

HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 22, 2019

A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

The regular 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, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Mr. George Reese Mr. Doug Weimer
Mr. John Silvis Mr. Tom Logan
Mr. Rob Ritson

Staff Present: Mr. Scott Avolio Mrs. Denise Rosak
Mr. Jason Winters Mrs. Melanie Phillips
Mr. Doug Cisco Mr. Dan Schmitt
Mr. Aaron Siko Mr. Jamie Shaw
Mr. Anthony Kovacic

B. HEARINGS: None

Mr. Winters advised the citizens present at the meeting that if they were present about flooding or stormwater issues, there were forms to fill out for a follow-up response.

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS: (As Per Resolution #2012-24)

- 1) **Richard Janesko** – Mr. Janesko of 511 New Haven Drive, Greensburg, told the Board of Supervisors that the West Point siren continues to be a problem. He stressed that the residents do not have a problem with the West Point Volunteer Firemen. Mr. Janesko said the agreement with the Board of Supervisors was that the siren would not activate between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. and that there is a violation of that agreement. In addition, he commented that in this electronic age, with all of the electronic equipment, and available funding from 911, there is no need for a siren to alert volunteer firemen. He also reminded the Board of Supervisors about the medical report, supplied by a pediatrician, submitted ten (10) years ago, which notes the damages being done to the ears of young people. In closing, Mr. Janesko said that he received a notice in the mail that West Point is going to have a Facebook page for residents to register all complaints and issues regarding the siren.
- 2) **Ken Nelson** – Mr. Nelson of 209 Milliron Church Road, New Stanton, told the Board of Supervisors that the residents of Milliron Church Road were promised that their road would be repaired but it hasn't been touched in twenty-five (25) years. He said the catch basins and the cul-de-sac need cleaned out, which he has been doing himself. In another matter, Mr. Nelson said that the Township is starting to look like what Jeannette used to look like with all kinds of trash and junk cars, especially in the Middletown area. Supervisor Reese requested that the areas of concern be passed onto Mr. Shaw, Director of Code and Safety.
- 3) **Philip Harrold** – Mr. Harrold of 513 New Haven Drive, Greensburg, advised the Board of Supervisors that he reiterates the sentiments of Mr. Janesko regarding the siren for the West

Point Volunteer Fire Department. He said that he is a sound engineer and that he would estimate the loudness of the whistle itself to be at about 100 decibels. The Center for Disease Control estimates that the threshold of human hearing pain is at 120 to 140 decibels and that prolonged exposure to anything above 85 decibels is able to cause hearing damage, more so in children. In closing, Mr. Harrold said that the West Point Volunteer Fire Department's siren is an antiquated system and a nuisance.

- 4) **Sheila Thompson** – Mrs. Thompson of 707 Foxboro Lane, Greensburg, advised the Board of Supervisors that her property has been getting flooded ever since a pool permit was issued to the property owner located behind her back yard. In addition, she said that she paid over \$20,000.00 to have a wall constructed in the rear of her property to prevent this type of flooding. She presented a letter, numerous photographs and will also be forwarding videos as well. Mrs. Thompson stressed that the building code officer should inspect the homeowner's property prior to issuing a permit in case it could potentially cause problems and to prevent future issues occurring like this one. She thanked Melanie Phillips, Patrick Karnash, and Supervisor Reese for responding to her complaints and visiting her property and having socks put down to alleviate the flooding. Mrs. Thompson said that the socks stopped the muddy water but not the clear water.
- 5) **Brittany Waterhouse** – Mrs. Waterhouse of 515 New Market Drive, Greensburg, said that she lives one lot from the West Point Volunteer Fire Station. She stressed to the Board of Supervisors that when the siren gets activated her young children get very upset – whether they are outside in the yard or even in the house. She said that her pediatrician said this excessive noise could impair the hearing of her children and interrupt their sleep schedule, not to mention cause a disadvantage in school and in their future. Mrs. Waterhouse said that the West Point siren is an unnecessary nuisance and from her driveway it registers 103.7 decibels. In the agreement with the Board of Supervisors it was stipulated 92 decibels would be the maximum permitted. In closing, she said that the Board of Supervisors have neglected their duties by allowing this siren to be in violation of the agreement.
- 6) **David Grandy** – Mr. Grandy of 2121 Keystone Avenue, Greensburg, said that he purchased a house on Keystone Avenue in 2000 and was advised by the realtor that there would not be a concern with flooding from the creek in the rear. Unfortunately, he said this area now receives 100-year rains. His home, built on a slab, has incurred flooding from Jack's Run over three (3) times in his kitchen and up over the countertops. Mr. Grandy questioned why the Township can't do anything about the flooding coming from Jack's Run.
- 7) **Ginny Grandy** – Mrs. Grandy of 2121 Keystone Avenue, Greensburg, reiterated her husband's earlier comments about the flooding. She added that two (2) of the three (3) floods occurred in the last ten (10) months. In closing, Mrs. Grandy told the Board of Supervisors that she and her husband have health problems and that the flooding is a health hazard.
- 8) **Paul Gothier** – Mr. Gothier of 606 Stanford Drive, Greensburg, thanked the Board of Supervisors for the improvements the Department of Public Works made on Westland Drive. He said the updates are working great and that ninety (90) percent of the flood waters have been rectified.
- 9) **Tom Logan** – Mr. Logan (Township Supervisor) of 101 Eisaman Road, Irwin, submitted three (3) pictures of flooding on his property that is related to the fact that the West Hempfield Middle School does not have stormwater management.

- 10) **Greg Saunders** – Bovard Fire Chief Greg Saunders of 318 Price Street, Bovard, said that since the Wednesday night meeting on July 17th, 2019 there was a big miscommunication. He stated that all the Bovard Volunteer Fire Department wants to do is give the Township a replacement truck for a truck that is about wore out and the fire department is going to be paying for it.
- 11) **Scott Graham** – Mr. Graham of 40 Cherokee Drive, Greensburg, announced that the Hempfield Area Emergency Services Club, as planned, should be ready to start in 2020 with a lot of first responders. In another matter Mr. Graham read the following prepared statement: “Supervisor Weimer, a little over a month ago, I received the following message. It is “Exhibit A”. It pertains to comments you made at a recent committee meeting in which you spoke about me and the cell tower from 2017. Your comments, roughly, were I fought against Supervisor Silvis’ cell tower because I wanted it on my property and I would get the money. Never, ever was this the case and you know it. During this time, I was trying to sell my grandfather’s estate. The last thing I wanted or needed was a 200 foot steel monument erected in his memory. Number 2 – Dennis Henry was the first to have this tower rejected, the second was your buddy, Supervisor Silvis. So, after two (2) failed attempts, only you would think the third time is a charm. Honestly, I don’t know what goes on up there sometimes. It’s not what I did for the community by rallying hundreds of strangers for what was right but what you did for your friend. You took financial benefits away from a tax paying resident and in turn, you gave a sitting Supervisor the opportunity to reap the gains. As the chairman, you gave Supervisor Silvis the green light and you almost won but you lost to Hempfield and me. Everyone who followed this tower knows that your statement was a blatant lie. A lie from an elected official, say it ain’t so. How many more lies are there? Only a few of us know. From the start, the fight was never about a cell tower and you know that. It was about right and wrong. It was about good and bad and it was about principle, which to this day you still lack. What you said is slander and defamation of character. I’ve already consulted counsel and will push these charges against you, unless tonight, during Supervisor comments, you issue a public apology stating that you misspoke at the committee meeting and your comments were incorrect. If not, legal proceedings will be forthcoming. Thank you.”

D. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

- 1) **July 2, 2019 – Legal & Personnel**
- 2) **July 17, 2019 – Legal & Personnel**
- 3) **July 22, 2019 – Legal & Personnel**

Supervisor Reese advised that there were executive sessions conducted as referenced above.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1) **Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the June 24, 2019 Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors’ Monthly Meeting** – Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Logan, to approve the minutes of the Supervisors’ June 24, monthly meeting. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

F. STAFF REPORTS:

Complete staff reports were presented to the Board of Supervisors at their Public Work Session meeting on Wednesday, July 17th, 2019. Some of the highlights of the staff reports were commented on as follows:

1) **Jason Winters, Township Manager:**

Mr. Winters reminded the residents present about flooding and stormwater issues to complete the forms provided at the registration desk for follow-up response.

Mr. Winters gave the following update to the Board of Supervisors' since Wednesday's Public Work Session on July 17th, 2019. After speaking with the State Auditor General's office, he reported that the Hempfield Fire Department will be eligible for Relief Association Funds and also Foreign Fire Funds, once they are established. He told the Board that the proposed service agreement was mailed out to the home addresses of all Hempfield Township fire chiefs and presidents for review and comment. In another matter, Mr. Winters noted that he attended the second hearing of the stormwater county-wide management plan and every municipality has received a copy of the proposed ordinance., in addition to the Department of Environmental Protection. He advised that once the County passes the ordinance, the municipalities will have six (6) months to pass an ordinance either in accordance with the county-wide stormwater plan or with any adjustments that they may have.

2) **Melanie Phillips, Director of Finance:**

Mrs. Phillips reported to the Board of Supervisors the following highlights: Township revenues are collected year to date at sixty-two (62) percent and expenses are held at forty-three (43) percent and that's half way through the year. In addition, she said she highlighted employee benefits and employment taxes for the Board this month. Also, Mrs. Phillips said she provided the Board with funding options for the rescue pumper. Six (6) banks were solicited for bids; four (4) have quoted; and the other remaining two (2) still have not provided a quote.

3) **James Shaw, Director of Code & Safety:**

Mr. Shaw reported to the Board of Supervisors the following highlights: The speed trailer was placed by the Public Works Department on Corbett Drive, which determined that a speeding issue exists. He said he is addressing it currently with the State Police and, hopefully, he will have their response by the next work session. Under "Action To Be Taken" on the agenda for consideration is parking issues on Cromwell Avenue, whereby possibly posting it "No Parking" and also accepting Providence Insurance as the SAFER Grant AD&D insurance provider.

4) **Scott Avolio, Township Solicitor:**

Mr. Avolio reported to the Board of Supervisors the following highlights: In addition to reworking some additional resolutions since last Wednesday, he gave an update on a case that was pending in the Commonwealth Court. He said a number of months ago, there was a trial that was held in front of Judge Marsili regarding the tax-exempt nature of the former Laurel Surgical Center, actually captioned Latrobe Hospital, versus the Board of Assessment. At that time Judge Marsili determined that that facility was tax exempt. The Township, the School District, and the County took an appeal to Commonwealth Court. Mr. Avolio said he was pleased to announce that the Commonwealth Court overturned Judge Marsili's decision and remanded it saying that those properties are taxable because they compete with four (4) private enterprises. He said it's not a large dollar figure on that site alone, but a pretty large decision, as far as where some other health care providers

could attempt to go but would dramatically affect the budget of both the School District and the Township.

5) **Dan Schmitt, Township Engineer:**

Mr. Schmitt reported to the Board of Supervisors the following updates: The paving program is on-going, weather permitting, currently in the areas of Union Cemetery, Luxor, and Pearl Heights. He said, in addition, the other item that he brought up at last week's meeting for consideration is that the CDBG applications for the year 2020, which will be due September 30, 2019. Mr. Schmitt said the staff is going to be presenting some options for the Board's consideration and also welcome any suggestions from the Board.

6) **Aaron Siko, Director of Parks & Recreation:**

Mr. Siko reported to the Board of Supervisors the following additions to his report given last Wednesday: The Kid's Fest went well with over four hundred (400) participants and this past Friday's Movie In The Park had over one hundred (100) participants despite the hot weather. This Sunday, July 28, 2019, Jeff Jimmerson and Airborne will be performing a concert at the park beginning at 12 noon. Providing concessions during the show will be McFeely's Shaved Ice, in addition to a food truck. In another matter, Mr. Siko said, as a note to capital projects, the Hempfield Park Relocation Project, the grant received in December in the amount of \$369,000.00 for Pavilion F and a playground project, a pre-contract meeting with DCNR was held on Friday, July 19, 2019. He said the documents are being prepared to move forward with the contract for that project. In closing, Mr. Siko said that are three (3) items on the agenda for the Board's consideration which include Item No. 13 which relates directly to those projects previously mentioned and that is a corrective deed action for Hempfield Park – basically that goes along with any OWCF project as Federal funds that occur through the DCNR program; and Item No. 15 and 16 which are fall hires for programs and one facility assistant that will be moving up to a facility attendant position.

7) **Doug Cisco, Director of Public Works:**

Mr. Cisco reported to the Board of Supervisors the following highlights to his activity report: He said the hot mix prep is just about complete. Due to the storms on July 11, 2019, the Department of Public Works has been working on some pipes that separated, storm cleanup, and working through all of the complaints and figuring out how to help the residents, if possible. Currently, Mr. Cisco said that some of the residents are being referred to the state and conservation district for assistance. He also advised the Board that there are four (4) action items on the agenda which include the oil bid; Municibid; bucket truck and park truck. Mr. Cisco noted that the park truck is from a different vendor and that the price could possibly come down on Friday. To follow up, he told the Board that he did visit the Hunker Borough Volunteer Fire Department to look at a sink hole. He said the sink hole is a little more elaborate than what was anticipated. During his assessment he determined that there is a gas line that runs above the tin whistle pipe and the tin whistle pipe is completely gone. In addition, he was unable to find where it starts or where it outfalls. Therefore, Mr. Cisco advised the Board of Supervisors that he does not think the Township should get involved in a situation like this at this time. Supervisor Ritson thanked Mr. Cisco for taking the time to look into the sink hole.

Supervisor Logan said that given the success of the Township's West Point project, he'd like to start the budget process in September with some discussion about additional projects for 2020, especially given the fact that this area has been receiving a multitude of heavy rains this year.

