

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

Phone (570)386-4507

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Regular 10AM Monthly Meeting  
Monday, August 21, 2023

**Present at the Meeting**

Tony Prudenti – Chairman

Katie Orlick - Secretary

Tim Houser – Supervisor

Paul Datte – Solicitor

Glenn Hummel – Vice Chairman(phone)

Mike Begis – ARRO Consulting

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 called for a motion to approve our monthly bills. 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**

A. **Susan Schenck Minor Subdivision** – Mike Begis from ARRO Consulting said we need to take action on the Susan Schenck Subdivision. Mike Begis said the plan was to subdivide approximately 10 acres off the existing 57.133 acres, on Summer Valley Rd. Chairman asked if all the comments were satisfied. Mike Begis said, yes. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Planning Commission’s recommendation & approve the Susan Schenck Subdivision and adopt Resolution #18 of 2023. Contingent that all comments were satisfied from the ARRO Consulting Letter dated June 23, 2023. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

**IV. Old Business**

A. Chairman called for a motion to approve the West Penn Fire Police to help with traffic assistance for the Guns & Cash Bash, Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

**V. New Business**

A. Chairman called for a motion to accept Kai Apel’s resignation as of 8/14/23 as Full Time Police Officer. Tim Houser made the motion to accept his resignation. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

**B. 2023 Material Bid Openings – 2 Bids Received**

1. New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.
2. Lehigh Asphalt Paving & Construction, Co.

Chairman opened and read the bids. The results are as follows:

**1. Bid Opening – 1 Bidder – New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.**

1.	3,000	Tons	Superpave WMA, 9.5 mm, PG 64S-22 Wearing Course, 0.0 to 0.3 million ESAL's, SRL-L	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$79.55	\$238,650	\$90.70	\$272,100
2.	100	Tons	Superpave WMA, 9.5 mm, PG 64S-22 Wearing Course, ESAL- Any SRL- Any	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$73.80	\$7,380	\$84.95	\$8,495
3.	1500	Tons	Superpave WMA or HMA 12.5 mm, PG 64S-22 Wearing Course, 0.0 to 0.3 million ESAL's, SRL-L	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid
4.	750	Tons	Superpave WMA or HMA 19.0 mm, PG 64S-22 Wearing Course, <10 million ESAL's, SRL-L	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$68.50	\$51,375	\$79.65	\$59,737.50
5.	150	Tons	Superpave WMA or HMA 25.0 mm, PG 64S-22, Base Course <10 million ESAL's	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$64.00	\$9,600	\$75.15	\$11,272.50
6.	5,500	Tons	PennDOT 2A Aggregate must come from a Limestone Source	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$11.15	\$61,325	\$20	\$110,000
7.	500	Tons	AASHTO #8 with 2.0% loss by wash	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a	\$24.20	\$12,100	\$33.20	\$16,600

				stock pile @ job site				
8.	300	Tons	AASHTO # 57	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$17.80	\$5,340	\$26.80	\$8,040
9.	300	Tons	AASHTO #1	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$17.15	\$5,145	\$26.15	\$7,845
10.	750	Tons	AASHTO #3	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$14.30	\$10,725	\$23.15	\$17,287.50
11.	300	Tons	R-3 Stone	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$16.10	\$4,830	\$24.95	\$7,485
12.	400	Tons	R-4 Stone must come from a Limestone source	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$16.10	\$6,440	\$25.95	\$10,380
13.	500	Tons	R-5 Stone	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$25	\$12,500	\$37	\$18,500

14.	300	Tons	R-6 Stone	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$27	\$8,100	\$38	\$11,400
15.	100	Tons	R-7	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$27	\$2,700	\$41	\$4,100
16.	50	Tons	Concrete Sand	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid
17.	1000	Tons	PennDOT Anti Skid AS2, AS3, AS4	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage	\$18.70	\$18,700	\$27.55	\$27,550

**2. Bid Opening – Lehigh Asphalt Paving & Construction, Co., Inc.**

1.	3,000	Tons	Superpave WMA or HMA 9.5 mm, PG 64S-22 Wearing Course, 0.0 to 0.3 million ESAL's, SRL-L	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$73.95	\$221,850	\$81.95	\$245,850
2.	100	Tons	Superpave WMA Or HMA 9.5 mm, PG 64S-22 Wearing Course, Any ESAL- Any SRL--Any	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$73.95	\$7,395	\$81.95	\$8,195

