

MERCER TOWNSHIP, BUTLER COUNTY

4629 WILLIAM FLYNN HWY., PO BOX 380, HARRISVILLE, PA 16038

Phone 724 735-2705

MEETING MINUTES - JANUARY 16, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by Chairman, J. Bennett, Jr. **Members present:** R. Stuchal, E. Treese, N. Ciochetto, L. Giesler & J. Yasment. **Visitors present:** Bill Long, resident & Chris Kopacz, Butler Eagle. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** **Motion** to accept the December 19, 2022 Regular meeting minutes; December 19, 2022 Budget meeting minutes; & January 3, 2023 Reorganization meeting minutes as printed by E. Treese. Second by R. Stuchal. All in favor, motion carried.


BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Hemmerlin property subdivision plan already signed by the County was signed by Supervisors and Secretary.

OLD BUSINESS: Kozy Rest Sewage Expansion: Meeting with Kozy Rest, Supervisors, Solicitor & Engineer on Jan. 5th at 4 pm. Solicitor updated all. Need Harrisville to sign the memorandum. Solicitor will update Grove City. Kozy Rest applied for a sewer extension PA DEP BWM-GP-5 general permit registration. **Sewage: Sheriff sales (2):** Properties on WFH and Boyers Rd. are actively being pursued by the Solicitor. No response from the mortgage companies. Call from Aaron Hovis questioning the water on Route 58. Comes uphill from 513 W. Mercer St Ext. Visited location-sewage may not be correctly connected. **Municipal Building: 2024 primary election:** Need an auditor and a supervisor. Candidate petition signing is from February 14th to March 7th. **Fuel supply** is down to 30#. **Holding tank alarm** went off, will need to be pumped. **Municipal Garage:** Dump Truck - Possible new truck info: Received email from Hunter's-the existing truck is worth \$30,000-\$35,000. Will look closer at delivery date for more details. Sent specs to the supervisors. The price for the new truck is approximately \$132,239. **Motion** to move forward with purchase of a new dump truck by J. Bennett, Jr. Second by E. Treese. R. Stuchal discussed how prices after 2008 recession went up. The difference then was related to inventory available. Inventory is not available. Vote: 2 Yay (E. Treese, J. Bennett, Jr.) and one Nay (R. Stuchal), motion carried. New Loader-Cleaned the vehicle after anti-skid/salt mix. **EMC/Weather-Emergency Management Coordinator:** J. Yasment has not received correspondence from the County since 2020. Still involved with the HAM radio program for messages should the internet go down. **Office: "For Love of the Lost"/Sutherland Rd. property:** Will contact CEO for an update. **William Flynn Hwy. property:** Follow up with solicitor for next step. **URMS:** Emailed D. Bush as a follow up. **Ordinance #79 - Employee Handbook:** No update. **Resolution #23-0116-1: 2023: Fee Schedule. Motion** to adopt Resolution #23-0116-1 the 2023 fee schedule including new SEO fee schedule by E. Treese. Second by R. Stuchal. All in favor, motion carried. **County Line Rd. Bond Release (Columbia Gas):** Talked with Tony by email about the overview of the project. May not even look at the project but submit a check. Check with solicitor on process. **Shields Rd. Bond Release (gas well):** Update: Big Dog Energy visited the Township office January 10th at 1:15 pm to talk about this project. They plan to do something with this well in the next two years and will get a bond if necessary. Do we continue the bond with Penn Energy or release it and wait until Big Dog Energy creates a new bond? Will do a tour of the Drake well. Continue to follow up with solicitor. **Electrician:** The electrician fixed 2 dusk-to-dawn lights and replaced motion-activated switches. **Municipal Code Assoc.:** Our payment to cover the loss for 2022 is \$1188.28. Agreed to pay the loss for 2022 and move forward with another inspector. Contacted MCA to retrieve Township records, no response. Secretary will hold check until records are retrieved. May be a charge to collect records. **NEW BUSINESS: COSTARS Salt Contract for August 2023 - July 2024:** **Motion** to purchase 60 tons of salt by E. Treese. Second by R. Stuchal. All in favor, motion carried.

Appointment of New SEO: Motion to appoint Dave Ice as primary SEO with fee schedule, with Doug Duncan as our backup SEO and honor Dave Ice's fee schedule and Doug to train office in-house by E. Treese. Second by R. Stuchal. All in favor, motion carried. **Tri-County Cleanup Day: Motion** to set May 13th as our cleanup day from 7 am to 12 noon by: E. Treese. Second by R. Stuchal. All in favor, motion carried. **OTHER BUSINESS:** Need to order items for AED for 2023. **MEETING REPORTS: BCATO Reorg - 1/5/2023 - BCATO Secretary** has agreed to do both secretary and business manager positions. The finance committee needs decide pay amount for each position. Also, will decide what to charge vendors for spring convention table. **Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Meeting:** 1-12-2023: Flu, RSV, Covid: All up but no threat to capacity. Critical shortage of blood. Can donate at Crossroads MOB by 422 or in Cranberry Twp. Contact the donor company Vitalant for more info. Merger with Excelsa Health has been approved. No name to date. ARPA Funds: Hope to help fund new "residency" program for new BMH program. Vaping controlled substances in schools: Some had THC laced with fentanyl which caused overdosing-4 students transported to ER this year. DA now has a detective to help school districts with issues. **SPC Broadband Summit:** Summit is Feb. 16th @ Regional Learning Alliance from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. RSVP to Dan Alwine @SPC. Requesting each Township have someone attend.

ROAD REPORT: 12/1/22 checked on the status of the bridge reopening; 12/2/22 met with RR men about a date for reopening the bridge; 12/5/22 went to Slippery Rock picked up battery tender; 12/7/22 mounted new tender removed the old one from battery box; 12/15/22 checked the roads; 12/16/22 John and I put plow on truck mixed anti-skid; 12/17/22 John plowed and salted TWP; 12/18/22 Rick plowed and salted TWP; 12/19/22 John and I delivered anti-skid to Borough; 12/22/22 Rick and I changed filter on truck got salt at Slippery Rock for office; 12/23/22 I started to plow and salt the TWP truck developed a water leak took to shop where Rick, John and I assessed the problem & determined the truck could not be used-John contacted Marion TWP and John and I went to Boyers to p/u their spare truck. PLEASE NOTE IT WAS RICK'S BIRTHDAY A BIG THANK YOU GOES TO RICK!; 12/23/22 PM John plowed and salted the TWP; 12/24/22 I plowed and salted the TWP; 12/25/22 John plowed and salted TWP; 12/26/22 checked roads; 12/27/22 Rick and I took truck to KW; 12/30/22 Marcie and I p/u the truck at KW. Ditch on south side of Prairie St.-should line the bottom of the ditch. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** General Fund - \$42,994, Sewer Fund - \$45,132, Liquid Fuels Fund - \$20,572, Capital Reserve - \$56,366, ARPA Fund - \$52,759, Escrow Fund - \$500 **Motion** to pay bills by E. Treese. Second by R. Stuchal. All in favor, motion carried. **ADJOURNMENT: Motion** to adjourn meeting at 9:10 pm by E. Treese. Second by R. Stuchal. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Lori Giesler, Assistant Secretary