8) **Anthony Kovacic, Fire Chief and Director of Emergency Services:**

Mr. Kovacic reported to the Board of Supervisors the following updates: Attended the July Fire Chiefs' meeting and also the Public Safety Task Force meeting. He noted, too, that the month of July really started the kick off towards the ISO with some of the things that the Township needs to make improvements upon. Mr. Kovacic advised that the testing is complete for the pumps, ladders, and aerial ladders. In August, he said the hose tests are scheduled. In another issue, Mr. Kovacic said the committee has been meeting on the October 8, 2019 Fire Prevention Program. Also, he said he met with a representative of ECM to discuss the possible one response number. In regards to the Essentials Program, he said it continues to move forward with the exterior firefighter phase. He said that he believes there are up to sixteen (16) individuals in the program. So, as these later sessions develop, some folks are playing catch up getting sessions that they did not complete in the past. There is certainly a commitment from the participants to push along and move on to the interior firefighter phase. Therefore, Mr. Kovacic said, through September the Township should have a full program and the individuals should be ready to test out Firefighter I. The training scheduled through West Penn for today was postponed and to be rescheduled sometime in October. Relative to Emergency Management, Mr. Kovacic said that he met with representatives of Twin Lakes regarding preparations for their event. He added that on July 6, 2019, as a result of the heavy rains, the emergency plan was activated. In addition, over the course of July 11 and 12, Emergency Management fielded over sixty-nine (69) calls with a vast majority of them being weather and water related. Mr. Kovacic was pleased to advise the Board of Supervisors that the Ft. Allen Fire Department successfully completed the training criteria for boat operations.

In regards to Item I.(1) entitled "Consideration to Authorize the Solicitor to Advertise a Public Hearing to Acknowledge the Tax-Exempt Status of the Bovard Volunteer Fire Company", which is relative to purchasing a mini pumper, Mr. Kovacic said regardless if it's a mini pumper or a boat, any major purchase that goes through the fire department has to first come through his office and then forwarded to the Board of Supervisors. Unfortunately, there is not an established policy to do so. He stressed to the Board that this process needs to begin so that the Township can be very consistent in how it does things, systematically, and how deployments are conducted.

Supervisor Weimer: "I think, as a Board, I mean, I think we started that process by appointing you the Fire Chief now. We didn't have a chief but we have created one now out of the Bureau of Fire, the Hempfield Fire Department, which encompasses all twelve (12) stations and you are the Fire Chief of those stations. So, we have a structure now that we have put in place. So, are you asking us to discuss it further about solidifying a process?"

Mr. Kovacic: "Yes. I think that we need to have a dialogue in regards to where we are and from this point forward how – what system needs to be in play when major equipment or major purchases occur within the fire department."

Supervisor Ritson: “We had a pretty lengthy discussion Wednesday night regarding Item I on the agenda, the request for a tax exempt status, because that’s part in parcel to Bovard’s acquisition of a truck at a more favorable rate. I think with a healthy conversation about the service agreement, the draft service agreement, that we have diligently worked on, and that I believe it’s been sent to every fire department since Wednesday night, can clearly, as we work through the draft, even Wednesday night after I left Wednesday night, I had some questions still related to how we go about doing what Doug said – what you’re bringing up about structure. But, more importantly, I can finite this conversation about let’s just talk about major equipment. The draft service agreement we talk about, you know, currently, so everybody understands that the Township is reimbursing fire companies for their truck payments. Am I right about that? We’re reimbursing the fire companies. We do not own the title to the fire trucks. But fire companies that have debt on their fire vehicles are paying it and then submitting the reimbursement to us and we are in turn giving the fire departments back that money. We don’t own the vehicles. So, the proposal of the draft service agreement is that, you know, we will assume all payments to vehicles that are turned over to the Township, as ownership – meaning that fire departments will have that luxury of just saying hey look, the vehicle is yours, payments are yours, you know it will stay in the station, but it going to look – we’re trying to standardize the way we do things. We want them to look the same. We want them to have the same equipment so that firefighters throughout Hempfield can get on that truck – whether you are a member here, there or over there. I think I asked a question to a few Board members afterwards – because I was just – if a fire company has the ability under this agreement to not turn a vehicle over to the Township, which is rightfully theirs. They have title to it. Some of them are very paint trucks up. If that’s the case and they do not turn it over to us, are we still going..... What level of financial commitment are we making to that piece of equipment, i.e. tires, fuel, maintenance? I think those are questions that I think we’ve been trying to flush out – maybe we can just clarify tonight, I think, because each one of us have had off line conversations with one another, as we are still working through this document. But it’s important, I think, to bring up that moving forward. I’m still trying to get my hands around the idea that these are agreements with twelve (12) separate entities and even if we – to Doug’s point – we are trying – we are one (1) fire chief. But there are still twelve (12) individual non-profits, as we’re going to possibly vote on tonight, that’s declaring the taxing of a non-profit fire department. But, how do we maintain uniformity? And that is a huge issue. I think that the challenge be – at least my recommendation is going to be through you, as the Fire Chief, that, if a fire department chooses to go out on their own and purchase whatever they want, that they need to know that the expectation from us is going to be that they are going to pay for all of it on their own. However, if they want us – let’s take vehicles, for example, and this is a proposal of mine. So this is not a blanket Board statement. I’m just trying to spark a policy conversation here. But, in an effort to standardize vehicles that we don’t own and standardize vehicles that aren’t – you know – that we may or may not have approved of, I think that the only alternative for us is what are we providing them financially in assistance? If you want to go out and pay for a truck and paint it purple – no offense Dan – you want to paint it purple and not look like our trucks, then I’m going to be less inclined to support the truck financially through gas, and tires, and then... It’s a buy in both ways. We have a commitment. We’re going to be asking for a commitment. That’s kind of where I’m coming from as a Board member – at least working through this over the weekend and I kind of wanted to prep it out there. Let’s put it out there for everybody to hear because I think it’s important that we do stress that this effort, and we have been working very well together to push this effort forward, is about uniformity. It’s about safety. You know, it’s about financial stability too – both for the fire companies and for the municipality. So, you know, it’s not a perfect document. I’m sure

everybody in the room represents a fire department who saw this over the weekend has issues with it. We understand that. We're working through some of it but we feel pretty good about this. I think we just got to get through some of these little pieces. I said my piece so..."

Supervisor Reese: "For those who decide they do not want to turn their truck over, I think, Chief, it would be at that point that you would have to determine relevance of that apparatus to the current fleet and to the future of the fleet. Would you agree?"

Mr. Kovacic: "That's correct."

Supervisor Reese: "Okay. For those who want to go out and purchase major equipment with their own funds, it would surely go a lot smoother, if we would have a conversation first. Maybe they could bring something to the table that currently we haven't thought about. You know, addressing future needs in this particular district. But I do agree with Rob and you, Chief Kovacic, that having a standard way in which we lay these trucks out and how they will be purchased and how they will be utilized in the future is relevant. It truly is. So, I think we can do this. I think we can continue to do better. It's all new, in some regards, to these guys. So, the communication is everything fellas. If you want to do something for the good of the fire service, for the good of this Hempfield Township Fire Service, working together, and communicating, it will take us to the next level."

Mr. Avolio: "Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to jump in there. It is a draft and a work in process and some of these items come up, you know, that maybe we need to crystalize better with direct language as the policy comes together. There is that flexibility because I know the Board is attempting to do whatever is necessary to make this work, to work well with the companies, to work for the residents of Hempfield Township. But a procedure and a process now that you've come to and I think that it would be better to get that in black and white in that agreement. In fairness, it does say draft for that reason. I think we have to sharpen our pencil on a couple of procedural items."

Supervisor Weimer: "I served with a number of different Supervisors here over the years and we have always been very dedicated to the fire service in providing them with , with those that fight fire in Hempfield Township, everything that they truly need to do that job. I just want to make sure that I, as well as the Board here, maybe, that we're all on the same page of understanding what has evolved into what Hempfield Fire is today and what we're piecing together is what the current Hempfield Fire Service is that we have hired, appointed a Chief for what is the Hempfield Fire Department. We have a Hempfield Fire Department and there are currently twelve (12) fire companies that are recognized as a part of the Hempfield Fire Department. So, what the Board has been doing and what has happened and where we've evolved to this point is there is this one structure and we, the Board, recognizes what entities, what independent, as was mentioned tonight, non-profit entities, that have firefighting services, have to offer and we recognize which one of those are going to be a part of the Hempfield Fire Department. So, as we create these agreements, and things that the Hempfield Board of Supervisors approves, for what we expect for those that are going to be recognized as serving our community and fighting fires in our community, they have to adhere to those things and those are things that we started talking about tonight. So, we need to have clarity on policies and structures. But, I guess, before I get into that, am I correct on saying that there are twelve (12) independent entities out there that we are recognizing that there are twelve (12) non-profits that we are recognizing as fighting fires are a part of the Hempfield Fire Department?"

Mr. Avolio: “That would be correct.”

Supervisor Weimer: “And there are going to be thirteen (13) or there are going to be six (6) but that’s what we have.”

Mr. Avolio: “You’re recognized for service – those companies. Right now, you recognize twelve (12).”

Supervisor Weimer: “So, I guess, as we’re setting up this structure and these protocols, if there are things that are, if they are going to, for lack of a better word, run rogue of the structure that we put in place and the agreement that they signed, then we could not allow them to be a part of the Hempfield Fire Department? We wouldn’t recognize them as a member of that? Is that what that would be?”

Mr. Avolio: “That would be”.

Supervisor Weimer: “So, it would be as simple as our that we are no longer going to enter into services with that entity?”

Supervisor Ritson: “Yes. Just to clarify it to some people. It’s a contract. We are offering a contract to twelve (12) entities. When it’s all said and done, all twelve (12) could sign the contract or they don’t. He’s right. That’s what the service agreement is to people that are out there. It’s terms, for lack of a better word.”

Mr. Avolio: “Yes. You are contracting for service.”

Supervisor Ritson: “George is right, too, with communication; but, I think you need to hear from us at least, and everybody out here needs to hear from us a little bit, to find out exactly where we are coming from to give you the scope of how to approach that. So, you have heard it from me. So, that’s all I have. Tony, my question to you is, does West Point have the technological capabilities to respond to calls without that siren?”

Mr. Kovacic: “There are options and certainly we can look at options. I did pull out the file from West Point and started to review what was set up by contract, that was signed in 2008. It’s still standing in regards to the issue back then. Does technology exist? There are some other options that are out there and certainly some things that we could look at.”

Supervisor Ritson: “Well, my simple question is, how many, let me rephrase that, how many fire departments in Hempfield Township do not use a siren? You probably won’t know that off the top of your head.”

Mr. Kovacic: “ I don’t, to be honest with you.”

Supervisor Ritson: “George?”

Supervisor Reese: “I think there’s about six (6) or eight (8) of us. Greg what would you say?”

Bovard Fire Chief Greg Saunders: “I think there’s more than that.”

Supervisor Reese: “That still use a siren?”

Bovard Fire Chief Greg Saunders: “The only one without a siren is North Hempfield.”

Supervisor Reese: “You know, not to interrupt you, but, Tony, it is my understanding up there that when the County switched to the new high band dispatch, that they did not equip themselves with minitors. So, they are relying on the ECM page to their phones, which is not one hundred percent and yes, the siren. So, I’m going to ask you if you could contact the leadership up there to see if that problem does exist because I get the issue about the siren. I hear you. Okay. I’m going to talk a little bit about that at the end but yet we can’t... You know, if they are relying on it and they are truly one (1) of maybe just twelve (12), we need to know that. And so, so if you could, check into that. It is my understanding that they did not update to that when the rest of them did.”

Mr. Kovacic: “ Okay. I’ll look into that.”

Supervisor Ritson: “If that’s the case, then I’m going to say that that is a, as we talk about service agreements, that’s an issue that I would want to address in a service agreement with that particular fire department. Because, I’m not saying anything that I didn’t know in 2006, I could see it go tomorrow. I got no problem taking that siren down. The chief hates my guts up there any how. I let him know because I wanted to take it down ten (10) or eleven (11) years ago. The worst part about it now, is after I have seen the sheets, the run sheets from last year, that siren is going off and these residents know those trucks when they move and when they’re not. So, now we have a nuisance.”

Supervisor Reese: “So, with that, Chief, I think that’s a starting point there.”

Supervisor Weimer: “But I also want to know from this Board, do we want in the agreement to talk about whether or not they have sirens or not, because we are entering into agreements with these twelve (12) companies. So, if we don’t want sirens, I don’t think its about picking on this one or that one. Where are we at on the sirens?”

Supervisor Reese: “I think this is a great opportunity to assign this to our Public Safety Task Force – that committee – and let them evaluate it. Let them evaluate the value of the sirens in these communities.”

Supervisor Ritson: “But, you are not wrong. I mean, if they don’t have – if they are not upgraded on the technology that everybody else is, and we’re talking about standardization, then we need to address that issue, too. So, I think, it’s a good point. Let the Public Safety Task Force but I guess I just used the opportunity to posit my position on it. I’m not trying to put any Board members in the corner. I just don’t like the siren there and I’m not asserting to support it.”

Supervisor Weimer: “Every time we had a complaint that it was looked at, from what I remember, and every time they went up to look, it was always in compliance with the agreement. I don’t know if we have documentation of that there, Tony, or not.”

Mr. Winters: “We have a letter in the file from 2014 that it was actually looked at and was in compliance with the agreement. Something we discussed, as a staff, is actually doing that again to make sure that we do have an agreement with West Point for the usage of the siren. So, we will make sure that...”

Supervisor Reese: “Well, it’s our siren.”

Mr. Winters: “Right.”

Supervisor Reese: “It’s the Township’s siren. And to be quite honest with you, I worked with Mr. Weimer, when he was chairman, when this issue came up before. There was a timer put on there. That siren was not supposed to blow after 9 o’clock at night and not to run again until 6 or 7 a.m. So, I will tell you this, I will find that out tomorrow, if that timer is working properly. But, Mr. Weimer and I... You know, he addressed this issue three (3) years ago. So, I don’t know what happened there. If you’re telling us that siren’s blowing 24-7, is that what you’re saying?”

Audience Member: “It goes off one in the morning last night.”

Supervisor Weimer: “All right. Something is malfunctioning so we have to look at that.”

Supervisor Logan: “What’s the status on our MAWC on the hydrant testing? Do we have any report or update from them?”

