

Supervisors' Meeting

April 13, 2021



Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Morrow. In attendance were Supervisors Hunsinger, Klinger, Carr, and Howell. Meeting was held at the Buckhorn Fire Company.

Approve March minutes – On a Carr/Hunsinger motion, March minutes were approved. Motion passed 5-0.

Solicitor – No report.

Police – Reported by Chief VanDine. See attached.

Zoning Officer – Reported by Melissa Matthews. See attached.

Planning Commission – Reported by Melissa Matthews. See attached.

Park Committee – Not present.

SEO – Not present.

Roadmaster – Reported by Shawn Donbach. See attached.

Emergency Management – None.

Manager's Report: Mr. Sutton reported that because of the necessary upgrades the estimated cost to upgrade the Quickbooks program is \$2,100.

Mr. Sutton informed the Board that Ken's Property Management will mow the grass at the Fernville Park, the monument and the Township and Police buildings again this year. His price did not increase over last year. He also quoted a price of \$75 per mowing to cut two lots as you come into Fernville, one on the corner of Bloom and Drinker Streets and the other on the corner of Bloom and Walnut Streets. He will only mow as needed. On a Howell/Morrow motion, it was agreed to extend the mowing in Fernville to include those two lots. Motion passed 5-0.

Financial Report – Read by Mr. Sutton. See attached.

Citizen's Comments: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. **Final Plan - Beishline Subdivision** – On a Carr/Howell motion, the Beishline Final Subdivision Plan for two lots fronting on Pony Trail Drive is approved. Motion passed 5-0. Driveway permits will need to be issued for access to each new lot.

2. **Conditional Approval of Engelhardt Subdivision** – The Planning Commission did not take action on this plan due to outstanding items. The Board takes no action on this plan.
3. **Police Car** – Chief VanDine brought to Mr. Sutton’s attention that the police are budgeted to get a new car in the summer. VanDine stated would like to order it now as there is a 3 to 4 month wait for delivery of new vehicles. Mr. Sutton has applied for a DCED grant that could contribute up to \$25,000.00 to the cost of said vehicle. However, if the car is ordered before the grant is awarded, the grant money cannot be used. Mr. Sutton called to check on the application and was told to call back at the end of April. Chief VanDine expressed concern about the age and mileage on the existing police cars. Supervisor Klinger stated that he wants to keep the department to two car loans at any time. Item is tabled until May meeting.

Discussion on the Township’s receipt of **stimulus money** occurred. Mr. Sutton advised the Board that the Township is expected to receive approximately \$200,000 from the stimulus package. The amount has been determined by the federal government using a formula based on population. Half would be received this August and the remainder next year. But this money has many conditions on its use. Allowable uses have not been released yet. Supervisor Howell asked if there was anything we had budgeted in 2020 that we didn’t buy. Mr. Sutton said no but that we had a revenue shortage of about \$90,000.

4. **Regional Police Study** – Mr. Sutton stated that the Board has not had an opportunity to discuss regional policing since the meeting last month. Supervisor Carr stated that he doesn’t see a regional force without every municipality participating as a benefit for Hemlock citizens. Supervisor Hunsinger added that he heard that Catawissa has dropped out so now the only participants are really Hemlock and Bloomsburg since Millville and Madison are with us now. Mr. Sutton said that they need to make their own decision about it. Chief VanDine added that the numbers should be revised prior to any decision to reflect the current participants. Supervisor Klinger is concerned that costs will increase since it was learned that the cost for use of the Bloomsburg police building was not included. On a Carr/Hunsinger motion, Hemlock Township withdraws from the regionalization study and will not invest more time and money to it. Motion passed 5-0.
5. **Flood Buyout Grant 4408-PA-7** – Mr. Sutton announced that FEMA has approved the Township’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application for properties on Bloom, Hemlock, Walnut and William Streets and Millville Road in the amount of \$1,077,392.00. Those property owners who applied have been notified. We hope to receive approval for the Drinker Street properties soon.
6. **Chamber of Commerce** – Every year the Chamber’s bill is presented to the Board for discussion for approval. On a Klinger/Hunsinger motion, Hemlock Township will continue its membership in the Chamber of Commerce for the year at a cost of \$275.00. Motion passed 5-0.

Other Business: Supervisor Klinger said that a bid should be advertised for 500+/-ton of 9-millimeter stone for scratching prior to the scheduled chipping. On a Klinger/Carr motion, Mr. Sutton is directed to advertise. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Sutton announced that he has received notice that the police association wants to enter into collective bargaining discussions with the Township. Supervisors Carr, Howell and Morrow will meet to review the police proposal, develop a counterproposal, and present a recommendation to the full Board.

Approve Bills as Posted – On a Howell/Morrow motion, bills as presented can be paid. Motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment of Meeting – Meeting adjourned at 9:41 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Jaske Bella
Assistant Manager