Penney said that the Act 537 Plan does not affect this Township. Mr. DiLorenzo, the Chairman of the Planning Board, was present at the meeting, and he said that both HRG and DEP had told him that this Township had adopted the Act 537 Plan. He continued that DEP had said that the Act 537 Plan had to be adopted in order to have it reviewed, and they have a copy, which states that this Township had adopted it. Penney added that this Township doesn't need the Sewer line, and she read a letter from the Solicitor. That letter stated that DEP has to approve the plan before it could be implemented, and the approval of the Supervisors still needs to be approved by DEP. The decision that has to be made is to stay in the agreement or to pull out if staying in it is not economically feasible.

Mr. DiLorenzo said that he would say 'no' based on what is included in the On-lot system, and according to this plan, residents could be told they can have only one load of laundry a day and ma be none. Mr. DiLorenzo added that HRG is out of money, they are indicating that

some items aren't in their scope of work, but according to the contract, some of those items are included in their scope of work. He further added that if the transmission line goes through, and something fails, then each Municipality would be responsible for their own finances. Ms. Hendricks added that this Township did not receive HRG's contract, she had a copy of it, and she had to acquire it from a Right-to-Know request as an individual. At this point HRG was asking the Township to come up with the money for the well testing, the cost would be \$1,350, but it might only be the first step. Mr. DiLorenzo added that at the meeting that he had attended, it was also said that this Township would be responsible for the maintenance of the line too. Rachel added that the resolution had stated that they had given permission to forward the Act 537 Plan to DEP for their review, and DEP did not approve it. Some revisions would have to be made if this Township opts out, and that would cost money as well.

Mr. Stroyan, the Vice chairman of the Planning Board said that the fundamental question hadn't been answered yet, and the cart was being placed in front of the horse. He continued that the Plan was administratively reviewed, HRG didn't provide any written response about what their position was about the money, and they are asking for more money. The other fundamental problem is that they have their times for their meetings, they keep changing the schedule, and that's why the Planning Board had inquired about the position of the Supervisors. HRG had been having meetings according to their convenience, they hadn't informed the Board Members, and they had been purposely scheduling inconvenient meeting times. The leaders of this community have to decide whether this Township would be in it or not, and determinations cannot be made when there is not enough information. There should be an explanation, and professionals are supposed to make it right when an obligation is not fulfilled.

Mr. Stroyan asked what the sense of urgency is, and Penney said that the school needed it. Mr. DiLorenzo said that HRG hadn't submitted the anti-degradation letter, which is a basic item, yet, and this Township had never heard from Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) either. He added that DRBC had said 'no' to any expansions about 10 years ago, as there had been no ground failures, and there were only system failures. Mr. Stroyan added that the procedure hadn't even gone beyond the administrative review, and DEP didn't accept or reject the application. Mr. DiLorenzo added that DEP hadn't looked at the mechanicals yet. He further added that HRG didn't even know that Wheatfield Village has a well, which is the closest well to the proposed Sewer Line.

Rachel said that HRG had sent a letter telling that they wanted the Township to do the work of coordinating the testing of five wells (four if Wheatfield Village provides the lab results), they want to know if the Township is agreeing to pay for the well testing, and this Board could decide not to do that. She continued that testing the wells was a part of DEP's 18-page letter, and it should have been added in the submittal. This Township had repeatedly said that it doesn't want to open its wallet for anything else in this regard. The County was asked to spend money also, and Mr. Mrozinski had asked the Municipalities to spend money from the ARP funding. The ARP funding likely won't qualify for this type of expenditure, and this Township already has a plan for spending that money. The Township could ask for explanations about why these things were not done properly. The other Municipalities might say that it would cost them more if this Township withdraws, and hence they could sue this Township. Mr. Stroyan added that this Township was never opposed to the Central Sewage. He added that the hired professionals should provide their explanation. Penney added that this item would be discussed at the joint meeting of the Supervisors and the Planning Board members on the 22nd.

