

**West Penn Township Board of Supervisors
27 Municipal Road
New Ringgold, PA 17960**

Phone (570)386-4507

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**Regular Meeting
Monday, October 5, 2020**

Present at the Meeting

Anthony Prudenti
Timothy Houser (absent)
Glenn Hummel

Karen Wittig – Treasurer
Katie Orlick – Secretary
Ralph Hummel – Lehigh Eng.
Paul Datte – Solicitor

I. General

A. Tony Prudenti called the meeting to order at 6:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introduction.

B. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only (5 Minutes Time Limit) - NONE

C. Review of the Minutes – September 8th & 21st, 2020.

Chairman called for a motion to accept the meeting minutes for September 8th & 21st, 2020. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

D. Treasurer’s Report – September 2020

Chairman called for a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion.

Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

Chairman called for a motion to disperse the Fire Relief money \$29,316.35 to the West Penn Township Fire Co. #1 Relief Association. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. 2-0

E. Approval of Bills – September 2020

Chairman asked Supervisor Hummel if he had any questions about paying the bills. Supervisor Hummel questioned a bill from Lehigh Engineering, LLC. Chairman said the BOS questioned Ralph Hummel about charges on our bill for the Comprehensive Plan. Ralph Hummel instructed the BOS to hold off on paying that portion of the bill.

Chairman called for a motion to approve the bills. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

F. Solicitor’s Report

1. Paul Datte said he prepared a Resolution to enter into a Governmental Finance Lease Agreement with Mauch Chunk Trust for the John Deer 4 10L Backhoe/Loader & the Skid Steer 332 G II. It is a five-year lease @ a fixed rate of 1.98%. Chairman called for a motion to adopt Resolution # 19 of 2020. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0

2. Agreement of Land Acquisition for Bella Terra Farms. Attorney Datte said it was not ready yet. Attorney Datte wanted to talk to the BOS briefly about the agreement in executive session.

3. Chairman asked Attorney Datte if he can look into a property in the Twp. that was sold at Sheriff Sale. Chairman said the address is 1080 Clamtown Rd., which the Twp. had a lien against that property. Chairman asked if Attorney Datte if he could see if we can recover the money owed to the Twp. Attorney Datte said if the Twp. did not inform the Tax Claim Bureau that we have a lien and it wasn’t included in the upset price then we will not be able to recover it.

II. Land Use

A. Arner Subdivision – Planning Commission recommendations:

1. Chairman called for a Motion to approve modification of SALDO Section 1019 Concrete Monuments & use steel pins instead of concrete monuments. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0
2. Chairman called for a motion to accept the request for Non-Building Declaration & submit it to DEP for approval. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0
3. Chairman called for a motion to accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission and conditionally approve the King-Frantz & Arner subdivision contingent upon satisfying comments from ARRO Consulting, Schuylkill Planning & Bill Brior, SEO and adopt Resolution # 21 of 2020, Conditional Approval. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0

B. Comisac-Gattone Subdivision – Planning Commission recommendations:

1. Chairman called for a motion to approve the modification of the SALDO Section 1019 Concrete monuments and use steel pins instead. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0
2. Chairman called for a motion to accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission and conditionally approve the Comisac-Gattone subdivision contingent upon satisfying comments from ARRO Consulting, Schuylkill County Planning, & Bill Brior, SEO and adopt Resolution # 22 of 2020, Conditional Approval. Chairman made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0

III. Operations

A. Engineer’s Monthly Report – September 2020

Chairman asked the BOS if they had any questions for Ralph Hummel of Lehigh Engineering, LLC. Ralph Hummel said Dollar General agreed to install signs between St. Luke’s & Dollar General. The signs have been installed. The signs will help prevent the public from driving over the bank. Ralph Hummel said we got approved for the DCNR park grant for The J.E. Morgan Memorial Park. Chairman asked Ralph Hummel about the Update of our Comprehensive Plan. Ralph Hummel said we will have a draft out to the Comprehensive Advisory Board by October 15, 2020, for them to comment. After the Comprehensive Advisory makes their comments then it will go in front of the Planning Commission. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Engineer’s Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

B. Code Enforcement Monthly Report – September 2020

Ralph Hummel continued with the Code Enforcement Report. Chairman questioned the time limit of the Sword Zoning Decision and when they had to comply. Ralph Hummel said they are working on the Sign UCC Permit Application. Ralph Hummel said the piles of dirt have been knocked over. The Chairman said they weren’t supposed to knock the piles over they were supposed to make a berm. Ralph said they were only allowed so many tons in a pile so they leveled it out. Ralph Hummel said he would like to talk to Attorney Datte in executive session about the driveway because it is a PennDOT right-of way. Chairman asked Ralph Hummel about the status on the Old Maggie’s Kitchen. Ralph Hummel said there was only one issue that needed to be addressed.

Glenn Hummel asked Ralph Hummel about the status on of Park Dr. & the Pallet Company. Ralph Hummel said it went to Schuylkill County Court and they pled guilty to one charge. They said they would be in for a zoning application for the fence, which they did not do yet. Chairman called for a motion to

accept the Code Enforcement Officer's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0

C. Sewage Enforcement Officer's Monthly Report – September 2020

Chairman read the Sewage Enforcement Officer's Report. The SEO's report consisted of 4 New Permit Applications, 6 Test Probes, 11 Perc Tests, 5 Site Evaluations, 3 Design Reviews & 3 New Permit Issued & 4 Subdivision Plan Review. There were no Malfunctions for the month of September. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Sewage Enforcement Officer's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

D. Road Department's Monthly Report – September 2020

Chairman read the Road Report. The report consisted of general maintenance to the Twp. Building & Equipment, Patching Potholes on Dirt & Paved Roads, Clean & Dug Out Pipes, Clean trees & garbage off roads, finished paving Sycamore Rd., Paved Poplar, Water Wheel, Villas Crossing, Spring, Tower & Blue Mountain Drive, mowed shoulders & took delivery of new backhoe & skid-loader from Plasters Equipment. Chairman also read the Maintenance Report of the Road Equipment. Chairman also added that the Twp. got the remaining of the Dirt & Gravel Grant money in for Fort Franklin - \$33,233.55. Chairman asked the Road Master Clint Schock if he had anything to discuss with the BOS. Clint Schock said he got some quotes on some power equipment. Clint Schock said AG Industrial will give us \$2500 dollars' worth of equipment for \$2000 dollars. Mr. Schock said we will save \$515.00. Clint Schock said we will pay for it out of Liquid Fuels Small Equipment Budget. Glenn Hummel made the motion to buy the small equipment. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0 Chairman called for a motion to accept the Road Department's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

E. Police Department Report – September 2020,

Chairman read the police report. The police report consisted of 8,204 miles patrolled, 173 citations issued, 51 written warnings, 224 total traffic and 294 total calls. Fine money received was \$5,421.95 plus total impound \$510 which equals to \$5,931.95. The Chief is working on the 2021 budget & attended the budget meeting. The Police Dept. purchased 8 new BCWs (Cameras). We set Trick-or-treat for Saturday, October 31, 2020, 6PM – 8PM. Chairman said the Chief of Police would like to recommend to the BOS to hire a part-time police officer, Michael Leighton. Chairman said he was able to be involved with the interview process for Michael Leighton. Chairman feels he would be an asset to our Police Department. Chairman asked the Police Chief if he would like to hire Michael Leighton at tonight's meeting. Chief said; "yes". Chairman called for a motion to hire Michael Leighton as a part-time police officer for West Penn Township. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0 Chief Johnson said that the Andreas Parade is canceled.