Mr. Kovacic: “I know that they did start or attempted schedule to begin the hydrant testing. I know that by talking to the individual, the grader from ISO, was pretty excited about what that they had proposed. To be honest with you, I don’t know how far along.”

Supervisor Logan: “Can we get a monthly update from them on what the status is?”

Mr. Kovacic: “We will request one.”

Supervisor Reese: “Okay, just so I got this right, Chief. Major equipment purchases, okay, if they’re to be considered, what you are saying is, if they are even being considered by any of our twelve (12), okay, which would be outside the parameters of possibly the fleet plan, it has to start with you. Right?”

Mr. Kovacic: “That’s correct.”

Supervisor Reese: “It has to start with you before it comes to us. If there is to be even any consideration, that will now be the process moving forward. Correct?”

Mr. Kovacic: “Correct. If you think back to the GAP Analysis, he talks about like equipment. So, whether it’s a pumper... If you’re driving that pumper and pull a valve to get water to a hose, they all should be the same. Color coded. They all should be the same. Breathing apparatus. They all should be the same. So, if we can go from one piece of equipment to another, and it should be seamless. We don’t want some broke thing to be a hinderance. And, remember, what we do here isn’t an issue for 2019. A major piece of equipment, albeit a fire engine or breathing apparatus, is something that is going to be here for fifteen (15) years. So, once we start going down that road, we’re going to be stuck with it, if it isn’t in compliance, a long time. So, I just want to make sure...”

Supervisor Reese: “That’s major equipment purchases of three, four, or half a million dollars. We all know what they’re getting at now. So, okay. So, what’s your thoughts

moving forward with grants, the way we used to do it, and how you would like to see it moving forward?”

Mr. Kovacic: “You know, in regards to getting grants, we need to prioritize what we want to do as a fire department and then collectively try to go after those grants. Any grant that anybody goes after should come to this Board for approval. There are percentages, there’s matches, and somebody very well may come up and lay a very expensive grant onto your lap and then want that match and it doesn’t even fit into any plan that we’ve got.”

Supervisor Weimer: “Whether or not we’re matching it?”

Mr. Kovacic: “That’s correct.”

Supervisor Weimer: “Or not?”

Mr. Kovacic: “That’s correct.”

Supervisor Weimer: “Because they may match it with their own funds but...”

Mr. Kovacic: “But then it goes to the point of insuring it, whatever, or does it – is it competitive with maybe something else? If you think back just a couple months ago, an individual stopped and talked about communications. I think it would behoove everybody to try to go after collectively a communications grant. Maybe improve those portable radios. But, if we are competing against ourselves...”

Supervisor Reese: “So are you saying competing against ourselves, if we continue to see individual departments do this and yet we are trying to do something as a Township overall, that’s the issue?”

Mr. Kovacic: “That’s correct.”

Supervisor Reese: “So, would you utilize the forum of the Chiefs’ Association, at their meeting, to have that open discussion because we all know at least once a year that’s coming?”

Mr. Kovacic: “Yes.”

Supervisor Reese: “And maybe their president of the Chiefs’ Association can put that on his agenda at one point so that everybody kind of knows that we’re looking to do this as one – the Hempfield Fire Department.”

Mr. Kovacic: “Yes, and the priorities. Let’s keep consistent with what the priorities truly are.”

Supervisor Ritson: “Oh, I think the one thing I will want to address, in particular, is the Fire Commission Grants and how that’s going to be handled. I don’t know that. I think we need to talk about that. I mean I don’t know how it’s handled in other areas that address this but each of those companies can get up to \$15,000.00 a year, so how does that fit it into our overall approach.”

Mr. Kovacic: “Some of the fire departments utilized that State Commissioner’s Grant for building issues and we heard the roofs on different fire departments. So, they have identified that grant through various cycles to try to accomplish that. So, I just wouldn’t want to go back to that major equipment – if we’re buying five (5) inch diameter supply lines and somebody decides they are going to go out and buy something different, and they are going to use that grant to do it, and they get it, it’s going to be a hinderance. So maybe, not an approval process, but at least we need to be transparent. If we’re going after that State Commissioner’s Grant, we should be forthcoming with what we are going to do with that money.”

Supervisor Ritson: “So, I think Tom brought this up off line. It’s an important point. If companies choose to go a different direction on equipment, let’s talk about the line on branding, on something that’s non-uniform, you, as the Chief, and soon to be whatever we decide about the deputy chief, will have the ability to inspect that. At that point I think this does... Does this agreement, Scott, give us the ability to reevaluate the good standing level? Because if the... The test will come, as an independent non-profit looks for us and says well, hey, you know, it’s our money. But Tom mentioned, if the truck’s not compliant with our standards, if the hose isn’t compliant with our standards, then we’re not going to use it period or use you period. Is that? We’re leaning that way right? That’s the intent here. Yeah we don’t want to look like the hammer but these agreements are being written specifically to bring in uniformity. And by the way, you know, there’s a financial support that comes with it. You know, so this is not just telling the fire department do this, this, and this. You know, our end of that is, we’re going to give you this, this, and this financially to do it. I think you need to... That needs to be brought out more because this is a contract.”

Mr. Avolio: “And there’s definitely a lot of discretion given to the fire chief by this agreement. Some of those annexed may change from time to time as the... You know what I mean. We don’t want to revise the agreement each time as you recognize the budget, you recognize the level of service, you recognize the need. But that is the intent of this agreement.”

Supervisor Ritson: “But if he’s training everybody on a particular line and on a particular piece of equipment, our nozzle or color coding – we’re training them all and somebody goes out and does something completely different, we’re not using it and we’re not using them because they are going to put these people at risk when they try to hook up the hose when some other company rolls in. Is that the intent here? I mean I’m just...”

Mr. Kovacic: “Yes.”

Supervisor Ritson: “Is that the intent you guys?”

Supervisor Logan: “ Yes.”

Supervisor Reese: “Yes.”

Supervisor Silvis: “Yes.”

Supervisor Weimer: “Yes. I think with this discussion I just want to have some clarity about when this is starting and how this is starting. You know on tonight’s agenda we have a request to --- we have on the agenda to consider a public hearing for Bovard based on their letter that they sent us for their mini pumper that they want to have. So that’s a piece

of equipment – maybe not as big as an aerial or as expensive as one, but, however, it is not a vehicle that you just walk out and find on an auto lot. So, it is something that is significant in price. So, with the discussions about having uniformity and things that we have with expectations, I’m understanding – I mean we’re starting this now. That includes with this discussion tonight or do we have to have something adopted?”

Supervisor Reese: “Starting what now? Major Equipment?”

Supervisor Weimer: “That if this hearing happens to assist them in going and getting something, obviously they’re interested in buying a mini pumper. Is it going to have – meet the specs of the Hempfield Fire Department? Is it going to and if it doesn’t, is this what we’re talking about that we will not be allowing that to....? We’re not going to be funding anything with it – whether it be tires, gas...?”

Supervisor Reese: “Well, I think we discussed, in regards to Bovard, tonight, I understand what is on the agenda. That’s one issue. Moving forward with what Bovard is going to be doing, it is my understanding that the fire chief and our finance director and our manager will bring them in – will bring their leadership in – and we’re going to have this discussion. Am I correct chief?”

