

MINUTES

Those in Attendance: Vice Chairman Allen Fisher, Supervisors: Ray Rice, Craig Keenan and Samuel Beiler, Township Manager David Thompson, Secretary/Treasurer Karen Farra, Tom Denlinger, Don Ranck, Jason Smith, Ivan Ebersol, Ben Beiler, Ivan King, Sam Petersheim, Clint Younce and other members of the community who did not sign in.

CALL TO ORDER/FLAG CEREMONY

Karen Farra, Secretary/Treasurer, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

REORGANIZATION

- **Nominations for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for 2023 were opened by Karen Farra, Secretary.**

Election of Chairman – Allen Fisher **motioned** to elect Adam Bills for the position of Chairman. Second by Samuel Beiler. All ayes. **Motion Approved.**

Samuel Beiler **motioned** to close nominations for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Second by Craig Keenan. **Motion Approved.**

- **Nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for 2023 were opened by Karen Farra, Secretary.**

Samuel Beiler **motioned** to elect Allen Fisher for the position of Vice-Chairman. Second by Craig Keenan. **Motion Approved.**

Craig Keenan **motioned** to close nominations. Second by Ray Rice. **Motion Approved.**

- Samuel Beiler **motioned** for approval of the following 2023 Appointments/Re-Appointments. Second by Craig Keenan. All ayes. **Motion Approved** to make the following 2023 Appointments/Re-Appointments:

<u>Annual Appointments/Re-Appointments</u>	<u>Current Appointments</u>	<u>2023 Appointments</u>
Appointment of Township Secretary/Treasurer - Karen Farra		Karen Farra _____
Appointment of Sewer Secretary/Treasurer - Michele Anderson		Michele Anderson _____
Appointment of Township Manager – David S. Thompson		David S. Thompson _____
Appointment of Township Roadmaster -		Blaine Stoltzfus _____
Establish Amount of the Treasurer’s Bond - \$2,000,000/700,000		\$2,000,000/700,000 _____
Establish Amount of Township Manager’s Bond - \$2,000,000/700,000		\$2,000,000/700,000 _____
Establish Amount of Sewer Secretary/Treasurer Bond - \$2,000,000/700,000		\$2,000,000/700,000 _____

Appointment of Chief Administrative Officer for Pension Plan - **Karen Farra**
Re-Appointment of Planning Commission Member for

Term of 4 Years - **Joe Phipps**

Appointment of State Association Delegate – **Craig Keenan**

Certify Delegates to the PSATS State Association Convention on

April 23-26, 2023 - **Supervisors, Treasurers, Zoning Officer
Township Manager**

Appointment of Emergency Management Coordinator – **Leon Fisher**

Appointment of Depositories - **PNC Bank, Edward Jones**

Appointment of Co-Op Chipper Depositories - **Ephrata National Bank**

Appointment of Co-Op Belt Loader Depositories - **Ephrata National Bank**

Appointment of Township Legal Counsel - **Blakinger Thomas, P.C.**

Appointment of Township Engineer - **Rettew Associates**

Appointment of Vacancy Board Chairman – **Karen Farra**

Appointment of Sewer Enforcement Officer (SEO) - **Dale High**

Appointment of Township Planning Legal Counsel - **Matt Crème**

Equipment Operators - **Blaine Stoltzfus, Bryan Stoltzfus, Christian Billings,
Craig Keenan and Walter Hockensmith. In case of emergency,
other operators may be required & appointed with approval
of the Roadmaster.**

Karen Farra

Joe Phipps

Craig Keenan

Supervisors, Treasurers,

Zoning Officer,

Township Manager

Craig Keenan

PNC Bank & Edward Jones

Ephrata National Bank

Ephrata National Bank

Blakinger Thomas, P.C.

Rettew Associates

Karen Farra

Dale High

Matt Crème

Blaine Stoltzfus, Bryan

Stoltzfus, Christian Billings,

Craig Keenan and

Walter Hockensmith

Re-appointment of any and all other Board or Commission Members with current standing members as long as they are willing to serve.

- Prior to making motion to set the mileage reimbursement rate, Ms. Farra advised notice was received this day that the IRS has announced the new rate for 2023 is 65.5 cents per mile. After discussion, Samuel Beiler **motioned** to set the 2023 mileage reimbursement rate at 65.5 cents per mile. Second by Ray Rice. All Ayes. **Motion Approved.**
- **Building Inspection Services:** Craig Keenan **motioned** to approve the following inspection service agencies for 2023. Second by Samuel Beiler. All Ayes. **Motion Approved.**
 - (1) Commonwealth Code Inspection Services (CCIS)
 - (2) Building Inspection Underwriters (BIU)
 - (3) Associate Building Inspections (ABI).
- Ray Rice **motioned** to close the Reorganization portion of the meeting. Second by Craig Keenan. All Ayes **Motion Approved.**

Business meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Allen Fisher. Mr. Fisher announced to all those present that Chairman Adam Bills was absent due to illness.

MINUTES

- December 13, 2022 Workshop Minutes to be reviewed at Board meeting on February 21, 2023.
- December 20, 2022 Minutes to be reviewed at Board meeting on February 21, 2023.

