

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

Phone (570)386-4507

Fax (570)386-5851

**Regular 10AM Monthly Meeting
Monday, January 16, 2023**

Present at the Meeting

Tony Prudenti – Chairman

Katie Orlick - Secretary

Tim Houser – Supervisor

Paul Datte – Solicitor (absent)

Glenn Hummel – Vice Chairman

Mike Begis – ARRO Consulting, Inc.

Karen Wittig – Treasurer

I. General

A. Anthony Prudenti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introductions at 10:00AM.

B. Approval of Monthly Bills

Chairman asked if the Board had any questions about the bills. Glenn Hummel asked if the Ambulance Association ever submitted to the Township their 1099s. Chairman said, not at this time. Chairman called for a motion to approve our monthly bills except for the Ambulance Bills. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

C. Treasurer’s Report

Chairman called for a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel 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. Tim Houser – asked for an update on the Galloway Property. He also wanted to know about the most recent fire in the Township and asked if we received the insurance escrow yet. Chairman was contacted by a commissioner and asked to expedite it. Tim Houser’s concern was he doesn’t want to see another burned out building just sitting there. He would like it to be taken care of as soon as possible. Treasurer said we are waiting for the insurance escrow check to be submitted to the Township.

V. New Business

A. Street Names in the Timber Ridge Development.

Chairman read a letter from Scott Krater, 9-1-1 Communications Director. They are requesting that the Board takes action on the Addressing within the Timber Ridge Development, specifically E. Hyland Dr. / Eagles View Drive. 9-1-1 is proposing for consideration by the Township making E. Hyland Drive 1-12 and Eagles View Drive 1-120 as displayed on the map attached to the letter. This would change the street name, E. Hyland Circle to Eagles View Dr. within the circle of the Timber Ridge Development. Don Hoppes asked why the developer doesn’t name the streets. The Secretary said he did, however the addresses were assigned wrong is creating confusion for 9-1-1 communications. In order to correct the confusion, the 9-1-1 center recommends that we change the street names instead of changing everyone’s address. The Board agrees with the 9-1-1 Call Center and said the main reason to do this is so Emergency Services can locate the Emergency within this development. Tim Houser made the motion to have the street name changed for Emergency Purposes. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

B. Chairman called for a motion to appoint Darryl Miller to the West Penn Township Park Commission. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

C. Zoning Hearing Board Member & Alternates

Chairman said a seat opened on the Zoning Hearing Board when the Board appointed Jim Dean as the Code Enforcement Officer. Chairman asked the Alternate that has been there longest, which was Randy Clemson, if he would like to position. Randy Clemson said he would just rather be an Alternate. Then we asked the next longest, which was John Sienkiewicz. Mr. Sienkiewicz accepted the position and moved from an Alternate to a Main Member. Chairman called for a motion to appoint John Sienkiewicz as a Zoning Hearing Board Member, taking the open seat of James Dean. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0 The Board of Supervisors also received letters of interest to be on the Zoning Hearing Board as members or Alternates. The Member seat was filled. The Alternates are Robert Coccio, Brian McQuillen and Terri Knoedler. Chairman called for a motion to appoint all three as Alternates to the Zoning Hearing Board. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

VI. Business from anyone on the Board

A. Glenn Hummel had a question about Department Heads. Glenn Hummel said he looked at the Second Class Township Code. He said there are no Department Heads. Mr. Hummel believes there are Administration Heads, which would be the Chief of Police, Katie or Karen for Administrative & Jeremy for the Maintenance. Chairman stated there is not one Supervisor more powerful than the other. Glenn Hummel feels the Board is the Legislative Body that handles the departments & there is an Administrative Body. Glenn Hummel feels there is no reason to put a Supervisor in charge of the Departments because there are Administrative Heads.

Chairman said he basically wanted a Liaison for the Departments to bring information to the Board of Supervisors. Chairman said without burdening the head of each Department to have to call three Supervisors, the Supervisors that act as the liaison would bring the information to the rest of the Board of Supervisors. Glenn Hummel feels Paul Datte should tell us what we can do and have him explain it. Glenn Hummel feels that the Board of Supervisors are in charge of all of the departments. There is no head of departments or head liaison. If there is an Emergency all supervisors should be contacted and no supervisor is in charge of any one department. Which the Board agrees with? Chairman asked the Secretary to put it on the list and check with Paul Datte. Tim Houser said he was head of the Road Crew and he never made a decision by himself and Jeremy Frable knows that. Tim Houser said the only thing he has an issue with is when he questions the Police Department. Glenn Hummel got upset when the police department was questioned.

VII. Correspondence

A. DCNR – Chairman said we were notified January 12 that West Penn Township was not selected for the fall grant. Mike Begis said we can reapply. Chairman is going to call our Regional DCNR Coordinator, Lorne Possinger. Chairman said to Mike Begis knowing that we didn't get the grant would ARRO Consulting, Inc. charge us again if we reapplied. Mike Begis said just for admin time. Mike Begis said all the design stuff was done. Glenn Hummel said if you look at the grant writing there is a percent that would have to go the grant writer. Mike Begis said it would be a couple hundred bucks.

B. Tim Houser talked about the Rail of Trails and the railroad bed that was donated to the Township. He asked the Board if they want the Road Department to start clearing that path. Chairman just said coincidentally, Jeremy Frable just asked about clearing that railroad bed. Glenn Hummel said there is a lot of funding in the rail to trails system. Glenn Hummel said where we connect is actually a great

connecting point heading towards Pine Grove and out to Harrisburg and also to the D&L Trails that run East of Pennsylvania all the way up to Wilkes-Barre and will ultimately go from Philadelphia to Montreal. They also want to do a 9-1-1 trail that will come from each of the sites from 911 and they plan to connect it to the same thing. Glenn Hummel said we are right in the middle of that, coming from west to east heading into Jim Thorpe. Tim Houser said right now is a slow time of year for the road department and asked if we can start moving on clearing that path. Chairman asked the Board if they want Mike Begis to look into the grant for the trail. They said, absolutely.

Mike Begis said the County has put out on bid the concrete floors for the pavilions. Glenn Hummel asked Mike Begis to email him a bid packet because he has someone in mind that may want to submit a bid.

VIII. Public Comment on General Items

A. Ilisa Sackhoff-Hoppes – asked to be notified when the next zoning ordinance meeting will be held.

B. Delroy Haas – asked for clarification on properties in question.

IX. Executive Session - NONE

X. Anything Else from the Board

A. Glenn Hummel made a motion to amend the Agenda to add the purchase of materials to build a lunchroom and storage area by the Road Master's Office. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Glenn Hummel made a motion to put a storage room/breakroom next to the Road Master's office and add a door to the hallway for the records room. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

XI. Adjournment

A. Chairman called for a motion to Adjourn at 10:45AM. 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