Bovard Fire Chief Greg Saunders: “Yes.”

Supervisor Reese: “Okay. So, to try to make this part of the plan. Am I correct? That’s what we talked about?”

Mr. Kovacic: “Yes.”

Supervisor Reese: “All right, so, two (2) separate issues. Two (2) separate issues what we are voting on tonight for Bovard and moving forward with having that conversation with them.”

Supervisor Weimer: “Bovard has the intent on buying a vehicle that they don’t currently have, so, since it isn’t here, and they are asking for us to recognize them with a hearing for their non-profit status, I assume that it is for a financial purpose, then I’m just...”

Supervisor Reese: “For the purpose of obtaining a specific loan.”

Supervisor Weimer: “Right so that they can purchase a vehicle.”

Supervisor Logan: “Eligibility for tax exempt lending.”

Supervisor Weimer: “So they don’t have the vehicle. So, I’m just saying, that vehicle will have to comply with what we were talking about tonight in meeting the specs of the fire department.”

Supervisor Reese: “I would have to think that there is a way of working this out with these particular specifications and what the fire chief would like to see as part of the fleet. You know, we don’t know until we sit down and have that discussion. We can go back and forth all night with what they are doing and what they’re talking about here tonight...”

Supervisor Weimer: “Tony, as the Fire Chief, are you advocating that this vehicle be purchased for the Hempfield Fire Service?”

Mr. Winters: “Can I just jump in here? I think it’s important for us to sit down and have this meeting with Bovard and we will report back in August where how the meeting goes and the truck moving forward.”

Supervisor Weimer: “Okay. Well, that truck, though, would have to do what we talked about that it would have to have the standards of the Hempfield Fire Department. Correct?”

Mr. Winters: “Correct.”

Supervisor Weimer: “That would be the intent so that they are aware that ... I don’t want to hear later that they were unaware that we had that discussion. This discussion tonight does pertain to that vehicle.”

Supervisor Ritson: “Hold on. I think it’s... I don’t want to jump in there and say that tonight’s procedural vote, and bear with me here, that I was attempting to convey that when you do have that sit down, that is exactly what you need to say to them. You know that truck needs to... You can go ahead and buy it, but it needs to be equipped standard, has to this, this, this, and then I’d be willing to consider carrying the maintenance and the vehicle and the fuel and the tires on it. Because if they don’t, then they are just going to run over it. Then everybody will start following suit. I think that’s... I follow what you are saying. I have no problem with the procedural move tonight but, you know, I wanted it to be clear, at least from my perspective, so that when you do sit down, they’re in the room anyhow, so it doesn’t matter. You can... That this is why I approached this. You know, I’m willing to work on it. You know, but I think we are setting a precedent here because we have to. I think we would have preferred to try to work through this a little bit more but apparently, we have been presented with a situation that has forced us to address this now. So, we are going to address it now because if we don’t address it now and start establishing some sense of uniformity, it sends a mixed message to the rest of the fire departments and it opens us up for a whole mess of problems down the road.”

Supervisor Reese: “This would be the one and only time we do this moving forward. The rules are the rules. Right? Major equipment. This is the one and only time we should be having this type of particular conversation about something that is already in motion, that’s happening, to take the opportunity to sit down and have a discussion and come to some type of understanding about how it plays into the fleet. But, moving forward with the directive, Chief, that you just put out there and that this Board supports, there will be no major equipment purchase prior to a meeting with you and discussion.”

Mr. Kovacic: “That’s right.”

Supervisor Reese: “Regardless of who is paying.”

Mr. Avolio: “And I think we will revise that service agreement to reflect that so that it is clear going forward.”

Supervisor Ritson: “I want to make sure that everyone here knows that this particular situation, that we are not making an exception for them, because, you know, I think it should be clear that at some point we could be faced with an individual fire company who

goes and just says they don't need Tony's approval and they are going to go buy a truck on their own. And we can't stop them from doing that. But, we are not going to fund them. I think that's what we are trying to establish – a foothold policy on equipment that is not approved by the municipality and what the level of expectation is for every fire company who chooses to go outside the structure and buy whatever they choose to do. You own it. You insure it. You do whatever you want with it. I think we need to make that clear. That's what we are trying to do tonight. But, I don't want to make an exception with this because, unfortunately, this has just really kind of pre-empted in moving us forward on establishing the policy. Maybe it helped us a little bit to be more clear on it.”

Mr. Avolio: “I was going to say I think it crystalized it. The little bit of this agreement, we're trying to anticipate every scenario. You can't always do that. This scenario was kind of brought forward so you address it.”

Supervisor Reese: “So, just like a station, as some Supervisors have talked about recognizing – you buy a fire truck outside the realm, we don't necessarily have to recognize that truck as part of the operating fleet of the Township. Would you agree?”

Mr. Avolio: “Yes. But I need to make the agreement more clear so that we can have this policy.”

Supervisor Reese: “This is real simple moving forward. It's about communicating. We spent all of this time on this one issue and we learned. I learned. I think everybody sitting here involved learned something. There is a process.”

Mr. Winters: “Mr. Chairman, just to go back to something that Supervisor Logan mentioned earlier about MAWC, not to jump back, but they did send an update about two (2) weeks ago. There are forty-one (41) hydrants that need to be flow tested to meet our ISO limit and they are hoping to have that done by the end of the year.”

Supervisor Logan: “Okay.”

Mr. Winters: “So, they are hoping to do Hempfield and the City of Greensburg as their first two (2) municipalities.”

Supervisor Logan: “Ask them, as they do them, on a multi-basis to give us a report on them on which ones they've done.”

Mr. Winters: “I will.”

G. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Supervisor Logan said that he had nothing additional to add to his report given at the Public Work Session on Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

H. PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve the following payment of bills as listed below. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

1.	General Fund	\$ 546,543.32	2.	Bond Issue	\$ 13,586.21
3.	Light District	\$ 5,232.20	4.	Parks & Recreation	\$ 1,950.00
5.	Act 13 Impact Fee	\$ 7,703.98			

I. SCHEDULING OF HEARINGS:

- 1) **Consideration to Authorize the Solicitor to Advertise a Public Hearing to Acknowledge the Tax-Exempt Status of the Bovard Volunteer Fire Company** – Mr. Ritson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reese, to authorize the solicitor to advertise a public hearing on Monday, August 26, 2019 at 7 p.m. to acknowledge the tax-exempt status of the Bovard Volunteer Fire Company. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

J. DECISIONS FROM HEARINGS: None

K. SUBDIVISION PLANS: None

L. SITE PLANS:

- 1) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-99; Granting Conditional Approval for the General Carbide Building #4 Site Plan – Plan No. 20190277:**

Location	1181 Garden Street, Greensburg
Purpose	Construction of a 14,000 sq. ft. and 6,000 sq. ft. building additions at the location of existing General Carbide facility known as Building #4
Planning Commission Recommendation	Approval 5-0
Conditioned Upon:	Show stormwater easement on the plan
	E & S Plan
	Stormwater management approval
	Show emergency access on the plan

Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve Resolution #2019-99. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried

- 2) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-100; Granting Conditional Approval for the Smail Collision Center Building Addition Site Plan – Plan No. 20190278:**

Location	5041/5042 Route 30, Greensburg
Purpose	Construction of a 6,125 sq. ft. automotive collision building addition onto the existing Smail Automotive Collision Building. The expansion will include additional service bays within the expansion. The existing ADA parking spaces will not be affected with this building addition.
Planning Commission Recommendation	Approval 5-0
Conditioned Upon	E & S plan
	Stormwater management approval
	MAWC/DEP approval – adequate taps – if needed

Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve Resolution #2019-100. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried

- 3) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-101; Granting the Release of Financial Security for the RJ Repasky Greensburg – Hempfield Industrial Park Site Grading Plan – Plan No. 20170276** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Ritson, to approve Resolution No. 2019-101. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

M. ITEMS FOR ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

- 1) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-102; Authorizing the Approval of the Proposed Name Request for a 1.4-Mile-Long Tributary of Brush Creek to Miller Run to the US Board of Geographic Names** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve Resolution No. 2019-102. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 2) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-103; Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with provident Insurance for AD&D/Disability Insurance Policy for the SAFER Grant and Authorize the Township Manager to Execute All Needed Documents** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve Resolution No. 2019-103. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 3) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-104; Authorizing A No Parking Area on Cromwell Street** – Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis, to approve Resolution No. 2019-104. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 4) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-105 Authorizing the Funding of Sutphen Monarch Heavy Duty Custom Rescue Pumper from Key Bank at the Rate of 2.50% for 7 Years** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis, to approve Resolution No. 2019-105. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 5) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-106; Authorizing the Agreement with Sunoco Pipeline for the Reimbursement of Paving Monkey Wrench Road Contingent upon Sunoco Pipeline Signing the Agreement** – Supervisor Weimer made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve Resolution No. 2019-106. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 6) **Consideration to Authorize the Submission of the Application for the Closure of Route 136 for the 2019 Hempfield Area School District Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 4, 2019** – Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Logan, to authorize the submission of the Application for the Closure of Route 136 for the 2019 Hempfield Area School District Homecoming Parade. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 7) **Consideration to Approve the Purchase of a 2019 F-550 4x4 Bucket Truck from Altec, Inc. for the Amount of \$118,595.00 (Costars #025-091) and to Reallocate Unspent Budgeted Capital Funds in the Amount of \$3,595 for Said Purchase and Authorize the Township Manager to Process and Sign All Needed Documents** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve the purchase of a 2019 F-550 4x4 bucket truck from Altec, Inc. for the amount of \$118,595.00 (Costars #025-091) and to reallocate unspent budgeted Capital Funds in the amount of \$3,595 for said purchase and authorize the Township manager to process and sign all needed documents. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 8) **Consideration to Approve the Purchase of a 2019 F-250 Pick-Up Truck from Smail Auto Group for the Amount of \$28,094.18 (Costars #025-175) and Authorize the Township Manager to Process and Sign All Needed Documents** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis to approve the purchase of a 2019 F-250 pick-up truck from

Smail Auto Group for the amount of \$28,094.18 (Costars #025-175) and authorize the Township manager to process and sign all needed documents. Vote: 4-Yes. Supervisor Ritson – No. Motion carried.

9) **Consideration to Approve Awarding the Following Items Sold Through Municibid:**

	Item	Bid Amount	Winning Bidder
1.	2008 Ford F-250 w/Plow	\$6,250.00	David McCurdy
2.	Various Size Bulk Folding Tables	\$41.00	Brandon Northime
3.	52 Various Chairs	\$9.00	Brandon Northime

Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve awarding the above-listed items sold through Municibid. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

10) **Consideration to Approve Awarding of the 2019 E-3M Oil Supply and Distributor Truck (Rental) Bid. The Following Bids Were Received and Opened on July 16, 2019:**

	Company Name	Quantity	Amount Per Gallon	Total
1.	Russell Standard	60,000	\$2.463	\$153,780.00
2.	Midland Asphalt Materials, Inc.	60,000	\$2.343	\$140,580.00
3.	Suite-Kote Corporation	60,000	\$2.12	\$127,200.00

Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Logan, to approve awarding of the 2019 E-3M oil supply and distributor truck (rental) bid to the low bidder, Suite-Kote Corporation. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

11) **Consideration to Approve Pay Estimate #1 in the Amount of \$89,560.27 to Derry Construction for the 2019 Hot Mix Paving Program – Contract 2/2019** – Supervisor Locan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve Pay Estimate #1 in the amount of \$89,560.27 to Derry Construction for the 2019 Hot Mix Paving Program – Contract 2/2019. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

12) **Consideration to Authorize the Township Solicitor to Prepare and Advertise Changes to Chapter 47 of the Hempfield Township Municipal Code** – Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Logan, to authorize the Township solicitor to prepare and advertise changes to Chapter 47 of the Hempfield Township Municipal Code. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

13) **Consideration to Authorize the Township Solicitor to Prepare a Corrective Deed for Hempfield Park and Authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to Sign** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to authorize the Township solicitor to prepare a corrective deed for Hempfield Park and authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

14) **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:**

	Name	Position	Fire Department
1.	Joshua Crusan	Senior Firefighter	Fort Allen
2.	Makenze Crusan	Junior Firefighter	Fort Allen
3.	Brenden Eye	Senior Firefighter	Carbon
4.	Melissa Hartman	Senior Firefighter	Fort Allen
5.	Zachary Hippely	Senior Firefighter	Carbon
6.	Daniel Rankin	Senior Firefighter	Grapeville
7.	Alexander Wales	Senior Firefighter	Grapeville

Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve the emergency service applications for Brenden Eye, Daniel Rankin, and Alexander Wales 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. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve the emergency service applications for Joshua Crusan, Makenze Crusan, Melissa Hartman, and Zachary Hippely as members of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire, to be effective upon their approval by their respective fire departments, in addition to 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. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

15) Consideration to Approve the Following 2019 Parks & Recreation Fall Programming Staff:

	Name	Position	Pay Rate	New/ Returning
1.	AQUA CLUB	Fall Instructor	80%	Return
2.	Debi Willcock	Fall Instructor	70%	Return
3.	Alexis Duncan	Fall Instructor	70%	New
4.	LEGEND ATHLETICS	Fall Instructor	70%	Return
5.	Marisa Yaniszeski	Fall Instructor	80%	Return
6.	Penne Steiger	Fall Instructor	80%	Return
7.	Sheron Watson	Fall Instructor	70%	Return
8.	Kieran Diorio	Fall Instructor	70%	New
9.	JUMP START SPORTS	Fall Instructor	70%	Return
10.	Minds Maestro	Fall Instructor	70%	Return
11.	SNAPOLOGY	Fall Instructor	70%	Return
12.	Tim Cooper	Fall Instructor	70%	Return
13.	Nicole Hayes	Fall Instructor	70%	Return
14.	Leyna Wright	Fall Instructor	70%	Return

Supervisor Ritson made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve the above-listed 2019 Parks & Recreation Fall Programming staff. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

