



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING

FEBRUARY 25, 2019 | 7:00 pm

**Supervisors Present:** Mr. George Reese  
Mr. Rob Ritson  
Mr. R. Douglas Weimer

Mr. John Silvis  
Mr. Tom Logan

**Staff Present:** Mr. Jason Winters  
Mr. Doug Cisco  
Mr. Dan Schmitt  
Mr. Patrick Karnash  
Mrs. Callie Krueger

Mrs. Melanie Phillips  
Mr. Aaron Siko  
Mr. James Shaw  
Mr. Scott Avolio

## **A. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors, held at the Hempfield Township Municipal Building, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, George Reese.

## **B. HEARINGS**

1. None

## **C. CITIZENS COMMENTS (AS PER RESOLUTION #2012-24)**

Mr. Reese explained the Citizens Comments procedures as set forth – Mr. Reese will call a name from the list, each speaker would have three minutes to speak. Mr. Winters will hold his hand up at the two minute thirty second mark to notify the speaker they have thirty seconds left to speak. At the end of three minutes, Mr. Reese will notify the speaker that the time is up. At the end of the meeting, there is a section for Supervisors Comments and they will address concerns at that time.

1. Greg Saunders – 318 Price St. Mr. Saunders is the Chief of the Bovard Volunteer Fire Department and is in favor of the Public Safety Commission.

2. Tom Kline – 511 Westland Dr. Mr. Kline is the Chief of Hempfield #2 and the President of the Fire Chiefs Association and is in favor of the Public Safety Commission. He mentioned that at the last Fire Chief's Association meeting, they voted 12-0 in favor of the Commission.

3. Al Crimboli – 121 Possum Hollow Rd. Mr. Crimboli is concerned about the excessive traffic on Possum Hollow Rd. He would like Pedestrian Crossing Signs installed above the bend and above the curve sign. He stated that cars do not slow down around the curve and he cannot hear them coming, he is concerned he or his cats will be killed. He is also requesting a tractor sign on Edna Rd. Mr. Crimboli also spoke about a landslide on his hill that he would like help with.

4. Paul Ohr – 125 Forbes Trail Rd. Mr. Ohr believes it is important to hear from taxpayers when establishing a Township Police Force. He stated that the population of the township has remained about the

same over the last forty years. He believes that crime is not rampant and does not feel that there is ground for establishing a Police Force with taxpayer money.

5. Lou Smail – 1069 Spruce St. Mr. Smail does not agree with the governor's statement of \$166.00 per person for a police department. He feels the initiation of a police department should be up to the taxpayers. Mr. Smail also feels that citizens pay too many taxes to the state of Pennsylvania and does not want to pay any more.

6. Eileen Wolford – 527 Buckingham Dr. Mrs. Wolford spoke in favor of the Public Safety Commission and also in favor of a Police Department, saying there needs to be more conversation and testing within the community regarding these issues. Mrs. Wolford also spoke about a large sinkhole in her yard that needs addressed as soon as possible.

7. Cindy Strayer – 964 Bridge Ave. Ms. Strayer works at a printing company in Greensburg and questioned why she never got to bid on printing the Headlining Hempfield magazine.

8. Scott Graham – 40 Cherokee Dr. Mr. Graham read a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the misappropriation and approval of funds in accordance with the Second Class Code and the vote, which was denied, for an outside auditor, to audit the contracts and agreements entered into by the Township. He discussed the difference between internal auditors and external auditors. He questioned how Hempfield Township would be able to oversee the audit themselves if the procedures put in place have failed in the past. He also feels this is inefficient. He requested a revote because he feels that the Township owes the citizens a non-biased review.

## **D. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

1. **January 28, 2019 – Legal & Personnel**

2. **February 20, 2019 – Legal & Personnel**

Mr. Reese stated that Executive Sessions were held on January 28<sup>th</sup> and February 20<sup>th</sup> for Legal and Personnel matters.

