

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

Phone (570)386-4507

Fax (570)386-5851

**Regular Meeting
Monday, July 1, 2024**

Present at the Meeting

Anthony Prudenti – Chair
Glenn Hummel – Vice Chair
James Akins – Supervisor
Jim Bonner – Chief of Police

Karen Wittig – Treasurer
Katie Orlick – Secretary
Jeremy Frable – Road Master (absent)
Mike Begis – ARRO
Paul Datte – Solicitor

I. General

A. Tony Prudenti called the meeting to order at 6:03PM with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introduction.

B. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only - NONE

C. Review of the Minutes – June 3rd & 18th, 2024.

Chairman called for a motion to accept the meeting minutes from June 3rd & 18th, 2024. Jim Akins made the motion to accept the minutes from June 3rd & 18th, 2024. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

D. Treasurer’s Report – June 2024 - Jim Akins made a motion for both Treasurer’s report and bills below.

E. Approval of Bills – June 2024

Chairman called for a motion to approve and pay the bills for June. Jim Akins made the motion to approve the bills and accept the Treasurer’s report for June 2024. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

F. Solicitor’s Report

Attorney Datte said he reached out to Charlie Schmehl from URDC. Attorney Datte informed him that we agreed to the Tiny Homes provision and told him to do the Data Center and Glamping amendments as well. We expressed our feelings on sizes and setbacks. We spoke about Solar amendment and the setbacks that Glenn Hummel brought to our attention. Attorney Datte also requested information we could add to our Zoning Ordinance with respect to Food Trucks. Attorney Datte said once he hears back from Charlie Schmehl he would promptly share it with the Supervisors. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Solicitor’s Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion to accept the Solicitor’s Report for June. Jim Akins seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

II. Land Use – Two Plans reviewed by Planning Commission.

A. Savlik/Zimmerman Annexation – 35 Air Strip Lane, New Ringgold, PA 17960. Planning Commission recommends conditional approval to the Board of Supervisors. Chairman called for a motion to conditionally approve the Savlik/ Zimmerman Annexation Plan contingent on all comments being satisfied from ARRO’s letter dated June 21, 2024, Bill Brior’s Comments and Planning Commission comments. Motion to adopt Resolution # 19 of 2024 conditionally approving the Savlik/Zimmerman Annexation Plan. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Jim Akins made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

B. Steigerwalt, Krause, Horn and Paul Lot Line Adjustment – 91 School Dr. New Ringgold, PA 17960. Planning Commission recommends conditional approval to the Board of Supervisors. Chairman called for a motion to conditionally approve the Steigerwalt, Krause, Horn & Paul Lot Line Adjustment contingent on all comments being satisfied from ARRO’s letter dated June 21, 2024, Bill Brior’s Comments and Planning Commission comments. Motion to adopt Resolution # 20 of 2024 conditionally approving the Steigerwalt, Krause, Horn & Paul Lot Line Adjustment Plan. Jim Akins made the motion to conditionally approve the Steigerwalt, Krause, Horn & Paul Lot Line Adjustment Plan. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

III. Operations

A. Engineer/Zoning Monthly Report – June 2024

Chairman asked Mike Begis from ARRO Consulting, Inc. if he had anything to report for the month of June. Mike Begis said he provided the BOS a report and he would be happy to address any questions the BOS may have. Glenn Hummel asked when and at what time final inspection would be at the Morgan Park. Secretary said July 3rd at 11AM. Glenn Hummel said he probably would not be able to make it however, he is very happy with everything that was done at the park. Chairman and Glenn Hummel thanked DCNR and everyone that was involved in getting J.E Morgan Park ready for inspection. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Engineer’s monthly report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Jim Akins seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

B. Code Enforcement Monthly Report – June 2024

Chairman called for a motion to accept the Code Enforcement Officer’s monthly report for June 2024. Jim Akins made the motion to accept the code report. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

C. Sewage Enforcement Officer’s Monthly Report – June 2024

Chairman read the sewage enforcement officer’s report. The report consisted of 1 Repair permit, 3 Test Probes, 3 Perc Tests, 2 Design Reviews, 1 Interim Inspections, 2 Site Evaluation, and 4 Subdivision Plan Reviews. 4 new Well Permits. No Malfunctions were reported. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Sewage Enforcement Officer’s Report. Jim Akins made the motion to accept the Sewage Enforcement Report for June 2024. . Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