3.	1500	Tons	Superpave WMA Or HMA 12.5 mm, PG 64S-22 Wearing Course, 0.0 to 0.3 million ESAL's, SRL-L	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$67.95	\$101,925	\$75.95	\$113,925
4.	750	Tons	Superpave WMA or HMA 19.0 mm, PG 64S-22 Wearing Course,<10 million ESAL's, SRL-L	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$67.95	\$50,962.50	\$75.95	\$56,962.50
5.	150	Tons	Superpave WMA or HMA 25.0 mm, PG 64S-22, Base Course <10 million ESAL's,SRL-L	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered As directed to the Twp. Paver	\$62.85	\$9,427.50	\$70.85	\$10,627.50
6.	5,500	Tons	PennDOT 2A Aggregate must come from a Limestone Source	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$13.25	\$72,875	\$19	\$104,500
7.	500	Tons	AASHTO #8 with 2.0% loss by wash	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$22	\$11,000	\$28	\$14,00
8.	300	Tons	AASHTO # 57	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$16.95	\$5,085	\$22.95	\$6,885

9.	300	Tons	AASHTO #1	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$16.70	\$5,010	\$22.70	\$6,810
10.	750	Tons	AASHTO #3	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$16.70	\$12,525	\$22.70	\$17,025
11.	300	Tons	R-3 Stone	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$17.75	\$5,325	\$23.75	\$7,125
12.	400	Tons	R-4 Stone must come from a Limestone source	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$22	\$8,800	\$28	\$11,200
13.	500	Tons	R-5 Stone	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid	No Bid
14.	300	Tons	R-6 Stone	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$23	\$6,900	\$30	\$9,000

15.	100	Tons	R-7	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$23	\$2,300	\$30	\$3,000
16.	50	Tons	Concrete Sand	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage or a stock pile @ job site	\$18	\$900	\$24	\$1,200
17.	1000	Tons	PennDOT Anti Skid AS2, AS3, AS4	FOB Plant & FOB Delivered as directed to the Twp. garage	\$15.95	\$15,950	\$21.95	\$21,950

Chairman asked Jeremy Frable to review the bid packets. **Chairman** revisited the award of the material bids later in the meeting. After Jeremy Frable's review and the numbers were calculated Lehigh Asphalt was awarded the material bid except for #13. The R-5 stone, which that will go to New Enterprise. Chairman made a motion to award Lehigh Asphalt for all the materials except for the R-5 Stone. New Enterprise will be awarded the R-5 Stone. Tim Houser asked about the location of the plant. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

**VI. Business from anyone on the Board**

**A.** Chairman reminded everyone that the Final Draft Zoning Ordinance Hearing would be Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 5PM followed by the regular BOS meeting at 6PM

**VII. Correspondence**

**A.** Chairman said we received a letter from our Road Master this morning. Chairman said the letter is a resignation for Nathan Henry a full-time road department employee. Nathan Henry's last day will be August 24, 2023. Chairman called for a motion to accept Nathan Henry's resignation. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Glenn Hummel asked if we could advertise for another FT Road Worker. Chairman said he would like to talk to Jeremy Frable first.

**VIII. Public Comment on General Items**

Chairman said before we start public comment on general items he would like to clear up some rumors. Chairman stated we are NOT closing the Police Department at the end of the year. Board agreed. Tim Houser commented when it comes to the budget, whether it would be the road crew, the office or the police department everything is on the table. Tim Houser stressed that we have to stay within the budget. He stressed we will not operate in the red. Chairman agreed. The budget can change at any time. Our budget relies on taxes coming into the Township. Chairman said there was another rumor about not participating in the CSI Camp or the D.A.R.E program. Glenn Hummel said we did not discuss stopping those programs. We support those programs. The rumors are 100% false. Chairman said next

year Tim Houser's term will be up and the person that maybe in his seat next year is Jim Akins. Chairman said Jim Akins is currently in the audience. Chairman asked him if he had any thoughts about closing the Police Department. Mr. Akins said, no. Chairman asked if he had any thoughts of shutting the CSI Camp & the D.A.R.E program down. Mr. Akins said, having put children through both programs, no.

**Charlie Whitehead** – came to the meeting because of the rumors going around. He said last year he had an issue with the police dept. and that was rectified. Mr. Whitehead believes they are doing a good job and he is happy to hear that the Township does not want to close the police dept. He understands the budget concerns but he feels that it is important to have police coverage. He also feels that Officer Jason Lorah does a great job with the D.A.R.E program & CSI Camp. He feels the Board should be looking at the best interest of the Township.

Chairman asked to make public comment a little quicker, can he have a show of hands who agrees with it. Chairman said, let the record show that 90% of the room raised their hands.

**LeAnn Thomas** – she is here on behalf of her mother who owns property on Kepners Rd. She asked if her mom would need to have her property surveyed in order to take a name off of a property that her mom and her mom's sister owns. Attorney Datte asked if this is just for transferring the property from one individual to another individual. Ms. Thomas said yes. Attorney Datte said a survey would not be required. You would have to create a new deed, he would encourage her to look at the legal description of the property now, and if you feel it is sufficient then it is.