TREASURERS REPORT/BILLS

- December 2023 Treasurers Report to be reviewed at Board meeting on February 21, 2023.
- Ray Rice **motioned** to approve Treasurer reviewing January 2023 Disbursement List of Bills with the Township Manager and proceeding with payment processing. Second by Samuel Beiler. All Ayes. **Motion Approved.**
- Distribution of 2022 Year-End Profit and Loss Report.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD/PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Don Ranck. Mr. Ranck addressed the Board regarding the ongoing merger of fire companies. He advised he had received a call from the Farm Bureau saying the Attorney General asked he look into the issues between the Supervisors and the fire companies relating to the merger. Mr. Ranck stated he has no agenda, he's not getting paid by anyone - he just wants to help. He disclosed the various people and organizations he has spoken with to determine the thoughts of those being affected by the merger. He indicated the most frequent response he heard is that, since there is no financial plan developed yet, wouldn't it make sense to back off for a year or so and then start over. He has also heard why not make the vision larger and bring in all of the neighboring fire companies. His main concern is the possibility of losing fire fighters through this process. He suggested including all of the EMS services, Gordonville, Whitehorse and maybe Christiana too. Mr. Ranck also expressed his opinion the process be called something other than a "consolidation" or "merger", and that the Steering Committee be called something different as well. Mr. Ranck said he is not speaking for or against anyone, he just wants to make the Board aware these are the two proposals he is hearing.
- Mr. Keenan replied that it does not make sense to put everything on hold for a year when the process is already started, rather than the others just joining the merger. He feels it would be a total waste of time and effort – there has been, and still is, plenty of time to address people's concerns. He would like to see things continue and see how it all works out.
- Mr. Ranck said not everyone understands how the merger is going to work out with no financial plan in place.
- Jason Smith advised the Steering Committee is working on a financial plan now and taking the steps recommended by the Committee's attorney. He explained the new organization is being designed in such a way as to allow for adding on and growth. Mr. Smith said conversations have been held with Christiana about joining the merger, and it has been determined that is not an option at this time.
- With regard to Mr. Rank's comments regarding calling the merger something other than a merger, Mr. Thompson said "merger" is the legal term for the process.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- M Land Develop – Vintage Business Park Lot 18: Rettew December 16, 2022 Review No. 2 letter (no action to be taken – update only). Mr. Fisher asked Mr. Thompson for an update on the various Vintage Business Park projects. Mr. Thompson advised he is working with the

builders, developers and engineers to coordinate a meeting to see what the delay has been on these projects. He said there are dates circulating to schedule a meeting this month.

- PSATS December 2022 NewsBulletin.
- PSATS December 10, 2022 Memo with invitation to Public Officials Day at the PA Farm Show.
- LCTCB 2022 Year-End Summary Comparison of Distributions for Calendar Years 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019 and 2018.

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

TOWNSHIP MANAGER:

- Mr. Thompson advised he will present a report at the February 21, 2023 meeting.

ROADMASTER:

EMERGENCY SERVICES:

- December 2022 Emergency Services Call Report presented by Mr. Thompson. Mr. Smith asked about the number of Gordonville EMS calls as he knows they had upwards of 1,500 calls. Mr. Thompson said those reported are for Paradise Township only.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Mr. Fisher announced there would be no Planning Commission meeting in January – the next meeting will be held in February as scheduled.

ZONING HEARING BOARD:

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION:

- Mr. Rice announced his resignation from the Park & Recreation Commission after having served for 28 years.

SEWER AUTHORITY & SEO:

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

- Discuss allocation of second portion of ARPA funds. Mr. Thompson explained the status of funding needed for the Sewer Authority plan upgrades advising that due to increased costs as a result of the pandemic, the Sewer Authority was in need of an additional \$2.5 Million for the project. They have been successful in obtaining a \$1 Million grant from the County, but will need an additional \$1.5 Million. He said some costs may come in lower than anticipated and explained the dynamics of Rettew's observation costs. Mr. Thompson said a large portion of the increased costs are for the electrical work. He recommended that, consistent with the

written request submitted by the Sewer Authority's Solicitor, the Township allocate the second tranche of ARPA funding it received in the amount of approximately \$300,000 to the Sewer Authority to help defer these costs. Mr. Thompson said the Township is in a solid financial position at this time and does not have an immediate need for these funds. He also emphasized that the purpose of these funds is to defer additional costs incurred due to the pandemic.

Mr. Beiler concurred with Mr. Thompson's statements. He said this project has been the most effected by the pandemic, so it make sense that the ARPA funds should go to the Sewer Authority to assist in defraying the increased costs.

Samuel Beiler **motioned** to allocate the second tranche of ARPA funds in totality to the Sewer Authority. Second by Craig Keenan. All Ayes. **Motion Approved.**

- Mr. Thompson announced that the Lancaster County Commissioners would be attending the March 21, 2023 meeting of the Board of Supervisors to present the \$1 Million grant award to the Sewer Authority.
- Mr. Thompson presented the 2023 Fee Schedule Resolution to the Supervisors. He explained that he had compared all fees to surrounding municipalities and feels the fees proposed are comparable. Mr. Thompson advised of the fees that were changed including the Pequea Valley Appeals Board filing fee and Community Building and Pavilion rental fees.

Craig Keenan **motioned** to adopt Fee Schedule Resolution No. R-2023-3. Second by Ray Rice. All Ayes. **Motion Approved.**

- Mr. Fisher explained that the Supervisors are to set the salary for the Township Manager position by resolution and expressed his appreciation of Mr. Thompson and his accomplishments throughout 2022. Thereafter, Samuel Beiler **motioned** to adopt Resolution No. R-2023-4 Setting Forth the Compensation for the Township Manager. Second by Craig Keenan. All Ayes. **Motion Approved.**

PERSONS TO BE HEARD/PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURN

- At 6:31p.m., Samuel Beiler **motioned** to adjourn meeting. Second by Craig Keenan. All Ayes. **Motion Approved.**