MERCER TOWNSHIP. BUTLER COUNTY

4629 WILLIAM FLYNN HWY, PO BOX 380 HARRISVILLE, PA 16038 724-735-2705 April 15, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman J. Bennett, Jr. Members present: W. Long, E. Treese, N. Ciochetto. Visitors present: G. Quigley, V. Kennedy. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: Motion to accept the March 18, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes as printed: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, Motion carried. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: G. Quigley. Kozy Rest: Coordinating things. John can call & Gary will do whatever we need. Invited us to the ribbon cutting. See Kozy Rest below. V. Kennedy: brought paperwork asking us to review payments & dates to negotiate his bill. Wants to eliminate late & legal fees. Supervisors will review & advise our Solicitor how to proceed. OLD BUSINESS: Kozy Rest Sewage Expansion: Previously invoiced amount was paid in full on 3/19/24. New expenses are incurring & will be invoiced after our solicitor & engineering firm assist with the project completion. We received something from our solicitor today to review. Discussion: Engineer asked J. Bennett, Jr. if Kozy Rest is to put in taps for existing Mercer Twp. Campground Rd. residents. Will request this be done. Mercer Twp. will take responsibility for the line in the Twp. Need a flow meter to measure what is coming into our system, Public Sewer: Incomplete connections/inspections (5): Unchanged: D. Brown #2 (April 15 deadline-email received today asking "forgiveness" for not being completed. Did not respond to request for a new deadline.); K. Schumacher; R&M Holdings '09, LLC; McFeaters; 204 Boyers Rd. Delinquencies-Three or more months (13): Updated: None sent for collection after 4/1/2024 invoicing. Property Liens (10): Unchanged: D. Brown; F. Carroll-Gillen; J. Green; S. Heller; V. Kennedy (3 properties); R/J. McFeaters; G. Mullett; H. Russell. Notice of Claim: Filed on H. Russell estate. Office will follow up on this. Sheriff Sale (3/3): Unchanged: J. Green; S. Heller; R. McFeaters; & 3 V. Kennedy properties. V. Kennedy properties are on hold if he pays as agreed. There was an issue with his payment last month that he needs to resolve. See "Business From The Floor". Auto Pay: 37 of 120 accounts (31%) are set up on auto pay. Delinquency Rate: Total-12.5%; Severe-7.5%. Grinder Pumps: None out for repair. GC Boro Wastewater Costs: Total costs for 2023 - \$16,751, less an overpayment of \$829 from 2022. We have an overpayment from 2023 of \$92 which is deducted from our 1st Quarter 2024 estimated payment. 2024 quarterly payments are \$4,419. (2023 payments were \$4,210.75). S. Pierce: asking if it is possible to connect to sewage via Harrisville line, J. Bennett, Jr. went to Harrisville Boro mtg. to request permission for this connection. Harrisville motioned & passed the acceptance to allow the connection. Private Sewer: On-Lot Sewage Permits (2024): 3 - A. Burnett; T. McDougall; D. Kellogg. Act 14 Notification: Amendment of current Individual NPDES Permit to a PAG-04 Permit for W. Isenberg. Municipal Office: Building Permits (2024): 2 - J. DiSanti; E. Meier. Municipal Garage: New Dump Truck; Est. delivery date; August 19. 2024. Resident Recycle Day: Saturday, May 18th, 2024. 7 am - noon. CEO: "For Love of the Lost"/Fish property: CEO delivered the citation. Need photos. Owner informed the CEO that property was purchased at a different location so items can be moved to that site, which is commercial. J. Bennett Jr. asked solicitor what next steps would be. E. Treese will drive by & check progress. Peters/Combine property: Nothing new. EMC/Weather - Emergency Management Coordinator: B. Grossman. Motion: to pay \$50 per EMC training meeting plus milage: E. Treese. Second: W Long. All in favor, motion carried. Shields Rd. Tree: Solicitor prepared a complaint to file with the PUC. Motion to approve & have the solicitor file said complaint; J. Bennett, Jr. Second; E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried, 2024 Newsletter; Newsletter has been printed & mailed. NEW BUSINESS: Tree down on Whitaker Rd: Resident called. J. Bennett, Jr. responded & saw a pole & lines down, along with several trees. VFC responded. E. Treese cleaned up the cut tree debris later. OTHER BUSINESS: BCATO Spring Convention: Thursday, May 16, 2024: 9 am-2 pm at Butler Country Club. \$35/person. Motion to pay \$35/person for Nikki, John & Pete to attend: W. Long. Second: J. Bennett, Jr. All in favor, motion carried. Township Auditors: Audited the Tax Collector books on 3-30-24. All resident tax payments are accounted for & all bank statements balance. No errors were found & books were in good order, **MEETING** REPORTS: BCATO:(4-4-24) Covered last minute agenda items for County Convention & talked about PSATS Convention, Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Meeting: (4-8-24) Commissioners gave updates: Many new groundbreaking projects being completed using grants & funding, Election on 4-23-24, DEP & others were helpful with decision making regarding Act 537 at the Sewage Issues mtg, requesting funding for mental health, the opioid crisis & 911/EMS. Cleveland Cliffs jobs were saved. PennDOT project updates; will be paying Route 8 north of Harrisville & 58 east & west of Harrisville to the Mercer Co. line. Blight program information was given with contact info. to report on properties needing demolished or rehabilitated. Mercer Co. COG:(3-20-24) J. Bennett, Jr. attended. Cleanup, squatter's rights affecting municipalities. Repairing several sewage lines in GC. Lots of water infiltration. MT report – waiting on truck, salt ordered, newsletter. ROAD REPORT: 3/10/24 Checked roads, plowed & salted lower half of Twp; 3/11/24 Unloaded antiskid; 3/12/24 John & Lattended the Pine-Harrisville Sewage Authority mtg; 3/13/24 Videoed Shields Rd for bonding. Repaired potholes on Shields & Browntown Rds.; 3/19/24 Received a call from 911 dispatch that Shields Rd needed salted. FINANCIAL REPORT: General Fund: \$112,202; Sewer Fund: \$71,203; Liquid Fuels Fund: \$144,318; Capital Reserve: \$124,720; Escrow Fund: \$4,517; Total: \$456,960. Motion to pay bills: E. Treese, Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:50 pm. E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Nikki L. Ciochetto, Secretary/Treasurer