D. Road Department’s Monthly Report – June 2024

Chairman read the Road Department’s Monthly report. The report consisted of General Maintenance to the Township Building & Equipment, Patched holes with cold patch, Installed speed limit signs on Dairy rd. and Zion Stone Church Road, Cleaned up trees and limbs along Township roads, Replaced pipes on Arrow Rd. (Low Volume Grant Project), Paving High Drive (Low Volume Grant Project), Installed drainage on Arrow Rd. with R-5 Rip Rap, Mowed grass along Township Roads and Assembled and placed 8 new picnic tables at the J.E. Morgan Park. Jeremy Fable attended a Flood Plain management class in Harrisburg. Chairman also read the Maintenance Report. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Road Department’s Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion to accept the Road Department’s monthly report for June. Jim Akins seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

E. Police Department Report – June 2024

Jim Akins read the Police Report. The Police Dept. had 4,983 miles patrolled 94 total citations & warnings, 14 motor vehicle accidents and 119 Total calls. Jim Akins said Unit 199 is over 100,000 miles

just for your awareness. Jim Akins said the Chief also attached his frequency report. Jim Akins said CSI Camp was a hit. The Speed Trailer has been up and running in various places in the Township, currently on SR309. Jim Akins said there was a meeting with the Department of Transportation. The Police Department could continue to do the inspections on the DOT Trucks. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Police Department's monthly report. Jim Akins made the motion to accept the Police Report. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

F. Fire Company Monthly Report – May & June 2024

Chairman read the fire reports for May and June. May consisted of 18 Total Calls answered. 5 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 6 Wires/Trees Down, 1 Medical Assist, 1 Fire Police Call, 1 Search and Rescue, 1 Brush Fire, 1 Structure Fire, 1 Vehicle Fire and 1 Move Up Assignment. They had their Monthly Business Meeting, Breakfast and Cash Bingo in the month of May. Their Training for the month was Essentials of Fire Fighting. June Report consisted of 34 Total Calls, 5 Motor Vehicle, 15 Wire/Trees down, 4 Automatic Fire Alarms, 2 Medical Assists, 3 Brush Fire, 3 Structure Fires, 1 Vehicle Fire and 1 Move Up Assignments. They had their Monthly Business Meeting, Breakfast and Cash Bingo. Their Training for the month included Essential Firefighting, Truck Maintenance, Hoses & Ladders and Dry Hydrant Drills/Driving Training. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Fire Department's Monthly Reports for May and June. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

G. Ambulance Monthly Report – June 2024

Chairman read the Ambulance Monthly Report. The Ambulance Report consisted of 184 calls year to date. June had 39 total calls. 31 West Penn, 4 Tamaqua, and 3 in New Ringgold. The outcomes of the calls were 15 Treated and Transported BLS, 3 Cancelled, 1 Dead at Scene, 1 Lift Assists, 1 No Patient Found, 2 No Treatment Required, 2 Refused Treatment, 1 Stand-By with Public Safety, 1 Standby, 1 Treated but not Transported, 1 treated and refused transport, 10 Treated, Transported, with ALS. Receiving Hospitals were 8 St. Luke's Miners, 4 St. Luke's Carbon, 10 Lehigh Valley Carbon, 1 LVHN Schuylkill-East & 2 St. Luke's Geisinger. The calls consisted of assault, back pain, breathing problems, chest pain, falls, fire, traffic accidents, stroke, lift assists, stroke, sick, heart problem, laceration, traumatic injury, fainting and psychiatric problems. Chairman said Karen Crostley prepared the report and left a note for the Chairman. The note said I can explain the "no patient found" a person called for their neighbor and when we arrived the neighbor was not there. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Ambulance Report. Jim Akins made the motion to accept the Ambulance Report for June 2024. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

IV. Old Business

A. Glenn Hummel asked Attorney Datte the status of the Atlas Park. Attorney Datte said he would stay on it. Glenn Hummel expressed that our grant would be expiring soon and he would not like to see us lose the funding.

V. New Business

A. Salvage Quotes

Chairman said we have some more cars to salvage. We contacted three Salvors to give us a quote on the vehicles. The vehicles included a 2009 Ford Focus and a 2015 Grand Cherokee.

