# Washington Township Municipal Building 185 Manors Road Elizabethville, PA 17023 November 19, 2024

The Washington Township Board of Supervisors regular meeting was held at the municipal building on November 19, 2024.

Acting Chairman, Glenn Stoneroad called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

#### **Board Members Present:**

Cynthia Stout- arrived 7:10 PM Glenn Stoneroad

Gerald Lettich Kevin Stadheim **Board Member Absent:** Benjamin Brown

#### **Administrators and Others Present:**

Donna Sitlinger – Secretary Robert Crabb – Roadmaster Citizens -29

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Acting Chairman, Glenn Stoneroad called for public comments.

Ryan Romberger, President of Reliance Hose Company No 1 was recognized.

The fire protection tax agreement between Reliance Hose Company, Washington Township and Elizabethville Borough expires December 31, 2024.

Members of the fire company are recommending a .55 mill fire protection tax increase from 0.70 to 1.25 mills due to inflation.

During the November 7, 2024 meeting, the Supervisors voted not to implement a fire protection tax mill increase in the new contract.

Marie Herb, Elizabethville Borough Council was recognized. Marie recommended a counter- offer of 1.05 mills with the possibility of considering a shorter contract.

Tom Welker was recognized. Tom commented times have changed and raising money through fundraisers is not as effective as it was in the past.

It was the consensus of the Supervisors to table further consideration until the completion of the budget review.

Dennis Henninger was recognized. Dennis asked the supervisors to keep in mind the fire protection tax has nothing to do with the budget.

Laverne Brown, Chairman of the Washington Township was recognized. Laverne commented there is an error in the solar energy system ordinance regarding principal solar energy systems listed as a special exception in the agriculture district and needs to be corrected. Laverne also questioned the language in the section of the ordinance on minimum size.

# **MINUTES:**

The minutes of the Board of Supervisors November 7, 2024 public hearing and regular meeting, approved as presented by motion of Supr. Stadheim, second by Supr. Stout. Roll Call Vote: Stoneroad (yes) Stadheim (yes) Lettich (yes) Stout (yes) Motion carried.

# **PAYMENT OF INVOICES:**

General Fund: \$11.329.38

Supr. Lettich made a motion to approve the payment of the invoices as listed and include the Krystal Karpet invoice of \$1200.00, second by Supr. Stadheim. Roll Call Vote: Stoneroad (yes) Stadheim (yes) Lettich (yes) Stout (yes) Motion carried.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

Sgt. Olinger, PSP Station Commander introduced himself. Sgt. Olinger verbally provided the total number of calls of service and arrests that occurred in Washington Township and compared those numbers to last year. A brief question period was held.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

### **UDA School District Solar Project**

Acting Chairman Glenn Stoneroad recognized Damien Zampogna from the McClure Company. Damien described the stormwater management controls proposed on the site plan for the Upper Dauphin Area School District's solar project. Damien and the township engineer held consultations prior to tonight's meeting. The township engineer advised in an email that the project layout meets the spirit of the township's stormwater exemption criteria. The township engineer is not opposed to the granting of a waiver from section 9-302. Damien extended an invitation to the fire company members to show them around the site when the project is completed. Damien will take an offer back to his office for consideration to pay for fire fighters training. A brief comment period was held.

### Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan (Raymond Smucker)

Raymond Smucker was in attendance seeking approval for his land development plan. It was noted that there were errors on the first page of the plan. The Secretary will notify Raymond's engineer.

# **OLD BUSINESS:**

# Municipal Building Update

Roadmaster Crabb reported the following:

• Currently going through the checklist of items that need to be completed.

# **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### Winter Maintenance Policy

Supr. Lettich made a motion to approve the Winter Maintenance & Emergency Policy & Procedures with an effective date of November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2025, second by Supr. Stadheim. Motion carried.

#### Advertise Intent to Appoint Professional Auditor

Supr. Lettich made a motion to approve to advertise the intent of the Supervisors to appoint a CPA firm to conduct the 2024 audit, second by Supr. Stout. Roll Call Vote: Stoneroad (yes) Stadheim (yes) Lettich (yes) Stout (yes) Motion carried.

#### **Cleaning Services Agreement**

After reviewing minor revisions to the service contract for cleaning services, it is the consensus of the Supervisors to approve the revisions conditional upon Solicitor Kerwin's satisfactory review of the agreement. The Secretary will provide the cleaning rates when available.

#### Budget 2025:

The Supervisors were provided with a written copy of a proposed 2025 budget. All funds were reviewed. Roadmaster Crabb provided a written report on the condition of roads and outlined his recommendations for 2025 road projects, equipment purchases and maintenance. It was noted that employee salaries and evaluations will be reviewed next month. Supr. Stout made a motion to tentatively approve the proposed 2025 budget and to advertise that the proposed budget is available for public inspection, second by Supr. Stadheim. Prior to taking a roll call vote on the motion and second made, further consideration of the fire company's request to increase the fire protection tax mills needs to be discussed. After discussion, Supr. Stout withdrew her motion and Supr. Stadheim his second. Supr. Lettich made a new motion to revise the proposed budget that reflects increasing the fire protection tax mill rate to 1.05 mills and tentatively approve the proposed 2025 budget and approve to advertise that the budget is available for public inspection, second by Supr. Stadheim. Roll Call Vote: Stoneroad (yes) Stadheim (yes) Lettich (yes) Stout (no) Motion carried.

### **SUPERVISORS REPORT:**

JERRY LETTICH: *Washington Township Authority:* No report.

BENJAMIN BROWN: *Recycling & Landfill:* Absent.

#### **KEVIN STADHEIM:**

#### Road Report:

Roadmaster Crabb reported the following:

- Obtained a quote for the amount of \$3150 to re-seal the expansion joints and around the doors and windows on the old portion of the municipal building. Supr. Stout made a motion to approve the quote of \$3150 submitted by Eagle Ridge Contracting, second by Supr. Stadheim. Roll Call Vote: Stoneroad (yes) Stadheim (yes) Lettich (yes) Stout (yes) Motion carried.
- Supr. Lettich made a motion to approve accepting the high bids received for the used aluminum floor mat, miscellaneous office furniture, 20 meeting chairs, 10 high back chairs, electric heat, fire safe 2-drawer filing cabinet, and a 2- drawer filing cabinet that were advertised for sale on the municibid website, second by Supr. Stadheim. Roll Call Vote: Stoneroad (yes) Stadheim (yes) Lettich (yes) Stout (yes) Motion carried.

#### **GLENN STONEROAD:**

#### **Upper Dauphin Area School District & COG:**

Supr. Stoneroad reported COG meets Thursday.

# **CYNTHIA STOUT:**

#### Parks & Recreation & Reliance Hose Company No. 1:

It was questioned whether anyone is aware of the Recreation Board's future plans for the park facility.

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Acting Chairman, Glenn Stoneroad called for public comments.

Dennis Henninger, Elizabethville Borough Council and Ryan Romberger, Reliance Hose Company No. 1 expressed their thanks and continued support to the fire company.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Recreation Board: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 (8PM) Planning Commission: Monday, December 2, 2024 Supervisors: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 Authority: Tuesday, December 10, 2024

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Supr. Stadheim made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Supr. Lettich. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sitlingen

Donna M. Sitlinger Secretary

November 19, 2024