New Business:

- a. **UGI Outage Emergency:** Penney said that UGI had done a very good job, and they were very nice and very respectful even when they were restoring at 2:00 O' Clock in the morning. Rachel added that according to the Solicitor, the emergency proclamation had ended as soon as UGI had notified us that all of the services were restored. Mr. DiLorenzo added that UGI needed to learn from their mistake and correct it, and Mr. Williams added that a piece of their equipment had frozen up. Mr. DiLorenzo added that they need to increase the pressure before cold snaps, as the pressure drops when more people draw upon it, and the valve freezes. Rachel thanked Gary's son, and Bob for coming and addressing the electrical issues so the electric heaters worked in the building at that time, and she thanked Kevin for taking the initiative of communicating with UGI while Supervisors were coordinating the emergency meeting. She added that that's how the commander of UGI was able to attend the emergency meeting, and thus information was disseminated among residents. She further added that the Secretary came to make the Zoom connection so that everybody could connect to the emergency meeting without coming down to the building and posted information on the website. She indicated that the Township's team had done a very good job in addressing the situation.

Mr. Stroyan thanked the Supervisors for making themselves available. He added that a thank you letter should be written to the gentleman, who had attended the meeting as a representative of UGI, a copy of their action report needed to be asked for, and that would be an approach to find out what actually had happened. Penney added that she had received a letter about a \$75 refund from UGI. Mr. Stroyan added that it's probably a fundamental valve issue, which was not addressed when they did the upgrade. He further added that they shut the system when the pressure goes down, and there's a threat to public safety. Rachel made a motion to send a letter of thanks to Mr. Robinson, and ask for any incident/accident report that is related to this incident. Penney seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. **Expenditures from the COVID-19 Grant:** Rachel said that the ARP money was sitting in a separate account, and that money needed to be moved to the general account before the ARP reporting requirement deadline. She continued that the microphones, TV, and the Zoom setup were done after the reception of the first installment of ARP money, and those expenses needed to be reimbursed from the ARP funding. The Zoom subscription expenses of 2021 needed to come out of the ARP funding also. Penney suggested looking for yearly Zoom subscriptions, as the need for this technology won't go away soon. Supervisors asked the Secretary to reimburse the general account from that ARP funding for these expenses, and to submit those expenses in the reporting.
- c. **County Match of \$60,000 for EMS – EMS Grant Application:** Rachel said that the County had informed this Township that they had placed an application on their website. She continued that when the County's check would arrive is not clear yet, and Milford Ambulance had been providing seven days a week of service in anticipation of the

funding plan that this Township has in place, including funding from the County. Milford Ambulance doesn't have their own funds to continue to do that. The Township hasn't started receiving tax dollars, but the financial situation is good enough to forward \$15,000 to EMS, and it could be voted at the next meeting. She made a motion to fill out the online application for the County match as soon as possible, Mr. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Public Participation #2:

Mr. Stroyan said that the next meeting would be a joint meeting of the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission, and the agenda could be a joint one or there could be two separate agendas. He continued that the official Zoning map is almost done, a separate map would be needed for the delineation of the aquifer, and the Wellhead Protection Ordinance could be discussed at this joint meeting. Mr. Steve Metzger might present his application for delineating his own property, and he would like to leave his home in the residential zone. The pond is in his commercial property, he wants to keep the pond with his home, and that way he would be able to sell his commercial property.

Rachel said that the next Sewer group meeting would be held on Thursday, and she made a motion to approve a Supervisor's participation in that meeting, with Penney indicating she was able to attend as the representative of this Township. She added that Penney tell the group at that meeting that this Township has no intention to spend any funds for Eastern Pike Sewer Plan, and this Board would like them to revisit why the situation is the way it is. Gary seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

There was no other business or executive session needed. Gary made a motion to pay the bills and adjourn, Rachel seconded, and it passed unanimously. Adjournment was at 8:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shahana Shamim

Secretary/Treasurer