

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

Phone (570)386-4507

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**Regular Meeting
Monday, June 6, 2022**

Present at the Meeting

Anthony Prudenti

Timothy Houser

Glenn Hummel (phone)

Karen Wittig – Treasurer

Katie Orlick – Secretary

Mike Begis – ARRO

Paul Datte – Solicitor

I. General

A. Tony Prudenti called the meeting to order at 6:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introduction. Tim Houser reminded everyone on this day of June 6, 1944 was the invasion of Normandy.

B. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only - None

C. Review of the Minutes – May 2nd & 16th, 2022.

Chairman called for a motion to accept the meeting minutes from May 2nd & 16th, 2022. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

E. Treasurer’s Report – May 2022

Chairman called for a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

F. Approval of Bills – May 2022

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

G. Solicitor’s Report – May 2022

Paul Datte said he prepared the Zion Stone Church Road Resolution. Attorney Datte made the last couple of changes to the Zoning Ordinance. Attorney Datte said the Zoning Ordinance Hearing would be advertised two Mondays before the July meeting. Once it is advertised, it will need to be available for public inspection. Attorney Datte also asked the Secretary to get the Draft Zoning Ordinance to the Planning Commission and have it on their June Agenda. Chair Tony Prudenti asked about the Atlas Park and when can the Township acquire the property? Attorney Datte needs additional information that would go into the deed but he did not speak to Mr. DeAngelo yet and the Subdivision needs to be done. Attorney Datte will follow up on that. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Solicitor’s Report. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

II. Land Use – None

III. Operations

A. Engineer’s Monthly Report – May 2022

Chairman said Mike Begis would not be at the meeting tonight because of personal reasons. Chairman read the Engineer’s Report. Chairman said the update on the J.E. Morgan Park is that ARRO received the sealed drawings from the contractor and will issue permits as soon as possible. They also coordinated with the SEO to size the holding tank for the permit. No Planning Meeting was held in May. Glenn

Hummel feels we are close to our Match for the work the Township has done for the grant. Karen Wittig will look and let him know. Glenn Hummel made a motion to accept the Engineer's Report. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

B. Code Enforcement Monthly Report – May 2022

Chairman asked the Secretary and Attorney Datte about the status of Chestnut Circle. Chairman said he is aware of the property being re-placard and the windows and doors boarded up. Secretary said Septic Solutions did an inspection of the cesspool and the hydraulic load test. The system passed inspection and Bill Brior can issue permits to get the sewage issue resolved. Chairman stated there is a lot more that needs to be done to the property other than the septic. Secretary said that we would not take boards off until the property would satisfy all violations. Rachel Keer said the house itself she noticed in the past month that the chimney is pulling away from the house. Ms. Keer is concerned if the chimney falls, it will damage her house. Ms. Keer also stated they mowed the grass one time. Chairman asked the Secretary to contact code enforcement. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Code Enforcement's Monthly Report. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

C. Sewage Enforcement Officer's Monthly Report – May 2022

Chairman read the sewage enforcement officer's report. The report consisted of 1 new permit application, 3 Test Probes, 11 Percolation Test, 2 site evaluations, 3 new permits issued, and 2 malfunction inspection. The malfunction report was for 514/516 Chestnut Circle. May 24 & 25, 2022, the cesspool was inspected and a hydraulic load test was conducted. The cesspool passed the hydraulic load test. Approximately 800 gallons of dyed water was entered into the cesspool on each day. The cesspool handled the volume of the dyed water each day. There were no signs of seepage onto the ground or into the water located to the rear of the property. A repair permit will be required to install a new building sewer line with cleanout and a new top over the cesspool. When these repairs are completed and inspected, the sanitary issues with this home will be satisfied. The home must remain unoccupied until work is completed and it is inspected. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Sewage Enforcement Officer's monthly Report. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

D. Road Department's Monthly Report – May 2022

Chairman read the Road Department's Monthly report. The report consisted of General Maintenance to the Township Building & Equipment, Fixed potholes along various Township roads with cold patch, Re-Profiled Rabbit Run Rd. with 2A Modified, Fixed Street Signs on various Twp. Rds., Installed drainage & hauled in shale for Soccer Field at the J. E. Morgan Park, Worked on Mantzville Rd. (Dirt & Gravel Project), Mowed shoulders along Twp. Rds. Chairman read the Maintenance Report. Chairman discussed with the BOS the quote for speed limit signs for Zion Stone Church Rd. The quote is from Reliable Sign & Striping for 18 – 25mph signs & posts would be \$2,028.00.

The Board and Attorney feel that the whole road should be changed to 25mph. Chairman said he spoke to someone that may donate toward the sign expense. Chairman's concern was the sign expense. Glenn Hummel asked if we could reach out to the property owners on that road for a donation to pay for the signs. Attorney Datte said we could take donation anytime. Glenn Hummel said he would reach out to some of the property owners. Glenn Hummel also said he does not have a problem reaching out to the Lion's for a donation as well. Attorney Datte said we should adopt the Resolution to make Zion Stone Church Rd. 25mph. The Board can hold on with putting the signs up until they see if they can get

donations for the purchase of the signs. Attorney Datte said yes you could however; the speed limit will not be enforceable until the signs are up. Tim Houser made a motion to adopt the Resolution # 17 of 2022 to reduce the speed limit on Zion Stone Church Rd. to 25MPH. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0 Chairman suggests we hold out on ordering the signs until next meeting to see if we can get some donations for the sign expense. Chairman said he would reach out to Kistler & Houser for donations. Tim Houser said he would donate his next quarterly Supervisors' check towards the cost of the signs. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Road Department's monthly report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Chairman called for a motion to Advertise for the 2022 Materials Bid. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