## **E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. **Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the January 28, 2019 Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2019 Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## **F. STAFF REPORTS – (WRITTEN REPORTS DISTRIBUTED PRIOR TO MEETING)**

**Jason Winters, Township Manager** – Mr. Winters stated that a website kickoff meeting was held last week with a hopeful launch date of September and promotion in the fall Headlining Hempfield. He also mentioned that the staff has been working with the solicitor on looking through contracts, agreements, bids, and grants. Bids are completed, staff is currently working on contracts and agreements and there will be an update at the March Supervisors Meeting on the status. A meeting was held with MAWC regarding all of the sewage projects which were part of the THTMA acquisition. At the meeting, he received a list of hydrants and water lines. Staff will begin review of these areas to see where water lines are lacking. Westmoreland County Association of Township Supervisors Annual Convention is on Friday March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Melanie Phillips, Director of Finance** – Year end numbers were provided at the Work Session. Revenues were at 105% of budgeted while expenses were held to 98% of budgeted. The 2018 expenses represent a .38% increase over 2017. The top three places where money was spent were Public Works, General Government, and Fire. Outstanding debt is at roughly 8 million, debt service represents 5% of the budget. Employee benefits have reduced over the last two years; retirees went down by 3.34% and active employees went down by .79%. The four year average for salt usage is \$754,000.00 a year. All Volunteer Fire

Companies have received about 2.5 million dollars' worth of support and out of that, 1.8 is from the Township directly. The average support per station is \$213,674.00 over three years. A vehicle repair history was also provided.

**Doug Cisco, Director of Public Works** – Mr. Cisco addressed Mr. Crimboli's concern about the hillside and signs and said that the staff would look at the situation on Wednesday. The wind storm left four roads closed due to trees down in wires. Three intersections had traffic lights malfunction but all lights are up and running, 20+ trees were removed from roads, as well as numerous signs repaired and replaced. West Point Pond Project Update: 73 total days worked at the site, 2 major head walls were established and set in place, 2 manholes were installed with risers and backfilled, roughly 130 feet of 24" pipe was placed and backfilled, and 180 feet of 18" pipe was placed in the old creek bed., 2/3 of the water is going to the pond, the pond is holding water. Snow operations: 9 days for the last month, close to 3,000 tons of salt was used with a total of 22 days for the year. The department is continuing pothole patching and addressing ice problems, road stabilization, and two employees are continuing their CDL training.

**Aaron Siko, Director of Parks and Recreation** – Mr. Siko noted that indoor soccer wrapped up this past weekend and basketball will be finishing up this coming weekend. There were over 670 participants in the recreational basketball program this season. The Amphitheater concert and event schedule is almost wrapped up with events in every month from May to October. Summer seasonal positions will be advertised. There is an action item on the agenda for sound services at the amphitheater.

**Dan Schmitt, Engineer** – A preconstruction meeting was held today for the Pavilion A Bathroom Renovation, a CDBG funded grant, with the Westmoreland County Office of Planning and Development. Street measuring is in process for the paving program, recommendations will be available for the Board's consideration at the next meeting.

**Jamie Shaw, Director of Code and Safety** – A Safety Protocol was conducted at Enterprise Products as well as a Security Assessment was conducted with Mr. Kovacic at a local church. The Code Department inspected 120 billboards for compliance and fees. Marketing for the RFP is on the agenda for the SAFER Grant as well as the WCCC contract issue. Mr. Freeman was able to set up regional meetings on every Tuesday in March with all 60 participating fire departments.

**Patrick Karnash, Planning Coordinator** – Mr. Karnash discussed the Board Up Program, stating that it is currently at a 50% success rate. The remaining properties will be pursued through the International Property Maintenance Code and letters were sent out to property owners last week. Mr. Karnash also stated that the item for action for 440 Roosevelt Way was deemed unsafe under Emergency Action and agreed upon by Gibson-Thomas Engineering. He mentioned projects that are actively under construction within the Township including: Allegheny Health Network on Agnew Road, Dialysis Clinic on Greengate Road, Accelerated Storage Facility on Lenhart Drive, GetGo on Route 30, Magistrate's Office on S. Greengate Road, Zilka & Co. on Ligonier Drive, and IronRok Restaurant at Westmoreland Mall.

**Scott Avolio, Solicitor** – Mr. Avolio stated that he worked on a number of Resolutions for the agenda tonight and some negotiated contracts which are also on the agenda for consideration. He mentioned that he has been working with Mr. Winters on the contracts and his office assisted on a Right to Know.

