

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Regular Meeting July 12, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors was held on July 12, 2023, at 7:00 pm. The meeting format and agenda were posted on the Township website and the Administrative Building door.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Vice Chair Tolino and Supervisor Huratiak were also in attendance. Also present: Chief Krome, Secretary/Treasurer Katie Purdue, Solicitor David Ceraul, Interim Zoning Officer Tina Serfass and Zachary Karasek of Ott Engineering. There were (7) people in the audience.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Smith announced that the Board of Supervisors held an Executive Session today from 6:45 -7:00 pm to address personnel issues. Sol Ceraul, Chief Krome and Katie Purdue were also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

General Fund	#	19781-19842	\$65,939.00
Garbage Fund	#	1236-1236	\$81,068.92
Recreation Fund	#	1802-1804	\$ 426.88
Sinking Fund	#	3034-3034	\$18,955.00

All bills are on file in the Administration Building and can be viewed during regular business hours.

Chair Smith moved to approve the General Fund bills in the amount of \$65,939.00 Super. Huratiak seconded the motion. Vice Chair Tolino abstained.

Public Comment: None **Vote 2 – 0 – 1**

Chair Smith moved to approve the Garbage Fund bills in the amount of \$81,068.92 , the Recreation Fund bills in the amount of \$426.88 and the Sinking Fund bills in the amount of \$18,955.00. Vice Chair Tolino seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

TAX CHANGES: Real Estate Tax Changes, Garbage Changes

There were zero (0) interim real estate changes & zero (0) garbage change.

Chair Smith made a motion to approve the interim Real Estate and Garbage Tax Changes. Super. Huratiak seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

TREASURER’S REPORT: Katie Purdue

1) Account Balance Review

The account balances as of June 30, 2023 were reviewed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Robert Smith

2) Regular Meeting of June 14, 2023.

Chair Smith moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 14, 2023. Super Huratiak seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) **Lower Macungie Twp** – The Lower Macungie Twp Historical Society is making a film in advance of America250 celebrations. The Fries Rebellion was a major insurrection that occurred throughout Northampton County in 1798-99. They asked that we put a flyer up on our website asking the community to assist by volunteering or donating financially to the project.
- 2) **PSATS News Bulletin & 2023 Resolutions** – the Bangor Public Library sent a “thank you” letter for our donation.
- 3) **P’Burg Shappell Concert Series** – Thursday evenings from now through the end of September, Shappell Park has live music. There is a website you can visit for more information.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1) **None**

SUBDIVISION:

- 1) **Lobb – Richmond Rd – Minor Subdiv - 2023**
Applicant: George & Brielle Lobb
Location: Richmond Rd.
Surveyor: Stateline Engineering Co, Ryan Dentith
Approval Deadline: September 18, 2023

Ryan Dentith provided an overview of the project. Zachary Karasek reviewed the Ott Consulting letter of May 30, 2023. It was decided that the 2 buildable lots would each use 5000 sq ft for stormwater management purposes.

Super. Huratiak made a motion for conditional approval of the Lobb Richmond Rd Minor Subdiv pending approval of all third- party permits/requirements, including HOP approval from PennDOT. Also included in the motion is approval of waiver #'s 10 & 11, upon recommendation from the WTPC, as outlined in the letter from Ott Consulting Inc. dated May 13, 2023. Chair Smith seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

- 2) **Layton – Palmer Rd – Minor Subdiv**
Applicant: Brittany Layton
Location: Palmer Rd.
Surveyor: Stateline Engineering Co, Ryan Engler
Approval Deadline: September 30, 2023

Ryan Engler provided an overview of the project. Zachary Karasek reviewed the Ott Consulting letter of July 12, 2023. The Board decided to grant conditional approval based on all outside 3rd parties.

Super. Huratiak made a motion for conditional approval of the Layton – Palmer Rd – Minor Subdiv pending approval of all third- party permits/requirements. Also included in the motion is approval of waiver #'s 5, 6, 8, 11 &14, upon recommendation from the WTPC, as outlined in the letter from Ott Consulting Inc. dated July 12, 2023. Vice Chair Tolino seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

RECREATION: Justin Huratiak

- 1) **Recreation Complex Sign Purchase**
- 2) **Painting B’Ball Court** – Road Foreman Hester said the courts have been painted

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief James Krome

- 1) **Incident Report**
 There were 289 documented “calls for service” in June 2023.

