

MERCER TOWNSHIP, BUTLER COUNTY
4629 WILLIAM FLYNN HWY, PO BOX 380
HARRISVILLE, PA 16038
724-735-2705

Minutes – September 18, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman, J. Bennett, Jr. **Members present:** R. Stuchal, E. Treese, N. Ciochetto, L. Giesler. **Visitors present:** B. Long. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** **Motion** to accept the August 21, 2023 meeting minutes as printed: E. Treese. Second: R. Stuchal. All in favor, motion carried. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** DeSanti subdivision approved by Butler County Planning Commission and DEP. Supervisors saw no issues and subdivision was signed. **OLD BUSINESS: Kozy Rest Sewage Expansion:** Since they won't be our customer, we only need to know about what is hooking into our line. We don't need to consult with another engineering firm. **Public Sewer: Incomplete connections/inspections (7). Delinquencies-Three or more months (16).** None sent to S. Gallagher after 9/1/2023 invoicing. Thirteen (13) properties (10 owners) currently are delinquent by 5 months or more. Two (2) are 3-4 months delinquent. **Property Liens (11). Sheriff Sale (6): Update:** Six properties had further documentation filed on 8-24-23 at the courthouse. J. Green; S. Heller; R. McFeaters; & 3 G. Kennedy properties. **Grove City Lateral Inspection Program:** Received packet with Ordinance to be adopted before 1-1-24, along with their Resolution with technical details for implementation. R. Stuchal would like the Solicitor and EADS to review this. This will supersede our rules and regulations section 1001, paragraph four. **Motion** that the ordinance goes to the engineer and the solicitor for review: J. Bennett, Jr. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **Private Sewer: Pelletier property:** Our solicitor has given us a new agreement to be signed by the property owner and the Township. Changes were made to the agreement to accommodate the SEO and the Township, which has been sent to the solicitor for confirmation. The SEO does not do maintenance, just inspections, and states that any correspondence with the residents should come directly from the Township. Supervisors suggest the office send letters to the residents to keep them informed. **On-Lot Sewage Permits:** 6 permits this year. **Municipal Office: Upset Sale:** R. Williams property at 204 Boyers Rd. on 9/11/23 @ 6 pm. **Real Estate Tax Appeal:** G. Kennedy withdrew his tax appeals at his hearing on 9-7-23 in response to attorney representation for the School District & Township. **Building Permits:** 10 permits this year – 4 wrecking, 1 deck, 2 additions, 1 mobile home, 2 garages. New inspector is giving the residents a hard time with inspections. **Overtime:** Auditors have set the hourly rate and must set the overtime rate/time frame for Supervisors working as employees of the Township. The auditors would need to have an emergency meeting. We will ask the auditors to take care of this at the reorganization meeting. **Big Dog/Anegada Energy, LLC:** Halterlein - 2024 permitting. Supervisors have until September 28 to comment/respond. **Butler County SALDO:** The ordinance was amended by the commissioners on August 30th. This is the ordinance we follow. **New CEO:** J. Bennett, Jr. talked with a state certified constable, Warren Whetzel, Jr. He is willing to do the job and can be sworn in and notarized. **Motion** that we hire Warren Whetzel, Jr. as our new CEO and give John Bennett, Jr. the authority to swear him in before the next meeting: R. Stuchal. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **"For Love of the Lost"/Fish property:** J. Bennett Jr. received two phone calls and one in person inquiry about this property. **Motion** that we have the CEO pick up the Fish property cleanup and move forward from where solicitor recommends: J. Bennett, Jr. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **Peters/Combine property: Motion** that we have the CEO pick up the Peters/Combine property cleanup and move forward from where solicitor recommends: J. Bennett, Jr. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **Municipal Garage:** Dump Truck – Est. delivery – end of December, 2023. J. Bennett, Jr. is submitting a grant application for funds to pay for the truck. R. Stuchal suggests we keep the old truck for backup. **CDL PROGRAM:** Enrolled in PSATS CDL Program. Completing necessary paperwork. **EMC/Weather – Emergency Management Coordinator:** Pursuing replacement of several telephone poles in disrepair. One has been replaced. **Allegheny Mineral:** Still no response to contract renegotiation. **NEW BUSINESS:** COG meeting Wednesday, Sept. 20th. **OTHER BUSINESS: BCATO Annual Safety Seminar:** October 11th at Herman Firehall - 8 am. Assist. Sec./Treas. to attend. **MEETING REPORTS: Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Meeting:** (9-6-23) Commissioners provided updates on County happenings: With the updating of the GIS/911 system, several election polling places are being moved or added. T. Sparacino discussed ARPA funding distribution and possible redistribution; J. Andree updated on southern municipality collaborations dealing with stormwater and EMS issues; Need to collaborate with EMC's, utility companies and PennDOT to determine emergency road closure procedures. **Slippery Rock Boro Comprehensive Plan Meeting:** (9-11-23) John Bennett, Jr. attended. Concerns reported from each local Twp. **ROAD REPORT:** 8/7/23: Mowed Centertown, Whitaker, Enterprise, Southerland. Boom mower broke - took to Faull's to get welded. 8/8/23: Rick and I put up a new state approved 35 mph speed limit sign on Rt 8. 8/15/23: Picked up the repaired boom mower. 8/16/23: Finished mowing the north along Frampton, Unity, Valley View. 8/17/23: Mowed Station and Wick. Also cleaned the culvert at the end of Enterprise. Changed buckets on the loader and unloaded the 9s. 8/22/23: Rick and I cleaned ditches on Browntown & Valley View. I mowed the STP. 8/24/23: Picked up 10 gallons gas for the mower at STP. 8/30/23: Worked on truck to get it started to get inspected. John brought his charger - our old charger is deceased. John purchased a new charger. 8/31/23: Took truck to VanDyke's for inspection and two new batteries. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** General Fund - \$61,863; Sewer Fund - \$53,482; Liquid Fuels Fund - \$69,478; Capital Reserve - \$123,644; ARPA Fund - \$0; Escrow Fund - \$3,517. Total - \$311,984. **Motion** to pay bills: R. Stuchal. Second: J. Bennett, Jr. All in favor, motion carried. **ADJOURNMENT: Motion** to adjourn meeting at 9 pm: E. Treese. Second: R. Stuchal. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori Giesler, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer