

**MEETING OF THE SUPERVISORS
WHITE TOWNSHIP
June 3, 2020**

On Wednesday, June 3, 2020 in the Meeting Room of the Township Building, located at 2511 13th Ave. in White Township, PA 15010, the Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00PM by Supervisor DeMeio.

This Meeting was advertised in the *Beaver County Times* on January 2, 2020 in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Section 709.

Roll Call:

Susan DeMeio, Supervisor Chairperson – *Present*

Ray Evans Jr., Supervisor – *Present*

Peggy Lavery, Supervisor - *Present*

Diana Lois, Secretary-Treasurer – *Present*

Nancy Munroe, Tax Collector – *Absent*

Nathan Bible, Esq., LL.M, Solicitor – *Present*

Supervisor DeMeio made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2020 Regular Meeting. Supervisor Lavery seconded. Supervisor DeMeio – YES. Supervisor Evans – YES. Supervisor Lavery – YES. Motion carried.

Reports:

Earned Income Tax: Supervisor DeMeio read that \$18,317.40 was collected in May 2020.

Real Estate Tax & Fire Protection Fee: Supervisor DeMeio read that \$24,105.12 in Real Estate and \$884.50 in Fire Protection Fees was collected in May 2020.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Summary: AP = \$8,281.79 / PR = \$10,189.93

38.5% of Real Estate Taxes; 58.7% of Local Enabling Taxes have been collected as of 5/31/20.

Police: Chief Stanislawski read there were 30 calls for service in May 2020, resulting in 3 arrests (Simple assault; Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle; Criminal mischief) & 3 citations issued.

Code Enforcement: Dan Burns read 16 notices of violation, including 3 Final notices have been sent to property owners in May 2020. 5 have been abated.

Fire Department: Supervisor Evans read there were 2 calls for service in May 2020. 5/12: Smell of gas on 18th Ave. 2 Fire Fighters .5 hrs. 5/16: Trash Fire in West Mayfield 3 Fire Fighters 3 hrs.

Road Crew: Tom Orłowski said the 11th Ave. galvanized pipe replacement & 12th Ave. catch basin projects (as discussed in May's meeting) are complete. Each took approximately 2 days to complete and are working well.

Supervisor DeMeio made a motion to accept the reports as read. Supervisor Lavery seconded. Supervisor DeMeio – YES. Supervisor Evans – YES. Supervisor Lavery – YES. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

1. Ryan Alles from Stephenson Equipment is present to discuss a new 2019 JCB 270 skid-steer. They are a COSTARS approved vendor and the quoted purchase price is \$48,516.30. It is a new piece of equipment, just leftover inventory from 2019 and comes with a 2 year warranty. Tom Orłowski said he contacted A&H Equipment in Zelienople and United Rentals in Cranberry, who both said nothing is available until September. He also contacted Bobcat in Cranberry who had no interest/no reply. All the used models he's seen for sale have between 2800 – 4000 hours of use. After some discussion about if the Twp. would finance the purchase vs. buying it outright, it was decided to resume that discussion at July's meeting.

Supervisor DeMeio made a motion to approve the purchase of the skid-steer and the method of payment will be brought up again in July's meeting. Supervisor Lavery seconded. Supervisor DeMeio – YES. Supervisor Evans – YES. Supervisor Lavery – YES. Motion carried.

2. The 2019 Twp. Audit is complete. This was advertised in the *BCT* on 5/29/2020. There were no findings. It is available for public inspection during normal office hours.
3. The 2019 Liquid Fuel Fund Audit was completed on 5/28/2020. There were no findings and no comments.

Unfinished Business:

1. (From October 2019) The Beaver County Planning Commission has reviewed the Rager subdivision for the parcel, 78-004-0406.00, which has 2 houses on it presently, addressed 2200 Clayton Rd. and 2200 Clayton Rd. Rear. Rager also owns the adjacent lot, parcel 78-004-0405.000. The subdivision would simply make it so there's one house for each parcel. Solicitor Bible confirmed Rager's Mylar shows the required setbacks are met. Supervisor DeMeio & the Secretary signed off on the Mylar.