**Jamie Lorah** – asked the Board what is going to happen with the part-time staff of the police department for the remainder of the year. She understands the hours were cut. Her husband was cut from the schedule. She was wondering if he would be working the rest of the year. Chairman said all the cuts were temporary to get control of the budget. Chairman said the part-timers are allowed to work 32hrs. / week. Chairman said being taken off the schedule was up to the Chief.

Tim Houser said the reason why he feels these rumors got started was, we asked the Chief to redo his schedule because as of this past month he was over his budget substantially. We want to bring the budget back in line. The Board goes through the Road budget and Jeremy Frable goes through it with the Treasurer all the time. When they reviewed the police budget and it was over budget they had to address the situation and make some changes to get the budget back in line. Tim Houser feels their budget will get back in line. Glenn Hummel agrees with Tim Houser. He said the Board had to put some controls in place to help get the budget back to where it needed to be. Chairman disagrees with a couple of things. Chairman said first of all the budget is projected. Chairman said the Police Budget is a little over \$400K for the year. The first six months they are over \$25K projected until the end of the year could be \$50K. Chairman understands the concerns however; we may not accounted for things we paid in full for the year. Chairman feels that they should sit down with Karen Wittig, treasurer & Jim Bonner, police chief and look at the budget. Chairman said that they had a full-time officer resign and another part-time officer that will be resigning, taking them out of the budget will bring us back in budget. Chairman feels that the Board should give Chief Bonner the opportunity and let the staff come back to the way it was and let the other controls in place. Glenn Hummel feels they cut the administration back 20hrs. to reduce the budget. If it comes down to putting an officer on the street or putting the administrative part back to 40hrs. his vote is to have an officer on the street. Chairman and Glenn Hummel discussed the police budget and their spending and what they feel the best way to move forward. Attorney Datte said the bottom line is the Police Force is staying in place and the Board is taking a hard look at the budget to bring it under control. Chairman wants to propose that we do not take all the controls off but we allow the employees so the Chief can fill his schedule with the way he showed us by saving money until the end of the year. Tim Houser asked the Chairman what controls



would be taking off. Chairman said none except the employment control. Glenn Hummel said he does not have a problem with putting an officer on the street. Glenn Hummel said his trade would be if it is between an administrative clerk verses an officer on the street, the administration clerk would be gone. Chairman made a motion to rescind two of the controls the board put on the police dept. Chairman said 1. Reduction of one shift per day to be covered by PA State Police. 2. We should put back all employees to West Penn PD. Once he proves his budget is back on track in a month or two months then we start taking off the other controls.

Glenn Hummel disagrees. Mr. Hummel said we are only a week into this and we did not see any reactions for the financials are yet. Chairman said we kind of did because Kai Apel resigned in that week. Glenn Hummel said Kai Apel was not on the street and the department still had full coverage. Now we eliminated Kai Apel and eliminated full coverage. Glenn Hummel said he is 100% for putting full coverage back. However, he is not favorable putting the administrative clerk back to full 40hrs. until we see the reductions to make, sure we are ok along with the other controls. Chairman said he would rather have a full-time administration so the Chief and the other officers can spend more time on the street. Audience agreed. Chairman made a motion to keep all the restrictions in place except for the salary, employees coming back on and to get rid of the PSP until we need them. Chairman said State Police are still very important to us. If we need PSP to, they will cover us. We will have 24/7 coverage whether it is our police dept. or the State Police.

**Scott Soley** was at an accident and was talking to a State Police Officer. The State Police Officer said he was worried for the people in our Twp. He said there are only two people on at night and it would take them 45 min. to an hour to get here.

Glenn Hummel agrees that the officer on the street is most important not the administrator. Chairman disagrees and said in order to get the officer on the street more we need the administrator. Tim Houser said he was not in favor of that. Tim Houser is in favor of putting the officers on the street but administrative I think we should leave go until we see the budget get back in order. Chief Bonner wanted to commented that the administrator not only handles the calls, she handles all the impound paperwork, warrants, and communications with the community. Chief Bonner said she is actually busier than the police officer. Chief Bonner spoke about citations, fines and the small ratio that involved Township residents. Chief Bonner said his biggest concern in this township is speed. Chief feels that the Police Department runs more effective than it has ever ran before. He feels cutting any employee out of the police department is cheating the public.