16) **Consideration to Approve the Hiring of Tanner Schmitt as Part-Time Facility Attendant at the Rate of \$11.00 an Hour** – Supervisor Weimer made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve the hiring of Tanner Schmitt as part-time facility attendant at the rate of \$11.00 an hour. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

N. **OLD BUSINESS:** None

O. **NEW BUSINESS:** None

P. **PROCLAMATIONS:** None

Q. **SUPERVISORS' COMMENTS:**

Supervisor George Reese – Supervisor Reese commented as follows: “So, I’ll go first. To all you folks in the back, in regards to the West Point siren, I hear you. Our first move will be to check that timer and that timer will be replaced or repaired, whatever it has to be. It will not blow after 9 p.m. and not before 7 a.m. Okay. That’s what it was supposed to be back when Mr. Weimer and I worked on that. And, also, I think my colleagues agree that we’re going to take and have our Public Safety Task Force evaluate the siren, not only in West Point, but throughout the Township. And then we are going to go with Mr. Winters and our staff and do some current testing in the interim. So, we’re going to work on it. Okay. To the Jenkins’ (Thompsons’), bringing that to our attention about what happened to you out there, we can always do better. You know, we can always do better and by you coming here and explaining – no doubt with all these rains and everything that went on, it was bad. And what was going on – that construction project, in regards to the pool and what you were dealing with with rain. We’ll get through it. We will continue to work with you. I appreciate you calling me. I think our staff reacted and did well and we’ll follow through. But, you brought something to our attention and we will. We’ll improve and we’ll be better. And Ken Nelson – your issues – You know, recently we hired another individual for property maintenance inspections. It’s a big Township. Some areas blight is starting to get bad. I hear you. Our staff is working harder. The Board of Supervisors are concerned also. And, we are working daily to try to correct these types of situations in the Township. But you know, we try. There are a lot of things that we might not catch. I welcome individuals like you to come forward and tell us. That is how we will be able to slowly get our arms around it and try to correct it and continue to improve our Township. So, thank you.”

Supervisor Tom Logan – Supervisor Logan commented as follows: “I have to say but I have been on this Board of Supervisors for eleven (11) years and I have never experienced the level of focus that we have supporting our new Fire Chief, Tony Kovacic, as what I have seen the last couple of months. And I appreciate that and I look forward to more dialogue that we’ve had and will continue to have. Thank you.”

Supervisor John Silvis – Supervisor Silvis commented as follows: “I have no comment. Yes. I do. I have been thinking about this since that article was in the paper and I haven’t had a chance to talk to Tom about it but Derry Township Agricultural Fair had a test about the grain bins. I am thinking of two (2) places in Hempfield where we have multiple grain bins. I guess the only place in the County that has the equipment, I haven’t had a chance to talk to Tony either, is Forbes Road. So, I don’t know if Tom knows anything about this or not but that doesn’t look like a major investment for the prevention.” Mr. Logan said, “And there were two (2) deaths last week at Anderson’s grain facility in Toledo, Ohio. Whether big or small, it can happen, believe me.” Supervisor Silvis continued, “I think it would behoove us to look at purchasing that equipment. I don’t know if you saw what was in the paper or not.”

Supervisor Doug Weimer: – Supervisor Weimer commented as follows: “I just want to thank all of the residents that came tonight to speak to us. That’s very important that you stay connected with us. We’re very busy as Board members and there is so much that goes on between meetings. Please make sure that you do visit our Township website. There’s contact information there for us, as well as the staff, so when there are issues with property maintenance or these vehicles that might seem to be abandoned that are out there, you know, make sure you find that contact information and get it to the staff and to the Board here as quickly as possible so that we can try to address it so that you don’t have to wait for that public meeting, although we do certainly appreciate you coming and visiting with us here. I definitely do. In regards to the discussions that went on here tonight related to stormwater, as I think everybody is aware, it just seems to be a heightened concern year after year – these last few years definitely have been rather wet ones and we are going to have to evolve, just as the County is stepping up and creating an ordinance, we’re eventually.. I’m happy that the staff is going to look at what we have now and come up with some suggestions and things that might make improvements, as well as what I asked earlier, that you know looking at how that works with the code office and a so that we might be able to prevent things that are affecting property values and causing a lot of grief. I don’t think there is anybody in this room that wants to deal with water incursions onto their property, yet alone in their homes. The destructions that we have seen with pictures, with driveways completely flooded out, and people not able to access their properties, yet alone travel down the roadway because the roads are completely covered with water. We don’t obviously create the rain but we have to do what we can to help everybody to travel through our community safely and do what we can to make it the best place to live. So, I think that’s our goal as a Board and I’ll be looking forward to further discussions on that. I’m happy to hear that even with the hot weather out at the Park that we still had a nice crowd there. It seems to remain consistent and that I think ... I’ve been hearing from members of the community that made a visit for their first time last week, that they are so pleased with the small amphitheater and the wide variety of use that we’re giving it. So, I think that we’ve been lucky with weather for the most part out there and I think, you know, we are monitoring the things that people might want to make it a better visitation. I know I asked about whether we would need some beautiful benches or something like that. So, if people have suggestions that have been out there, I hope that they are also reaching out to our Rec Department and to Aaron. Maybe that is something that there is a way to ask for those suggestions out there that we have in just a suggestion box or something that is there. Are there ways to improve your experience at the amphitheater? So, you know, you’ll be coming to us about budgeting, but maybe there needs to be a different type of sidewalk approach or some benches that are available just so that we can make those appropriate improvements. So, I’m really excited to see that the park is in full use and things are going well. And so those are my comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

Supervisor Rob Ritson: – Supervisor Ritson commented as follows: “Just one broad based comment. When you are the second largest municipality in Southwestern PA, your problems aren’t small. And so, you know whether its stormwater or working through our fire service issues or our roads, you know, we have to address them. But, that leads me to saying that Wednesday, for those that aren’t here, Hunker Borough reached out to me asking for ways that they have a problem with their fire department. You heard Mr. Cisco mention tonight that he went down and took a look at it. You know, we don’t have to do that. But, I really appreciate that the Board afforded him the ability to go down and see if we could help a neighbor that may or may not be able to handle it themselves. You know transitioning from just being the largest municipality it comes with a set of some responsibility. I think we’re starting to see that, you know, our neighboring municipalities are starting to – their issues are starting to become our issues in some way and we have to address that. But, I challenge the staff to continue to work on a global scale to not push but be helpful. I think the County’s move earlier, and we talked about the stormwater management, it’s a good move by the County as part of their comprehensive plan update to try to create regional

planning districts so that neighboring communities can work together because there is just not enough money to go around for each individual municipality or borough to fix their problems. But, yet, we are finding out that somebody's problem in South Greensburg is a problem for us on Keystone Avenue. And, so, you know, where we can help, let's try to help. I'm not saying that we can every time. But I do appreciate that it seems like we are heading down that path again. You know, we should be the leaders in this County and we've got an incredible group of people sitting at the table in front of us and a Board that is now willing to look at the broad picture of things and I think that it's a big deal for 2020 and I'm looking forward to having that conversation on a broader scale. Thank you."

R. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Reese adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary