

December 7, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Richmond Township Supervisors was held at the Township Building at 30348 State Highway 408. The meeting was called to order with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence at 6:00 P.M. In attendance were Supervisors Morton, James, and Sharpe (via phone), Rhonda Phillips, Rick Makohus, Scott Wheelock, Kathleen Wheelock, Tracey Bullock, Brian Bullock, John Lawrence, Bob Potts, and Sandy James.

Minutes of the November 2, 2023 meeting: Copies were distributed to those in attendance. Morton asked if there were any additions and/or corrections.

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to accept the minutes as they stand. Motion carried; three ayes.

Correspondence:

Notice received that the church in Teepleville is applying for exemption in taxes.

Bills and Receipts: See Treasurer's report.

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to approve all bills and receipts. Motion carried; three ayes.

Reports:

Planning Commission – No report.

Rec Board – The light is out on the left side of the pole building. Need to call Northwestern REC to come out and fix it.

Road Master's Report – The month of November we have been busy dressing trucks for winter. We finally got the F-550 back on the road after waiting a year to get a motor put in it due to back order. We had to get a couple stress cracks welded up on the '99 International. We also had to have the scissor fixed on the F-550 due to sitting for a year; it was frozen up. But it is nice to have it back so that we can spread skid with it and save on tire chains on other trucks. We also bermed Johnson Rd on both sides from Rt. 408 to Mercer Rd. In addition, we put all the equipment away. It is going to be a rough winter on the roads due to not freezing and just raining. The roads are already full of holes. We will do what we can as weather permits. It is nice to be able to keep the F-550 dressed and use the Chevy to check roads.

Tax Collection Committee – No report.

Website Report – 202 visitors for the month of November.

Old Business -

Update on improvements of the Rec Center buildings – They are working on improvements. There are some additional costs including fixing the masonry on the back, painting the block building, purchasing a man door and putting it in, adding a sliding door to the pole barn. This will be an additional cost of \$2,030.

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to approve the additional expenses from Stutzman Indian Run Construction. Motion carried; three ayes.

Update on Ford F-550 – The truck is back.

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to use ARPA funds to cover the expense of \$20,272.71 to get the Ford F-550 fixed. Motion carried; three ayes.

General election day report – Paperwork will need to be turned in to the office for Bob Potts and Tracey Bullock.

PSATS boot camp – December 12th, March 9th, March 16th

**Motion made by Morton, seconded by James, to send Bob Potts to the PSATS boot camp. Motion carried; three eyes.

Hunting season – There should be no parking on the roads when there is snow on the roads.

Volvo needs repairs – The truck is going to Rt. 19. It needs a new clutch. The cost should be around \$2,000.

New Business:

Additional BCO for the township – The township is required to have an additional BCO in case something happens to our primary BCO.

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to add John Prosek as an additional BCO for Richmond Township. Motion carried; three eyes.

Selective Insurance billing cycle – We will set our billing cycle to be quarterly.

UPMC Renewal – The current plan will increase by 7.5%.

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to renew the current health plan. Motion carried; three eyes.

Send out bids for diesel, fuel oil, and brine – all three will be sent out for bid in the Meadville Tribune.

2024 final budget – The 2024 budget is now ready for approval. The general township budget is \$268,441 for income and \$270,295 for expenses. The liquid fuels budget is \$144,254 for income and \$142,000 for expenses.

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to adopt Resolution 2023-1 to approve the 2024 final budget. Motion carried; three eyes.

2024 Real estate millage -

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to adopt Resolution 2023-2 to retain the real estate millage at the rate of 4.0 with 1.0 mill designated for the Fire Fund in 2024. Motion carried; three eyes.

2024 Per capita tax -

**Motion made by James, seconded by Sharpe, to adopt Resolution 2023-3 to retain the township per capita tax at \$5.00 for 2024. Motion carried; three eyes.

Solar ordinance discussion – The solicitor will be contacted to get advice regarding this issue. Some important points to consider: what happens to existing panels when the company leaves; require a minimum acreage that requires a storm water plan; will the assessment value of properties be affected.

Year-end meeting – Wednesday, December 27th at 6 pm

Upcoming vacations – Morton will be gone off and on for 3-4 days at a time.

Citizens` Comments and Concerns

John Lawrence expressed his appreciation to Don James for his tenure.

**Motion made by Morton, seconded by James, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried; three eyes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Phillips
Township Secretary