**Jason Oswald** commented about the proposed zoning for his auto garage on Summer Valley Rd. being Village Center. He wanted his property Commercial. It was explained to him that we could not spot zone. He feels that there are areas in the Township that are spot zoned. He feels that auto repair does not fall under Village Center. He wants it Commercial. Attorney Datte said your current use is grandfathered with the property. Attorney Datte said it was his understanding Mr. Oswald wanted to have different uses for his property because he was already grandfathered for his current use. We change it to Village Center and that was the best we could do. Attorney Datte said we had rezone all those properties in that area to VC.

**Jackie Selitto** - she expressed her concerns about the rumor about the police department. She is concerned if we would have to go through the State Police and their response time. She has small children just starting school and God forbid something happens and we have to wait 30-45 minutes. Chairman reassures her that we do not intend to dissolve the Police Department. Chairman said the Supervisor that is coming into office is also in favor of having a police department. Glenn Hummel stated he is in favor for keeping the police dept. as well. Tim Houser said the controls we have in place affords

us to keep the police dept. If we keep going over budget \$40K - \$50K we will have to raise taxes. Chairman made a motion to keep everything in place except for using PSP to cover and the employee's time. Tim Houser asked if it was for the police officers time or the administrator time for the police dept. Chief Bonner said the Police Dept. needs a full time secretary. It cannot operate without it. Tim Houser questioned how other dept. operate without a secretary. Glenn Hummel said if there were a choice of putting an officer on the street or administration, I would always put an officer on the street.

**Alan Parker** – expressed his concerns about the police dept. & the budget. Alan Parker said if there were any action to reduce or eliminate the police dept., he would certainly not vote for any of the supervisors.

He also expressed his concerns about Penn Mahoning Ambulance and if they reduce support of the Ambulance, he will not vote for any of the Supervisors.

**Jim Akins** – asked the board about how many officers are in the dept. today. He did some figuring and he feels that it would be beneficial if the administrator stays maybe not full time but at least 32hrs. He has been on both sides of the table and hears everyone's concerns but also knows how important it is to maintain a solid budget. He supports the police dept. & the fire dept. He said be cautious of spreading & listening to rumors and broadcasting it on social media.

**Val Coombe** – President of the Penn Mahoning Ambulance spoke about raising taxes. She expressed how important it is to have a police dept. especially when there is a situation where they need to secure a scene in order for the Ambulance to respond.

Tim Houser said he would compromise. He will make a motion to put the police officers back on as part timers but not the administration at this point until we see the budget come into line. Chairman asked when that would be. Tim Houser said it maybe two or three months down the road. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. Chairman said hold on; I thought we were looking at it. Tim Houser said that maybe we could look at it in the middle of September. Tim Houser said we need more than two weeks. Glenn Hummel said we would always be looking at it so we can remove the controls however; I seconded the motion on the floor to restore the police dept. as a whole, and remove the PSP and with reduction to the administrative part until we get a true capture of the paid for expenses. Tim Houser believes the budget will come in line a lot quicker with the resignation of Kai Apel. Tim Houser said his motion stands. Glenn Hummel said his second stands. Chairman wanted to clarify, everything is in place except for PSP, we will not be using and all officers come back and we will revisit things in one month time period. Glenn Hummel said no we are going continually monitor it. Chairman would like a time period. Chief Bonner feels that this is personal because he proposed a budget that it comes up utilizing all his employees. Glenn Hummel said it is a projection. Chief Bonner said you are singling out a secretary. Chairman said motion was made and seconded. All in favor. Chairman opposed. Motion was carried. 2-1

**Lynn Barron** said why couldn't we do the opposite, use the chief's budget and see how that works out and then make changes. Chairman would like to make a motion to rescind the last motion about the police dept. Chairman called for a second. Motion dies for a lack a second. Attorney Datte wanted everyone to know that the secretary is still working she is just doing the 20hrs not the 40hrs. Glenn Hummel said we will monitor the paid for expenses to make sure it comes in line.

**Scott Soley** said he has been around at the police department a lot and the amount of work Carla does is unbelievable. Every major incident she is always going above & beyond.

Chairman said we have unbelievable citizens in our township especially when tragedy happens, the community comes together. Chairman thanked Scott Soley for what he has done for the Township during the last heartbreaking incident of one of our residents.

Chairman revisited the award of the material bids. After Jeremy Frable's review and the numbers were calculated Lehigh Asphalt was awarded the material bid except for #13. The R-5 stone, which that will go to New Enterprise. Chairman called for a motion to award Lehigh Asphalt for all the materials except for the R-5 Stone. New Enterprise will be awarded the R-5 Stone. Tim Houser asked about the location of the plant. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

**IX. Executive Session** – Chairman called for a motion for an executive session at 11:35AM. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

**X. Anything Else from the Board**

**XI. Adjournment**

A. Chairman called for a motion to Adjourn at 11:50AM. 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