

MERCER TOWNSHIP, BUTLER COUNTY
4629 WILLIAM FLYNN HWY, PO BOX 380
HARRISVILLE, PA 16038
724-735-2705
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 18, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman, J. Bennett, Jr. Members present: E. Treese, W. Long, N. Ciochetto, L. Giesler. Visitors: W. Pitts (Butler Eagle reporter); April/Daniel Anschutz (Harrisville Boro); Vic Kennedy (property owner).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: Motion to accept October 21, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes as printed: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** A. & D. Anschutz observing. V. Kennedy gave the supervisors a copy of his records showing his sewer payments. The supervisors & Vic received an up-to-date statement of ALL invoices & payments after the check he brought in tonight was recorded. Supervisors asked that the Secretary/Treasurer break down the information detailing all invoice charges and payments. **OLD BUSINESS: Kozy Rest Sewage Expansion:** The next phase of development is in process. **Public Sewer: Incomplete connections/inspections (5). Delinquencies-Three or more months (8). Property Liens (10):** D. Brown (connect)-states he will be connected by end of year; F. Carroll-Gillen (debt)-agreed to our requested terms but did not comply this month; S. Heller (debt); V. Kennedy (3 properties)(debt); R/J. McFeaters (connect/debt); G. Mullett (debt)-set up auto pay; H. Russell (debt)-waiting for property sale; 204 Boyers Rd-sale contested. **Notice of Claim:** Filed on H. Russell estate. **Sheriff Sale (5):** S. Heller; R. McFeaters; & 3 V. Kennedy properties. V. Kennedy properties were on hold if he paid as agreed. Did not pay as agreed. Solicitor continued Sheriff sale. Later made pmt. at the end of Oct. & a small payment again tonight. S. Heller: Sale postponed. McFeaters: Will be up for Judicial sale. **Auto Pay:** 44 of 120 accounts (37%) are set up on auto pay. **Delinquency Rate:** Total-8.3%; Severe-6.7%. **Sewer Lateral Inspections. Grinder Pumps:** One pump out for repair. **Emergency Generator:** Repaired a diesel fuel leak. **Concrete Stanchions:** Marvin to arrange. Wants to complete before winter. John will contact Marvin for updates. **Sludge Removal:** Completed on 11-8-24. **Private Sewer: On-Lot Sewage Permits (2024):** (6) **Holding Tank Agreements:** Waiting for them to be recorded & returned. **Municipal Office: Building Permits (2024):** (15) **Election 2024:** Twp. has 773 registered voters. 72% of registered voters voted in person. Mail in ballots brought the total to roughly 82-85% total voters. **Municipal Garage:** Waiting for return call from Cozad's for repairs. **New Dump Truck:** Received on 11-8-24. Payment sent to SEI for the aluminum bed, plow & new spreader. Paid in full. **"For Love of the Lost"/Fish property:** In Litigation. **EMC/Weather – Emergency Management Coordinator:** No report. **EMS QRS Agencies:** Waiting for HVFC licensure. **Allegheny Mineral Corp./White Oak Road Closure:** Solicitor sent updated proposal to AMC. **Station Road:** will check with Solicitor to see where this stands. **Ordinance #80 – Employee Handbook: Motion** to adopt Ordinance #80 – Employee Handbook: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **NEW BUSINESS: Saloom Lane:** Clarified the right-of-way past the first residence is private. **Grants:** E. Treese talked to C. Shaffer (PennDOT) about grant options. Would like all Supervisors to meet with C. Shaffer to better detail options. Schedule for Monday Jan. 6th or 13th. **Per Capita Tax: Motion** to grant disabled veterans who are exempt from paying real estate taxes to also be exempt from paying the per capita tax, contingent upon verifying that the Twp. has the authority to do so: J. Bennett, Jr. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **Budget 2025:** Reviewed the 2025 budget at an earlier mtg. **Motion** to adopt the proposed 2025 budget & advertise the availability for public inspection at least 20 days prior to the Dec. 16, 2024, mtg: John E. Bennett, Jr. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **Millage Rate:** Proposed Resolution 2024-1118-01 was advertised on 11-7-24, which proposes a line item of 2 mills for a Fire Tax, while keeping 0.5 mills for EMS & 6.6 mills for the Twp. **Motion** to adopt Resolution 2024-1118-01: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **Fee Schedule rates:** 2025 rates need to be determined for adoption at Jan. Org. mtg.

OTHER BUSINESS: MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/TRAINING: Butler Co. COG: (10-24-24) W. Long was unable to attend. **Mercer Co. COG:** (Dinner 11-20-24). **Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Mtg:** (11-4-24) Homeland security briefing was very informative. Discussed threats facing municipalities such as cyber attacks and issues concerning election fraud. **ROAD REPORT:** 10/1/24-Mowed Harmony & Prairie Rds. 10/2/24-Videoed Shields & Harmony Rds. for bonding purposes. 10/4/24-Mowed Whitaker & Centertown Rds., fixed sign on Harmony Rd. 10/8/24-Risch & I took care of a drainage problem on Crum property. G. Ferguson & I repaired/replaced reflectors throughout the Twp. 10/11/24-Mowed Enterprise & Sutherland Rds. Bill & I repaired the guardrail along Prairie cemetery. 10/14/24-John & I did Pa1 call. 10/15/24-Replaced batteries in security system. 10/16/24-Took fins off the truck before hauling logs. 10/17/24-Bill & I worked on cleaning up the tree that was removed by the power co. 10/21/24-John & I did Pa1 call; Mowed STP. 10/30/24-John & I surveyed the roads to decide which roads we want to pave. 10/31/24-Delivered a load of anti-skid to Harrisville Boro as requested. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** General Fund - \$121,786, Sewer Fund - \$79,113, Liquid Fuels Fund - \$87,228, Capital Reserve - \$15,646, Escrow Fund - \$5,017, Total - \$308,790. **Motion** to accept the Financial Report & pay bills due through the next month: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **ADJOURNMENT: Motion** to adjourn meeting at 8:00 pm: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Lori Giesler, Township Asst. Secretary