Chairman called for a motion to accept the Police Department's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

F. Fire Company Monthly Report – September 2020

Chairman read the Fire Company's report. 15 Total calls for the month of September. Emergency Responses included 8 Motor vehicle accidents, 4 Trees/wires down, 1 Automatic Alarms, 0 Search, 1 Fire Police calls, and 1 Landing zone. They did not have any hall rentals due to COVID. Fundraisers included a Breakfast pick up only & Tamaqua Band will have a drive thru Ham & Turkey Dinner on 10/24/20. The Fire Dept. filled a pool & did training & equipment maintenance. Chairman asked the Fire Chief if he had anything else for the BOS. Jeff Bradford said he has the 2018 & 2019 audits to submit to the BOS. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Fire Department's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

G. Ambulance Monthly Report – September 2020

Chairman said the Ambulance Report was not submitted this month.

IV. Old Business

A. Chairman called for a motion to adopt Resolution # 20 of 2020, which is a Resolution for a Plan Revision for the New Land Development for Embrovac, LLC. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0

V. New Business

A. Chairman asked the BOS to set Trick-or-Treat time & date. Glenn Hummel made the motion to set trick-or-treat for Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 6PM-8PM. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0

VI. Correspondence

A. Chairman read an email from a resident thanking the police department for their service in regards with an issue they were having with their son.

B. Chairman reminded everyone that the November 2nd, 2020 meeting will be held at the ANNEX Building at 6:30PM.

C. Chairman stated that West Penn Twp. did get approved for the DCNR grant for \$60,000.00. Chairman thanked Lehigh Engineering, LLC for redoing the grant application free of charge. Glenn Hummel asked Chairman if he can start to schedule vendors to do the work once the Twp. receives the money. Chairman said Glenn Hummel can line things up for work and get ready for when they receive the money. Attorney Datte said we have to follow the PA Dept. of Labor & Industry, the authorized municipal bidding thresholds when purchases & service need to be done for the Township. The Township will have to approve purchase orders/ work that will be done for this project at our public meetings. Attorney Datte recommends we comply with the grant agreement and the Twp. code throughout the project. Attorney Datte said anything between \$11,300 and \$21,000 you will need three quotes. Attorney Datte also, recommends we wait until we get the grant agreement to make sure there is not any other stipulations this project will require.

VII. Business from Anyone on the Board

A. Glenn Hummel asked the Fire Chief if he was able to find out if the Fire Department is willing to have recycling bins up by their building. Fire Chief Jeff Bradford said the Fire Department did not have an official meeting that he can get a solid vote on that subject.

B. Glenn Hummel also wanted to discuss the Youth Soccer Lease Agreement for the Morgan Park field. Glenn Hummel would like to get the Lease Agreement approved. The Lease Agreement is a two-year lease. Glenn Hummel made the motion to enter into a lease agreement with the Tamaqua Youth Soccer, two-year lease, renewable yearly after that. Glenn Hummel said part of the reason for this lease agreement is to ensure someone has control of the field & they will be responsible for the maintenance of the field. Chairman said this lease we reviewed before but our Solicitor put in a paragraph about insurances and location. Glenn Hummel made the motion to enter into the lease agreement. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0

VIII. Public Comments on General Items

A. Delroy Haas thanked the Road Department again for checking on him to make sure he was O.k. while he was doing work under his car.

B. Art Sterling – asked the BOS the status of the Galloway Property. Chairman said it was up for Judicial Sale. The Twp. was going to send our Solicitor to the sale to buy the property, then apply for a grant to demolish the building. But someone paid the taxes at the last minute and the property was pulled from the sale. Attorney Datte said another complication on this property was the owner passed away and there was no estate raised for the owner.

IX. Executive Session

Chairman called for a motion to go into executive session for personnel & possible litigation @ 7:35PM. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was carried. 2-0

Chairman called the meeting back to order at 8:00PM.

X. Adjournment

Chairman called for a motion to adjourn @ 8:15PM. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

Transcribed By:

Katie Orlick

West Penn Township Secretary