## **G. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Logan commended Mrs. Phillips on her work for the end of year report and had nothing additional to add to his report given at the work session.

## **H. PAYMENT OF BILLS**

- 1. General Fund - \$756,948.04**
- 2. Recreation - \$65.00**
- 3. Bond Issue – \$23,370.00**
- 4. Light District - \$9,455.60**
- 5. Capital Projects - \$156,712.28**
- 6. Carbon VFD - \$96.32**

Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve payment of items 1-5, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried. Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve payment of item 6, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 4-0-1 abstain (Reese). Motion carried.

## **I. SCHEDULING OF HEARINGS**

- 1. Consideration to Authorize the Township Solicitor to Advertise for an Agricultural Security Hearing for Donald E. Andree, RJA Farm LLC, 192 Possum Hollow Road (Tax Map #50-19-00-0-069) for Monday, March 25, 2019** – Mr. Logan made a motion to authorize the Township Solicitor to advertise for an Agricultural Security Hearing for the above listed property, seconded by Mr. Ritson. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## **J. DECISIONS FROM HEARINGS**

- 1. None**

## **K. SUBDIVISION PLANS**

- 1. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-32; Granting Final Approval to Subdivision Known as Wareham Plan No. 4 – Plan No. 20180056**
  - **Location:** 133 Penn-Adamsburg Road and Mobile Home Park
  - **Purpose:** Divide existing two (2) dwellings from the mobile home park onto their own 1.5-acre lot
  - **Planning Commission Recommendation:** Approval 6-0

Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-32, seconded by Mr. Reese. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## **L. SITE PLANS**

- 1. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-33; Granting an Extension of Time for Clover Development to Comply with Final Conditional Approval for the Clover Communities Hempfield, LLC Senior Housing Site Plan – Plan No. 20180058 – 30-day extension** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-33, seconded by Mr. Ritson. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## **M. ITEMS FOR ACTION TO BE TAKEN**

- 1. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-34; Approving the Amendment to the Hempfield Township Volunteer Fire Service Support Fund of the Community Foundation of Westmoreland County to Change the Fund Advisors to the Current Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-34, seconded by Mr. Silvis. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
- 2. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-35; Which Appoints an Alternate Solicitor for Conflict Legal Matters** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-35, appointing Mr. Bernie Mathews as an alternate solicitor at a rate of \$150.00/hour on an as needed basis, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
- 3. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-36; Which Appoints a Member to the Hempfield Township Planning Commission** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to appoint Jay Anderson to a full term on the Planning Commission, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

4. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-37; Supporting the Westmoreland County Comprehensive Plan Known as Reimagining our Westmoreland** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-37, seconded to Mr. Reese. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
5. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-38; Updating the Authorized Signatures on the Township PLGIT Account** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-38, seconded by Mr. Ritson. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
6. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-39; Authorizing the Township Manager to Change the Township GPS Fleet Tracker to First Net/AT & T** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-39, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
7. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-40; Approving the Contract with Skerow Sound Productions for Professional Sound Services for the 2019 Amphitheater Events** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-40, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
8. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-41; Authorizing the Execution of the Application for a PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit Related to the Stormwater Inlet for the Get Go Project** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-41, seconded by Mr. Weimer. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
9. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-42; Authorizing the Execution of the Application for a PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit Related to the New Intersection for Relocated Heights Lane for the Get Go Project** – Mr. Weimer made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-42, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
10. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-43; Execute the Consent of Right of Entry Agreement with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-43, seconded by Mr. Weimer. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
11. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-45; Accepting the Resignation of Leonard Delleria and Authorizing the Entry into a Separation Agreement** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-45, seconded by Mr. Ritson. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
12. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-44; Which Appoints a Certified Sewage Enforcement Officer and Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to appoint Patrick Karnash as the Certified Sewage Enforcement Officer and Tom McGuire as the Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
13. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-46; Appointing an Interim Zoning Officer and Setting Forth Related Compensation** – Mr. Logan made a motion to appoint Patrick Karnash as the Interim Zoning Officer with \$5,000.00 compensation, seconded by Mr. Ritson. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
14. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-47; Approving and Ratifying the Execution of an Agreement Between the Township of Hempfield and Teamster Local 30 Dated June 14, 2017-** Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-47, seconded by Mr. Weimer. Vote: 3-1-1 abstain (Ritson). Motion carried.

