

# Supervisors' Meeting

May 11, 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 April minutes – On a Carr/Hunsinger motion, April minutes were approved. Motion passed 5-0.

Solicitor – No report.

Police – Reported by Chief VanDine. See attached. Chief VanDine stated that using the license plate reader has been very successful. Year to date there have been 286 citations associated with the reader. Chief VanDine thanked Officer Dietterick for doing the research, technical support and keeping the plate reader up and running.

Zoning Officer – Reported by Melissa Matthews. See attached. Ms. Matthews stated that the FEMA CAV visit regarding the floodplain was successful. She should be getting a report soon.

Planning Commission – Reported by Melissa Matthews. See attached.

Park Committee – No meeting was held last month.

SEO – Not present.

Roadmaster – Reported by Shawn Donbach. See attached.

Emergency Management – No report.

Manager's Report: Mr. Sutton stated that the Fire Pitt Campground in Eysers Grove requested police services this summer for several events between three to four hours each. Last year we provided services for \$65.00 per hour. This year we would like to request \$75.00 per hour. On a Klinger/Hunsinger motion, permission is given to provide service at \$75.00 per hour. Motion passed 5-0.

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

## Citizen's Comments:

**Reverend Moore, Fernville:** Complimented the township police and stated he was glad they did not become part of the regionalized police force. He also praised the road master for work well done and thanked Supervisor Carr for helping with the power outage. Reverend Moore said he hopes Supervisor Howell does well regarding his surgery.

## Old Business:

1. **Wal-Mart Tax refund** – In 2018, Wal-Mart applied for a tax reduction. Due to an oversight, the township did not receive the paperwork, so now we are responsible to apply a one-time credit for 2019, 2020 and 2021 in the amount of \$26,758.27, which will come off of the 2021 tax bill. \$11,755.49 is the tax revenue amount we will receive from Wal-Mart this year. Supervisor Klinger asked if the taxes would go up because of the upgrades, such as painting, etc. He was told no because they did not add any more space to the store.

## New Business:

2. **Health Insurance Renewal** – Creative Benefits notified Mr. Sutton that there will only be a two percent (2%) increase for the 2021 – 2022 plan year with Geisinger. There will be no changes to our current insurance. On a Carr/Hunsinger motion, Geisinger renewal was approved. Motion passed 5-0.
3. **Drinker Street Grant Approval – Drinker Street** – Mr. Sutton was informed by Mrs. Bella that the grant for home buyouts on twelve properties on Drinker Street had been approved. She is in the process of informing the homeowners.
4. **Landmark Signature Homes Extension** – Landmark Signature Homes has requested a ninety-day extension for the hotel/restaurant plans behind the mall. On a Hunsinger/Klinger motion, the extension

was granted. Motion passed 4 ayes with Supervisor Morrow abstaining due to his business association with the owner.

5. **County Line Drive/Frosty Valley Road Subdivision** – This subdivision is located partially in Hemlock Township, and partially in West Hemlock. Ted Oman requested conditional approval, with the following conditions: Sewer module needs to be signed and approved by DEP, the plan needs to be signed and notarized, and approval is required of the other planning commissions. On a Howell/Hunsinger motion, plan was conditionally approved with the above-mentioned stipulations. Motion passed 5-0.
6. **Resolution 05-11-2021 Land Development Sewage Module** – This is a DEP requirement and has been approved by our sewage enforcement officer. On a Morrow/Carr motion, Resolution 05-11-2021 was approved. Motion passed 5-0.
7. **EMS Proclamation** – This proclamation recognizes the EMS Services in our area and designates the week of June 16 – 22 as Emergency Medical Services Week. Mr. Sutton read the proclamation aloud. Supervisor Morrow declared the above-mentioned week as EMS week.

**Other Business:** Mr. Sutton announced that there was no grant money available for the police car. He stated that the grant will not be used for cars, radios, etc. and focus more on the cost of regionalization. Chief VanDine stated that the 2013 Tahoe odometer reading is currently 83,118 miles and the 2018 Explorer reading is currently 83,923 miles. The cost of replacing the 2013 vehicle with a new one will be \$55,990.47 which includes the outfitting and lettering and a new in-car camera system. The cost of replacing the 2018 vehicle will be \$50,199.00 with the same modifications. The 2010 Tahoe would be sold. There is a three month wait once the car is ordered. After further discussion, a Morrow/Klinger motion was made to approve the search and purchase of a new vehicle. Motion passed 5-0. There is a vehicle available to order and will be ready for July.

Supervisor Carr asked about the financing of the new car. Supervisor Morrow stated that we have three options: full loan from First Columbia Bank; partial loan with the bank and the remaining balance can be borrowed from the reserve fund; or the total amount can be borrowed from the reserve fund. This will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Mr. Sutton wanted to discuss police liability insurance. Because of national incidences involving police, liability insurance, if provided, will be very expensive. There is a company called Lexipol Policies and Procedures that provide and monitor the SOP for police departments. They update the SOP and periodically contact and test police officers regarding their knowledge of the procedures. This is not an insurance company, but it may help with the cost of liability insurance since we are being proactive. The cost is between five and ten thousand dollars. After further discussion, Mr. Sutton and Chief VanDine were directed to get more information including the cost of this service. This will be presented at next month's meeting.

Shawn Donbach presented the bids that came in for asphalt contract. HRI and New Enterprise were the only two. Supervisor Klinger said that although New Enterprise came in lower, the cost of hauling the material to the township would be more expensive due to the distance. HRI would be hauling from Millville Road. On a Klinger/Carr motion, the bid was awarded to HRI. Motion passed 5-0.

The yard sale for the township will be June 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Sutton was asked if it would be possible to put an ad in the paper. Permission was given to place an ad.

Mr. Sutton stated that the Road Dust Oil is scheduled for the first week of June. There are about seventeen people signed up for this. Guy's Lane may be done as a test road to see how it holds up, depending on the cost.

**Approve Bills as Posted** – Supervisor Howell questioned a bill for Atlantic Tactical and was advised that the correction for the amount was made on the check, but not on the bill list. He also asked if we check other prices besides Leighow Oil for heating oil. Mr. Sutton does contact other companies. On a Hunsinger/Morrow motion, consent was given to pay the bills with the correction stated above. Motion passed 5-0.

**Adjournment of Meeting** – Meeting adjourned at 10:02 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Larina S. Kramer  
Township Secretary