

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

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**Regular 9AM Zoning Workshop
Monthly Meeting to Follow
Monday, December 20, 2021**

Present at the Meeting

Tony Prudenti – Chairman

Katie Orlick - Secretary

Tim Houser - Supervisor

Paul Datte – Solicitor

Glenn Hummel – Supervisor

Mike Begis – ARRO Consulting, Inc.

Karen Wittig – Treasurer

Zoning and Comprehension Plan Workshop

Township Solicitor, Paul Datte addressed some outstanding comments pertaining to the draft Zoning Ordinance. One of the primary issues Attorney Datte would like the BOS to clarify is the regulations about gallons of water per day for the groundwater withdrawal draft. Tim Houser questioned Attorney Datte about greenhouses and hydroponic farming operations. Mr. Houser is also concerned with the truck traffic the farming will bring. Chairman asked the BOS if they agreed with what Attorney Datte & Charlie Schmehl suggestion of regulation of water withdrawal should be more than 1000 gallons per day. The Board agreed the regulation of water withdrawal should be 10,000 gallons per day. Another issue was changes to the Zoning Map. Attorney Datte said Charlie Schmehl will make the appropriate changes to the map. Attorney Datte said a lot of the Zoning Map district lines follow the property/lot lines. The parts that do not Charlie Schmehl clearly marked and depth will be determined by scale.

Attorney Datte explained the Comprehensive Plan has to conform to the Zoning Map. Attorney Datte said it is very important that both documents are consistent. Attorney Datte said it does not matter how the Township adopts them as long as they are consistent with each other.

Attorney Datte said we need a CAD plan for the Comprehensive Plan of the map from Lehigh Engineering, LLC.

Attorney Datte said he will contact Charlie Schmehl about what he recommends for the Comprehensive Plan Map because it needs to be consistent with the Zoning Map that Mr. Schmehl created.

Attorney Datte had one other issue to discuss with the BOS. The Twp. received a request for modification of the Agricultural Security Area. Attorney Datte said Ag Security Act should be reviewed every seven years. The Twp. is beyond the seven years so he suggests we do the modification and the review at the same time. Attorney Datte asked the BOS if they agree to do the review & the modification all at the same time. The BOS agreed to do everything together. Attorney Datte said he will set up times and dates with the secretary.

I. General

A. Anthony Prudenti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introductions at 9:52AM.

B. Approval of Monthly Bills

Chairman called for a motion to approve /pay the monthly bills. Tim Houser made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

III. Land Use - NONE

IV. Old Business

A. Lights at the Fire Station for Recycling Center

Secretary said that she spoke to the Recycling attendant and he does not have a problem with working when it is dark as long as there is lighting at the Recycling Center. Chairman and Supervisor Houser doesn't think we need to add the lights because it isn't for a long period of time that it stays dark that early. Supervisor Hummel can go either way. The BOS continued to discuss and no decision was made.

B. Blue Ridge Franchise Agreement – Chairman called for a motion to adopt Resolution # 31 of 2021 Agreeing to the Blue Ridge Franchise Agreement for 5 years term until December 31, 2026 at a 3.75% Franchise Fee effective February 1, 2022 pursuant Section 7.1 of the Franchise Agreement. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

C. Morgan Park – Mike Begis from ARRO Consulting updated the Board about the park. Mr. Begis asked Supervisor Hummel to go over the documents to make sure they have right specifications in them and that they are on the same page of how to proceed with this project.

V. New Business - None

VI. Business from Anyone on the Board

A. Kai Apel Police Agreement – Supervisor Hummel asked if the FOP needs to sign off on this Agreement. Attorney Datte said yes, because the FOP is who we bargain with. Glenn Hummel made the motion to approve Kai Apel's Agreement subject to the FOP's approval. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

B. Union Contract – Chairman called for a motion to approve the Union Contract which has been ratified by its members. Glenn Hummel made the motion to approve the Union Contract subject to the Teamster's approval & signature. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

C. Hiring Signs – Police Dept. & Road Dept. – The BOS discussed purchasing signs to advertise that we are Hiring. Tim Houser said he would like to get a digital sign. Supervisor Houser said that a digital sign was put on the back burner because of the location wasn't zoned properly for what we were looking for. Chief asked if it can be covered under the COVID Cares Act because it will be displaying a message. Attorney Datte said to ask ZA if that would be an eligible. DAT said they would donate like campaign signs to post that we are hiring. Supervisor Hummel asked the Board if we ever went through any of the professional hiring services instead of just advertising.

VII. Correspondence

A. Chairman read a letter of interest from Benchmark Civil Engineering Services. They were requesting the BOS to consider hiring them as the Twp. Engineer for 2022. No decision was made.

B. Chairman read a proposal from BOVA Property Maintenance for Cleaning & Stripping the Twp. floors. The costs were \$1500 for meeting room, \$600 for common area including bathrooms and \$1500 for the office areas. The BOS discussed and no decisions were made at this time. Tim Houser suggested we table it until we can get other quotes.

C. Chief Bonner asked the Board if he can purchase Law Enforcement Red/Blue Wearable Safety Police Lights for his Department. Chairman asked the Chief if he would want to purchase them with the donation money. Chief Bonner said yes, he can do that but he will have some money left over. Chairman recommends buying 7 of them.

Chairman said Barb Stegmeier would like to make a donation to the Township in memory of her late husband, Bob Steimeier which was a former Supervisor. Chairman called for a motion to purchase the Police Lights. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

VIII. Public Comment on General Items – 5 Minute Time Limit

Don Hoppes said there is an ambulance meeting tonight at 7PM – It will be the Election of the Officers.

IX. Executive Session – Chairman called for a motion to have an executive session for possible litigation at 10:35AM.

Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0
Chairman called the meeting back to order at 11:20AM.

Todd Deem & Carl Greve asked about the starting time of the meeting. There was an advertised workshop about Zoning & Comprehensive prior to the meeting.

X. Anything Else from the Board - NONE

XI. Adjournment

Chairman called for a motion to adjourn at 11:25AM. Tim Houser made the motion to adjourn. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Transcribed By: Katie Orlick, West Penn Township Secretary