2) Police Vehicle Mileage

Total mileage for the police vehicles for the month of June 2023 was 4796.

3) Resignation of Officer Larry Sabatine ó The Board accepted the resignation of Officer Larry Sabatine.

ZONING REPORT: Interim Zoning Officer Tina Serfass

1) Activity Report

The June 2023 report was presented to the Board of Supervisors.

2) Continued Discussion Regarding UCC Opt-In/Opt-Out

No update

3) 1372 Richmond Rd – ZO Serfass advised that this went back to the Magistrate on July 12, 2023 and the owner was found in violation of our property maintenance ordinance. The owner plans to appeal the decision.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

1) MS4 Stormwater Management Ordinance Update – No Update

2) Highlands East – Release Letter of Credit Request -

Chair Smith made a motion, per the recommendation from Ott Consulting, to approve to release the credit in the amount of \$26,746.18 to James Dotta/Coldot Inc. Vice Chair Tolino seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

3) 120 Hester Rd. – Water Issues – Zachary Karasek addressed the Board and advised that the owner of 116 Hester Rd. had a pipe that was draining onto 120 Hester Rd. in various locations. The owner of 116 made adjustments to this pipe which should fix the problem. We need to wait for another rain to confirm. The Board of Supervisors also brought up that water issues along Hester Rd. have been coming up over the years and at great cost to the Township but each issue has been determined to not be the responsibility of the Township.

Chair Smith made a motion that any further water issues in this area are the responsibility of the homeowners and the Township will not be doing inspections. Super. Huratiak seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

It was also determined that future stormwater issues should go to Road Foreman Hester to do an inspection. If Road Foreman Hester feels the issue is a Township responsibility, he will forward onto the Board of Supervisors to determine if the Township Engineer should be involved and investigate.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Robert Smith

1) American Rescue Plan Funding, Discussion Regarding Use of Funds and Use of Resources to Support Process ó A transfer switch needs to be replaced on the generator at the Township building. The Board would like to use the ARP for this. At the June meeting the Board stated the quote we received needed to be reviewed.

Road Foreman Hester reviewed the quote and determined the amount was acceptable and Swanson Electric was scheduled for July 25, 2023. The Board of Supervisors decided to obtain quotes for this work. Sec. Purdue will have Tina Cosenza cancel and Vice Chair Tolino will contact a contractor for another quote.

ZO Serfass suggested that Labor & Industry be contacted to determine if a building permit is required. Sec. Purdue will contact Labor & Industry.

2) Emergency Declaration Storm Damage – The storm from June 27, 2023 caused damage on various roads throughout the Township but mainly Mount Pleasant Rd. A Declaration of Emergency was sent to the County and Charlie Nansteel Tree & Excavation was hired to repair the road at the location of the new underground pipe on Mount Pleasant Rd.

We are still awaiting all invoices from all suppliers but the cost for Charlie Nansteel Tree & Excavation is \$30,391.81.

Chair Smith made a motion to approve invoice from Charlie Nansteel Tree & Excavation and to pay

\$30,391.81 out of the American Rescue Plan funds. Super. Huratiak seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

Chair Smith made a motion to approve The Declaration of Disaster Emergency from June 27, 2023. Vice Chair Tolino seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

- 3) **National Night Out** – This is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2023 from 5pm-8pm. There will be a food truck and an ice cream truck that will have food available for purchase. We will also have spirits for purchase from Richmond Brewery and have booked Uncle Smiley for entertainment. Please tell everyone you know to come!
- 4) **Resident Post Card** – Sec. Purdue reported that the post cards have gone out and we have the citizen survey on the website and have received (1) reply so far.
- 5) **Office Hours** – Road Foreman Hester advised that having someone in the office at 7am M-F would be beneficial to them when things are needed. Sec. Purdue agreed to amend her hours to 7-3 M-F to accommodate this.

ROADMASTER’S REPORT: Robert Smith

- 1) **2023 Road Project** – Roadmaster Smith reported that the road project is scheduled to start Monday, July 17, 2023 and will be completed in roughly (3) weeks.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT: David Ceraul

- 1) **637 Richmond Rd. – Judicial Sale** ó Sol. Ceraul reported that there is no action on the part of the Township.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. Vice Chair Tolino seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None **Vote 3 – 0**

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Purdue ó Secretary/Treasurer
Washington Township Board of Supervisors