- 15. Consideration to Authorize the Solicitor to Advertise Changes to the Township Code to Include the Establishment of a Public Safety Commission** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to advertise changes to the Township Code to include the Establishment of a Public Safety Commission, seconded by Mr. Reese. Mr. Ritson noted that his support for the Public Safety Commission is in relation to the public's need for input on the safety of the community and fire service to the community. He also supports a referendum and a collection of data on establishing a police department. Mr. Weimer stated that the Township has done a lot to preserve the Volunteer Fire Service, including selling The Hempfield Township Municipal Authority and establishing the Bureau of Fire. Mr. Weimer does not feel the Township does not need another commission or layer of red tape to address issues when there are professionals and staff already employed by the Township and feels that the priority is fire service and the Public Safety Commission will take away from that focus and jeopardize all of the work toward commitment to volunteer service. Mr. Silvis believes that the Board is rushing into the vote too soon and would like to have further discussion to establish items such as number of members. Mr. Reese noted that it is not often that all of the Fire Chiefs agree unanimously on something and they all agreed to pass the Public Safety Commission and that speaks volumes and he feels that there is more to Public Safety than fire service. Vote: 2-3. Motion denied.
- 16. Consideration to Approve Change Order #2 in the Amount of \$3,680.00 to Ligonier Construction Company for the Holly Drive/Redgrave Drive Culvert Replacement Project – Contract 1/2018** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Change Order #2 in the amount of \$3,680.00 to Ligonier Construction Company for Contract 1/2018, seconded by Mr. Reese. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
- 17. Consideration to Approve Pay Estimate #4 in the Amount of \$51,498.93 to Ligonier Construction Company for the Holly Drive/Redgrave Drive Culvert Replacement Project – Contract 1/2018** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Pay Estimate #4 in the amount of \$51,498.93 to Ligonier Construction Company for Contract 1/2018, seconded by Mr. Ritson. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
- 18. Consideration to Approve Pay Estimate #8 in the Amount of \$15,088.11 to JT Masonry Construction for the Hempfield Park Amphitheater Project – Contract 2/2018** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Pay Estimate #8 in the amount of \$15,088.11 to JT Masonry Construction for Contract 2/2018, seconded by Mr. Reese. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
- 19. Consideration to Authorize the Township Manager to Send Letter of Support to State Senator Kim Ward for House Bill 880 – State Highway Law** – Mr. Ritson made a motion to deny this item because currently there is no House Bill 880. 880 was a 2017-2018 Bill and in January those Bills have to be reintroduced. The primary sponsor of the Bill has not yet reintroduced the Bill.
- 20. Consideration to Authorize the Township Manager to Advertise an RFP for Marketing for the WESTCO Safer Grant** – Mr. Logan made a motion to authorize the Township manager to advertise an RFP for marketing for the WESTCO Safer Grant, seconded by Mr. Reese. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
- 21. Consideration to Authorize the Use of Township Funds to Demolish the Unsafe Structure Located at 440 Roosevelt Way and to Use all Means to Recover from the Property Owner the Township's Cost Associated with this Project** – Mr. Logan made a motion to table the use of Township funds to demolish to unsafe structure located at 440 Roosevelt Way, seconded by Mr. Reese. The Board would like the staff to find out if there is county money available for demolition of this structure as well as if the Township is responsible for back-fill of the hole and what materials can be used to fill the hole because of proximity to the creek. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.
- 22. Consideration to Terminate the Agreement with the Westmoreland County Community College for the SAFER Grant Project Coordination and Authorize the Township Manager to Notify the**



**College** – Mr. Logan made a motion to terminate the agreement with Westmoreland County Community College for the SAFER Grant Project Coordination and Authorize the Township Manager to notify the College, seconded by Mr. Reese. Vote: 4-0-1 abstain (Weimer).