E. Police Department Report – May 2022

Chairman read the Police Report. The Police Dept. had 10,526 miles patrolled 430 total citations & warnings, 5 motor vehicle accidents & 151 total calls. Chairman said Chief Bonner would like to request approval of attendance of the Vehicle Weighing and Measuring Course. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Chief held the motion decision and told the Board that it has to include meals and housing. Chief said it is a three-day course and it is free but it is in Harrisburg. Glenn Hummel said it is in his budget for training and said it will cover the hotel stay. Chairman said the only comment he has is that Jeremy Frable from the Road Department & Katie Orlick & Karen Wittig attended a PSATs conference in Harrisburg for training. Karen & Katie traveled back and forth each day. Jeremy Frable stayed there and asked to be reimbursed for his housing and Chairman said no because we have not done that in the past. Chairman said if the Board agrees to pay for the Chief's Room & Board then he asks that we reimbursed Jeremy Frable for his Room & Board. Glenn Hummel said we can call ahead to get rates. Attorney Datte said the amount could be approved case by case. Chief was approved.

Chief recommends the Board release Kai Apel off his probation period. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Chairman called for a motion to accept the Police's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

F. Fire Company Monthly Report – May 2022

Chairman read the Fire Company's report. 15 Total calls for the month of May. The report consisted of 2 motor vehicle accidents, 1 aircraft accident, 1 brush fire, 4 wire/tree down, 2 automatic fire alarm, 2 medical assist, 2 Fire Police and 1 Chief Requests. The department had their monthly meeting, did equipment inspections & vehicle stabilization. They had their monthly fundraisers such as the monthly 2022 Boot Drive, Breakfast & Fire Company Cash Bingo. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Fire Department's Monthly Report. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

G. Ambulance Monthly Report – May 2022 – NONE

IV. Old Business - None

V. New Business

A. Signal Service Renewal – 2 Yr. Service Agreement

This agreement is for the light at Leiby's. Chairman asked the secretary how much does their service cost. Secretary said \$525 for initial contract. If they are called out, there is a fee schedule of what their costs are. Chairman called for a motion to accept another two-year agreement with Signal Service. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

VI. Correspondence - NONE

VII. Business from Anyone on the Board

Tim Houser – question Attorney Datte about the status of Galloway's Property and if it will be up for tax sale soon. Attorney Datte said he would follow up on that matter. Attorney Datte stated that if the structure is unsafe that it may collapse and our Code Enforcement deems it that way. We can use Township money and put a lien on the property to demolish it and take it down. That would have priority over the bank's mortgage. Tim Houser would like her to look at it.

VIII. Public Comments on General Items

Todd Deem – requested an explanation of why was DAT Towing was suspended from the tow list? Chairman directed that question to Attorney Paul Datte. Attorney Datte said he believes there were a series of incidences. Attorney Datte referenced a policy about towing. Todd Deem requested a copy. Todd Deem asked what the incidents were. Chairman said we received a letter from your Attorney requesting a meeting. Chairman recommends we talk there instead of the open meeting. Attorney Datte agreed, because we got a letter from an Attorney for DAT Towing. When the Township receives a letter from an Attorney, our Attorney Paul Datte views it as a potential threat of legal litigation. Attorney Datte said we would discuss in Executive session.

Art Sterling – wanted to clarify the property Tim Houser spoke about, the Galloway Property.

Art Sterling stated he feels the Police Department is doing a fine job, however he feels their Vehicles should be to serve and protect not hide and capture. Mr. Sterling said the vehicles should not have ghost lettering. Chairman said there are a couple different reasons for ghost lettering. Chairman said we can use the vehicles as unmarked in certain investigations with the ghost lettering on them. Art Sterling feels that a regular citizen should know a police vehicle and he feels it should be clearly marked. Delroy has asked the Board if they are buying all new signs for Zion Stone Church Rd. or will we use the existing ones that are already marked for 25MPH. Chairman stated we will use the ones we already have and put however many new ones that would be needed to post the whole road.

Gary Steigerwalt – Ridge Cup Rd. – down by the highway about 20ft by the edge, the road is starting to collapse. Chairman asked Jeremy Fable, Road Master to look at the road.

Attorney Datte – said the Galloway Property's taxes have been paid through 2021. Attorney Datte said he has not seen an estate raised for him. Attorney Datte said the bank might be even paying the taxes. Tim Houser asked if there is there, any way we can make them fix up the property or tear it down. The bank is not entitled to the property. They did not foreclose. If they foreclosed, it would be a lot different. Our hands are tied because the taxes are being paid, the bank has the mortgage, they have not foreclosed, and an estate has not been established for Mr. Galloway. Attorney Datte recommends Shannon Darker, Code Enforcement Officer, look at the property.

IX. Executive Session – Chairman called for a motion to have an executive session for possible litigation at 6:50PM. 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 7:36PM. Chairman spoke to Todd Deem about

the Towing Policy he requested. Chairman said you should have it. It was provided in the application to Tow for the Township. If you need it, again we can provide it. Attorney Datte said the Board directed him to respond to Mr. Deem's Attorney.

Glenn Hummel made a motion to amend the Agenda to include the SOPs for the Police Department in the form of Resolution No. 18 of 2022. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0 Glenn Hummel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 18 of 2022, The New SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) for the WPT Police Department with the addition of the Supervisors having the final say. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

X. Adjournment

Chairman called for a motion to adjourn at 7:40PM. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Transcribed By:

Katie Orlick

West Penn Township Secretary