

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

Phone (570)386-4507

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**Regular 9AM Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, July 15, 2025**

Present at the Meeting

Tony Prudenti – Chairman

Katie Orlick - Secretary (absent)

James Akins – Supervisor (absent)

Paul Datte – Solicitor (absent)

Glenn Hummel – Vice Chairman

Mike Begis – ARRO Consulting

Karen Wittig – Treasurer

Herb Woodring – Asst. to BOS

Jeremy Frable – Road Master

8:45AM CDBG Hearing – Ron Zimmerman & Charlie spoke about CDBG Funding and what activities qualify. Ron Zimmerman said the purpose of the hearing is to provide an opportunity for citizens to comment on the Community Development and Housing needs of West Penn Township. It would be addressed to the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds. The allocation has not been announced but they expect West Penn Township to receive about \$98K from the PA Small Communities program for fiscal year 2025, no less than 77% of the funds must be used for activities that may benefit low to moderate income and up to 30% could be used for activities that eliminate sium and blight such as demolition. A list of activities is available as a handout for anyone that is interested. The application deadline for the PA Department and Economic Development has not been announced but is expected to be late October. Funds have been used for ADA barrier removal in J.E. Morgan and Zion Stone Park, Township Building, Police Annex, Housing Rehab and Demolition. The Supervisors will select projects that meet the Federal guidelines. Another Public Hearing will be held in October for all of Schuylkill County Grants. Any interested residence can sign up for information or see the Township Secretary about the program. It is stated for the record the Township does not intend to use any displacement of people from their homes in carrying out these projects. The County has a relocation and acquisition policy that details the benefits and the process should any activity cause any displacement. Ron Zimmerman said housing rehab program goes through Schuylkill Community Action, then the County and then the Township. A lien is put on the property for 5 years. Ron Zimmerman said it is like a loan that you do not have to make payments on, as long as you stay in that home until the loan is over. There are guidelines to follow. Chairman said we are in that situation now. We did a demolition project. We have to keep that property for five years before we do anything with it.

Chairman asked about Emergency Services. Ron Zimmerman said that it would have to be low to moderate income for the whole community. The Board discussed the Zion Park and the future.

Chairman asked if we have money from CDBG funds from previous years. Ron Zimmerman said yes. Ron Zimmerman said maybe we could do an ADA Fishing Pier at the J.E. Morgan Park. Board of Supervisors thanked Ron Zimmerman and Charlie for attending our meeting and sharing their information with us.

Chairman asked Ron Zimmerman if they have any other ideas for us, please share. Jeremy Frable asked Ron Zimmerman if a parking lot for the Fire Department would qualify. Ron Zimmerman said the only thing they may be able to do is pave handicapped parking spaces. Karen Crostley from the Penn Mahoning Ambulance asked if there is anything that could be recommended for them to be able to use that funding. Ron Zimmerman said the majority of the Township would have to have low to moderate income. Glenn Hummel asked if ADA access to our recycling bins could be a project. Ron Zimmerman

said that may work. He will follow up with the County once he receives pictures of the potential project to see if it would be an acceptable project. Chairman called for a motion to close the hearing @ 9:15AM

I. General

A. Chairman, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Introductions at 9:15 AM.

B. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only - NONE

C. Chairman called for a motion to approve and pay the bills. Glenn Hummel made the motion.

Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

II. Land Use - NONE

III. Old Business - NONE

IV. New Business - NONE

V. Business from Anyone on the Board

A. **Eagle Scout Project – J.E. Morgan Park** – Tyler Buchman is on a mission to become an Eagle Scout. He had a bake sale as a fundraiser at the J.E. Morgan Memorial Park Independence Day Fireworks Display. Which he did very well and he had other donations given to him. However, he is still a little short in funding for the Morgan Parks new benches he is constructing. He is a little over \$1000 short. Chairman called for a motion to give Tyler Buchman the remainder of the money to complete his project and not to exceed \$1200 to complete is Eagle Scout Benches for our park.

B. **Hayman Water System** – J.E. Morgan Memorial Park – Chairman said the Park's water smells like sulfur and in order to correct the problem we would need to install a Water Treatment System. Hayman Water System would charge \$2500 Total for a complete job. Glenn Hummel asked if we had the money in the recreation fund. Karen Wittig said we would be able to do it. Carl Greves asked what needed to be done for that issue and wanted to know if we could get it done any cheaper or by a retired plumber. Chairman called for a motion to get the work done. Glenn Hummel made a motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

VI. Correspondence

A. **Tax Collector's August Hours** – Chairman read the Tax Collector's Hours of Operation. He also stated they could be found on our website or you could call the Township.

B. Chairman called for a motion to allow Jeremy Frable to go speak to the people on Quarry Road about the income survey for the CDBG grant. Jeremy would let them know why it is important and how it would benefit those people living there. Seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

VII. Public Comment on General Items

A. **Carl Greves** – asked about Jimmy Akins resignation. Chairman said we were waiting for Jimmy Akins to submit his resignation.

B. **Don Hoppes** – Mill Dr. & SR443 – asked if there is anything that could be done to get that property cleaned up. Sgt. Kaczmarczyk said it is going through the court process. Chairman asked Mike Begis to let Code Enforcement know that that property and the property across the street should be expedited to get cleaned up.

VIII. Executive Session – NONE

IX. Adjournment

A. **Chairman** called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9.21AM. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

Transcribed by:

Katie Orlick, West Penn Township Secretary