**23. Consideration to Approve the Following Departments of Public Works Class Changes Set Forth by the Collective Bargaining Agreement**

- **Sean Noschese – C Operator to B Operator**
- **Eric Stewart – C Operator to B Operator – Contingent Upon Obtaining Class B CDL Within 90 Days**
- **Kyle Rosendale – C Operator to B Operator – Contingent Upon Obtaining Class B CDL Within 90 Days**

Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve the Public Works Department changes as listed above set forth by the Collective Bargaining Agreement, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

**24. Consideration to Approve the Following Emergency Service Applications as Members of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire, to be Effective Upon the Township Receiving a Physical Report from the Township Physician Stating that the Individual is Capable of Performing Activities Related to the Appointed Position and Successful Criminal History and Act 153 Clearance Requirements**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Department</b>
<b>Nicholas R. Altieri</b>	<b>Sr. Firefighter</b>	<b>Bovard</b>
<b>Amber N. Aston</b>	<b>Sr. Firefighter</b>	<b>Midway/St. Clair</b>
<b>Jonathan C. Keslar</b>	<b>Sr. Firefighter</b>	<b>Midway/St. Clair</b>
<b>Jessika L. Wright</b>	<b>Sr. Firefighter</b>	<b>Midway/St. Clair</b>
<b>Miranda L. Wright</b>	<b>Sr. Firefighter</b>	<b>Midway/St. Clair</b>

Mr. Ritson made a motion to approve the above listed Emergency Service Applications as members of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire, effective upon the Township’s receipt of a physical report from the Township Physician stating that the individual is capable of performing activities related to the appointed position and a successful criminal history and Act 153 Clearance Requirements, seconded by Mr. Logan. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

**N. OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-25; Approving the Deed and Authorizing the Execution Thereby Conveying to the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County of all Properties from the Sale of the Hempfield Township Municipal Authority** – Mr. Logan made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-25, seconded by Mr. Ritson. Vote: 4-0-1 abstain (Weimer). Motion carried.
- 2. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-31; Authorizing the Right of Way Agreement for Sewage Line Extension to Hempfield Park** – Mr. Logan made a motion to table Resolution No. 2019-31, seconded by Mr. Ritson. Mr. Logan received a copy of the Right of Way Agreement from the Municipal Authority and would like to have the alternate Solicitor review the agreement before a vote takes place. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

**O. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mr. Logan suggested adding a discussion item to the March Public Work Session regarding a discussion group referred to as a “Public Policy Group or Task Force” which would include the Bureau of Fire to start to look into items discussed this evening and other items taking place in the Township with a set time and a set agenda.

**P. PROCLAMATIONS**

- 1. Fire Prevention Poster Winners** – The Fire Chiefs Association brought forward the proclamations for the Fire Prevention Poster Contest, there were 4 winners from Hempfield Area School District. Mr. Saunders will deliver the proclamations to the fire chiefs to deliver to the students. Winners also receive a bicycle and helmet as well as other prizes.

**Q. SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS**

Mr. Silvis – Mr. Silvis reiterated the need to discuss the need for the Public Safety Commission to gather more information. He also mentioned the notice in the newspaper about batteries for smoke detectors and asked Mr. Saunders to speak. Mr. Saunders noted that Ellen Keefe of Westmoreland Cleanways received a donation from Duracell Battery Company of 9 Volt batteries for smoke detectors. Every fire company in Hempfield has a case of batteries and residents are encouraged to pick up a battery for their smoke detector.

Mr. Weimer – Mr. Weimer thanked everyone who put in their time to serve the community especially during the inclement weather.

Mr. Ritson – Mr. Ritson is looking forward to a discussion next month about the Public Safety Commission. He encouraged the Board to look to the future of the Township and wants to continue to move forward.

Mr. Logan – Mr. Logan agrees with Mr. Ritson and wants to commend Mr. Cisco and the Public Works Department in their efforts at the West Point Pond Project.

Mr. Reese – Mr. Reese noted that the reason he voted “no” on item 14 is because he didn’t agree with how the matter was handled when it took place at first and doesn’t think that two wrongs make a right. Mr. Reese wants the staff to continue to look into issues and is going to come back next month and ask for the professional audit.

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. by Chairman, George Reese.

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**SECRETARY**