2. (From May 2020) Supervisor DeMeio referenced Fire Ordinance No. 102, specifically Section 5 that addresses how the collected fees are to be used: "The funds so collected pursuant to this assessment shall be used specifically to purchase, or contribute to the purchase of fire engines and fire apparatus, for the use of the Township to appropriate moneys to fire companies located therein for the operation and maintenance thereof, and for the purchase and maintenance of fire apparatus, and for the construction, repair and maintenance of fire company house, in order to secure fire protection for the inhabitants of the Township." DeMeio then cited the 1934 Article of Agreement between the Twp. and the VFD: It's an agreement of terms for 99 years. Article No. 4 says the Twp. shall not or become liable directly or indirectly for any bills for the VFD during the term it occupies the building, nor shall become liable for injuries sustained by any member of the VFD in the course of their performance or duties. Article No. 5 says the VFD shall pay all bills but the Twp. will contribute \$1.00 per year to the light bill. Article No. 6 says full fire insurance shall be carried by the VFD and the premiums thereof shall be paid for by said party. Article No. 8 says all expenses for repair and upkeep of the building shall be paid for by the VFD and the building shall be kept in good repair at all times by the VFD. DeMeio said according to the 2019 audit of the VFD books by the elected auditors, the expenditures included Verizon, Columbia Gas, Duquesne Light, Nova Insurance (which is for the VFD building, property, equipment, firetrucks), BFMA, FNB safe deposit box, Keystone Sign & Graphics, Title Plates. DeMeio believes all but 2 of these expenditures do not fall within the guidelines. Solicitor Bible said Ordinance No. 102 provides that the Twp. can appropriate money to the VFD for operations, repair and maintenance of the firehouse. He agrees that some of the expenditures fall outside of the Fire Fund and should be paid for by other means, but nothing in the audit caught his attention as not being for the VFD. The issue he's more concerned by is from the Article of Agreement where it says the building must be kept in good repair. Supervisor Evans said for 26 years the Twp. Supervisors and the elected auditors have told the VFD to use the Fire Fund. He also questioned if that Article of Agreement is filed at the courthouse because the Article of Agreement that the VFD has is between them and Reeves Land Trust from 1934 which is filed at the courthouse.

Supervisor DeMeio made a motion to suspend the use of the fire fee money that has been collected. Any bills that fall within the guidelines of Ordinance No. 102 will be turned over to the Secretary to be paid from the Fire Fund. Ray Evans Sr. spoke up about how this is not how the ordinance was intended to be used. ***Supervisor Lavery seconded. Supervisor DeMeio – YES. Supervisor Evans – NO. Supervisor Lavery – YES. Motion carried.***

3. (From May 2020) Solicitor Bible said he spoke with Joe West of the Beaver County Planning Commission regarding the Ishman variance. The current Twp. Zoning Ordinance does not address whether this type of request is permitted. Bible has left several messages for Sam Orr, Beaver County Planning Commission Solicitor, in order to discuss the variance. Ishman came to the Twp. office yesterday (6/2/2020) to say he's not 100% certain he wants to move forward with the variance. The subject will be tabled again until July's meeting.

New Business:

1. NONE

Good & Welfare of the Township:

1. The next Twp. meeting will be at the Twp. building on 7/1/2020 @ 7:00PM.

Public Forum:

1. Robin Rogers of Craighead Ln. spoke of a vacant house on Orchard that's still not being maintained properly. Code Enforcement Officer, Dan Burns said he has sent the property maintenance company a letter and will continue to follow up.

2. Dan Swartz of 27th St. asked who owns the WTVFD building and who owns the land upon which it sits. Supervisor DeMeio answered the FD and the Twp., respectively.

Supervisor DeMeio made a motion to close the June 2020 Regular Meeting at approximately 8:05PM. Supervisor Lavery seconded. Supervisor DeMeio – YES. Supervisor Evans – YES. Supervisor Lavery – YES. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.