Zaprazny's - \$1,552.00

Harry's U Pull It - \$1,400.00

Warner's Hazleton Scrap – Did not want to bid.

Jim Akins made a motion to accept the \$1552 bid from Zaprazny's. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Jim Akins said he has some new business to discuss and apologized for not having it on the Agenda. Jim Akins spoke about an "On Call" policy for the Police Department. Chairman asked Jim Akins and/or Chief Bonner to explain the proposed policy. Chief Bonner said in order to maintain complete coverage of the Township; Officers are now volunteering their time to cover certain hours a day on an "On Call" basis.

Chief Bonner said we came up with a plan to accept \$100/ day that they would be on an 8hr. on call shift. Chief Bonner said if they were called out then they would clock in. Chief Bonner said this would allow extra coverage and it ensures there is 24/7 coverage. Jim Akins said it gives us 24/7 response time even when the State Police are filling in. Glenn Hummel asked if it would coincide with no coverage shifts. Jim Akins said correct. Chief Bonner said this is a shift that normally would be covered by the State Police, if we did not have coverage the Township PD would cover it and not being in an overtime situation. Glenn Hummel said the coverage stipend to be on call for that 8hr period and they would be paid if they would come into work. Chairman called for a motion to amend the Agenda. Glenn Hummel made the motion to amend the Agenda to talk about the stipend for the "on Call" basis for the Police Department. Jim Akins seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Glenn Hummel wanted clarification on being on call. Glenn Hummel said the Officer gets the \$100 to be on call and had to have a minimum of two hours of work if they would be called out? Glenn Hummel said the Officer should be paid as soon as they would show up. Jim Akins thought it was one hour. Chief Bonner said he was following the court, which is the minimum of two hours, but we are acceptable if we are called out for twenty minutes or so we would get a 1 hr. pay. Glenn Hummel said if the Officer is called out, he should be paid when he gets on duty. Chairman called for a motion.

Glenn Hummel made a motion to pay the "on Call" police officer for shifts that could not be covered, a \$100 stipend to be on call and paid from the minute he shows up to work. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

VI. Correspondence - NONE

VII. Business from Anyone on the Board

A. Chief Bonner questioned the line painting that was done on SR443. Chief Bonner said he was going to call PennDOT tomorrow. Chairman said the line painting is messed up all over.

B. Jim Akins commented about the Company that did the Tar & Chipping for the Township. He said that the company swept up afterward and probably recycled all the loose gravel, which was nice.

VIII. Public Comments on General Items

Larry Stival. – Asked if there were any updates with the meeting the Township had with PennDOT and Dave Argall. Larry Stival said at that meeting we also commented on double yellow lines and putting up "NO Passing Signs", he said that they put them going down the Blue Mountain. Glenn Hummel said they did it on SR443 as well. Larry Stival said they should put them on SR895 where we asked them too. Jim Akins said they might follow shortly after they Tar & Chip. The assumption is they do the Tar & Chip, the Line Painting then the Signage to follow. We will check on it. Larry Stival said we also looked at those Solar Speed Limit Signs. Chairman said the Chief put it in his mailbox today. Chairman said he believes it was \$6500/ unit. Chairman said we need to budget something like that. Chief Bonner said he has a plan with the speed trailer. He said he would be setting it up by Mr. Stival's house. Glenn Hummel asked the Chief if he followed the PennDOT standards for those signs. Glenn Hummel explained that the signs that

go through PennDOT and needs to meet their specs and go through their vendors and they were close to \$12K.

Ronald Wehr – asked the Board who is responsible for tree limbs hanging over Township roads.

Chairman said it depends if it is in our right-of-way, meaning the actual tree. Mr. Wehr's concern is on Dairy Rd and Buck Lane and Strauss Valley Rd. He is concerned with the school buses traveling that road. Chairman said another concern is in the winter when the sun does not hit the snowy road, which could make traveling a dangerous situation. The Board of Supervisors will have the Road master take a look at them.

Delroy Haas - Thanked the Board for getting a PA System up and running. Delroy Haas also noticed where the 25MPH signs were stolen; there were no occupied dwellings around.

IX. Executive Session - NONE

X. Adjournment

Chairman called for a motion to adjourn at 6:32PM. Glenn Hummel made the motion to adjourn. Jim Akins seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Transcribed By:

Katie Orlick - West Penn Township Secretary