

West Sadsbury Township Board of Supervisors Meeting
March 14, 2023

Chairman, Darren DeVoe called the meeting to order.

In attendance were: Darren DeVoe, Chairman; Ed Haas, Vice Chairman; John Keeseey, Member; Helen Esbenshade, Solicitor; Jeff Bologa of Becker Engineering; OIC Sgt. Ed Moore and Patti Piersol, Sec/Treas.

Comments of the agenda item:

Mr. James Landis questioned the need for one or two new police vehicles. He asked about the mileage on the vehicles and then compared it to vehicles that he has driven. He said West Caln Township has three times the residents that West Sadsbury Township has, and their police budget is half of ours. Mr. Landis said that he was going to contact all the municipalities around us to find out what their tax rate is and what their police costs are. He said that he is not condemning or criticizing. But a small township with 2500 people can only pay so much and you raised our taxes last year. Mr. Landis said that he would ask that you do not buy any police cars for two years maybe five years and we don't need five police cars, two would be sufficient.

Chairman DeVoe asked if there any more comments on the agenda before we start, there were none.

Chairman DeVoe said that the February minutes were on the website and we can't approve the other ones until we get the budget information. The February 2023 minutes were approved with the spelling correction of Office Nicole Delikat last name.

Treasurer's report:

Income for March 2023	\$57,514.66
Expenses for March 2023	\$94,573.61
Net Loss for March 2023	\$37,058.95
Year to date Net loss 2023	\$143,451.42

Mrs. Piersol stated last month that the Liquid Fuels report was submitted. They sent it back because they want it submitted electronically. Mrs. Piersol has to use her own computer to submit this report electronically. Mrs. Piersol said that she has 90% of the report done. It should be able to be submitted tomorrow. She also has two other required reports including a census report, and they all need to be done by the end of the month.

When looking at the financials, Ed asked why Township Park ball maintenance has a negative figure. Patti said that there are at least two persons that have paid to reserve the ballfields. Amy puts in that information; Patti will ask her about this.

The Board also asked if the Roadmasters' health insurance was \$4,461.79. Patti said that a correction had to be done because his amounts were on the Police. The Board asked about different accounts and Patti asked them to circle the accounts in question so she can ask the Bookkeeper, Amy Beaudoin.

Nancy Stoltzfus, Township Auditor, questioned the payment of the bills, that the Supervisors are not reviewing the bills before they are paid. It is Okay if they're recurring, I can understand that but it sounds like maybe there's some new first-time ones that haven't been reviewed.

Mrs. Piersol said that the ACH payments are listed on the bill listing and she has all the information with the bills if the Board wants to see them.

Police report: Ed Moore, Sergeant and OIC gave the report on February's activities: 14 traffic citations, 5 criminal arrests. Income and fines for last month was \$1,302.84, year to date they have taken in \$2,941 75. Mr. Haas stated that in two months for police fines, you have now generated more money than we have in the last three previous years combined. The report is on file and approved by the Board.

Zoning Officer's report: Darren read the report. Bill Beers has issued a letter to the property owner of 629 Gap Newport Pike. Attended a Court Hearing on 4089 Leike road and he is still investigating complaint on Quarry Road. The Board discussed giving Bill a time frame to have this property cleaned up. Mr. Haas made a motion to instruct Bill Beers to initiate enforcement action, if he so deems necessary, seconded by John, motion carried. Report on file.

Fire Company report: Chief Brian Gathercole gave the February Fire and EMS report. Mr. King of 3100 N. Limestone is going to allow the Fire Company to do some live training for 3 weeks in the house that he is going to have demolished. There will be no live fire during the training. Copy of report is on file.

Roadmaster's report: Mr. DeVoe read Jason Chapman's report. The Roadmaster is actually tied up tonight due to all the wind. They have cut holes in Quarry Road and Moscow Road to prepare for blacktop patching when the plant opens again. They worked on a drainage project along with farmer Donald Kaufman on Lieke Road at the sharp turn to help with the drainage of water that accumulates around the corner, which in the summer makes it hard for the Road Crew to keep grass the down, and it's also a breeding ground for mosquitoes. They installed four-inch corrugated pipe along with stone to help channel the water down to an inlet box in the corner of the curve. The alternator on the GM dump truck went bad was removed and taken into the shop for repair, repaired and reinstalled. Met with Kyle Martin of Gerald Martin and Sons Excavating to get things started with the Limeville Road project. They came up with a plan, got processes started with getting the concrete precast pipe in production. If all goes well the project should be started by the end of April or early May. The Road Crew has been installing inlet markers on area storm drains and cleaning out the clogged drains and area culvert pipes where

they cross the roadway. They shredded a large accumulation of old documents that have been around for many years for the Police Department. Working on getting a section of Lenover Hill Road from Church Road to Cemetery Road repaved. There's a large pothole that will be addressed once the blacktop plant opens. Unlike the many roadways in the Township that require extensive work to get them repaved due to the poor base, Lenover Hill Road has a good base. It has many thin skim layers with the hill and the horse traffic, the layers are coming off. The proposals to pave just 3000 feet of road, one price was \$59,900.00 and the second was \$65,000.00. Mrs. Piersol also read the update that Jason has on Limeville Road: he met with Carl Martin who will be doing the pipe replacement to order the materials ordered once they become available. As stated, the job could be started by the end of April. Report on file.

Tax Collectors report: Mr. DeVoe read the report. For February \$522.53 was collected on real estate taxes and \$203.21 for the Fire Protection tax. Jim Fuga, Tax Collector, has not sent out the 2023 bills yet.

Engineers report: Jeff Bologna said that there are 14 motions for Waivers or deferrals for 6649 N. Moscow Road, Patiova project. They are looking to expand the building in the location of the current parking lot. The site has private sewer and private water, did receive Zoning Hearing Board approval on impervious coverage, and submitted a plan which the Township Engineer reviewed a couple of times, and a review letter was issued at the beginning of March. They have a plan and a good strategy to address the impervious surface issue. They are here tonight looking for conditional approval of the plan. It was discussed at the last PC meeting. The biggest highlighted items that were discussed by the PC were landscaping, and whether or not the Township was requesting additional right-of-way along their 75-foot flag lot frontage. There is also a waiver of the clear sight triangle requirement?

There was one, there was one additional waiver modification that was requested at the PC meeting for the clear sight triangle. Clear sight triangle is different than clear sight distance. That waiver modification is listed as waiver modification # 12 on your motion document. Essentially, because of their 75-foot frontage of their flag lot, they can't have a typical 75-foot triangle without going on either side of other adjacent parcels. They elected to ask for a waiver of application relief and say that since they're meeting the clear sight distance, that that requirement be waived from their driveway and their use. There is also a list of modifications, and a motion to conditionally approve the plan, and then a motion to authorize signing of the O&M agreement, financial security agreement and the plan when all conditions have been addressed.

Mr. Haas made a motion to approve all 14 motions listed for 6649 Moscow Road, also known as Patiova, preliminary/final land development plan, as outlined by Becker Engineering in their motion document for March 14 2023, seconded by Mr. Keesey, motion carried.

3200 North Limestone Road, Amish School is a motion to conditionally approve a waiver of Subdivision and Land Development. The school was depicted on the sketch plan prepared by Harbor Engineering dated 2/24/2023. There are 2 questions: a valid lease and the right-of-way. Mr. Haas made a motion to approve the 7 proposed motions, seconded by Mr. Keeseey, motion carried.

King Swings: Elmer King of King swings has requested their financial security be reduced by \$802,557.51 leaving a remaining financial security of \$279,559.60. Mr. Haas made a motion to approve the release of \$802,557.51, seconded by Mr. Keeseey, motion carried.

Next, stormwater management plans- 3100 N. Limestone Road owned by Leon King. Chairman DeVoe made a motion to approve 4 motions, (motion 2 requires the financial security of \$48,072.64, seconded by Mr. Keeseey, motion carried.

4451 Church Road (Reuben Kauffman), to release the \$2,000.00 remaining being held as financial security. Motion by Mr. Haas to release the \$2,000.00, seconded by Mr. Keeseey, motion carried.

Old Business:

Appointment of a Police chief and full-time officer. The Board discussed that they had requested resumes and they felt they should interview the people that have applied. The Board agreed that they will interview the applicants and will name the Chief and a full-time Officer at the April meeting.

Ed Moore, Police Sergeant and OIC requested the Board purchase warranties from Motorola for the 7 body cameras that the Department has, in the amount of \$4,515.00. Motion by Mr. Haas, seconded by Mr. Keeseey, motion carried.

Ed Moore, Police Sergeant and OIC had sent the Board information on purchasing a new Police Vehicle or leasing and not having to pay for maintenance costs. In 4 years, the Police Department can purchase the vehicle for \$1.00. It was discussed at length. Mr. Haas made a motion to purchase a vehicle using the COVID monies, seconded by Mr. Keeseey, motion carried.

Mrs. Piersol has requested new computer equipment for the office. The computers that they are currently using can't access needed websites and are very slow. She told the Board that they are paying Amy Beaudoin to sit and wait for the computer to do the work that she could be doing in less time. Mrs. Piersol gave the Board the information received from our IT person. Mr. Haas made a motion to approve the purchase and for them to be paid for using the COVID monies, seconded by Mr. Keeseey, motion carried.

The Open Space loan payoff was discussed. Mrs. Piersol said that Calhoun Baker require a signed notice of prepayment. They will then debit the pre-payment in June when they transfer the interest payment.

Tax Collector's lower pay rate will need to be researched in the January minutes.

Deputy Tax Collector: The Board asked to give the Solicitor until next month for her to review the paperwork.

Household Hazardous Waste collection: The Board wants to know if the County can tell them the number of Township residents that have used the service. They tabled the request.

Streambank restoration: Project proposal to have Land Studies do the work for the grant available. Chairman DeVoe made a motion to approve Land Studies, seconded by Mr. Haas, motion carried.

New Business:

Emergency Operations Plan: Chairman DeVoe made a motion to approve the plan and sign it, seconded by Mr. Keesey, motion carried.

Statement of Financial Interest form are needed from all Township public officials.

Mowing: Mr. Snyder said that the price he will charge is the same as last year. Motion by Mr. Haas, seconded by Mr. Keesey to hire Mr. Snyder to mow the Township's properties, motion carried.

Baseball fields: The Christian League and Jenny of Lady Steel want to know what the costs for field rental will be this year. The Board agreed that the price will stay the same as last year. Reminder, they can not start until after April 1st.

The Township received the 2023 Turnback monies from PennDOT.

PSATS proposed a bylaw change to increase annual dues. If approved, it will cost the Township \$26.00 more per year than in 2022.

Penn Dot invites the public to submit comments on their planning process, submitted at RA-PennDOTSTC@pa.gov or take a survey at [PennDOTSTC@pa.gov](https://www.pennDOTSTC.com)

Information from Chester County Digital Alliance, Kinetic by Windstream, Chester County Health Department on sewage systems.

Penn Dot has synchronized the traffic lights along Route 30.

Information from Young Lungs at play (YLAP).

Public on non-agenda items:

Joe Prekup of Cemetery Road asked why so much diesel fuel was used last year. Also, why is the Township's equipment sitting outside and the Roadmasters' stuff in the garage and why is the tractor on the scrap pile. The Board will ask Jason these questions. Mrs. Piersol said that the tractor is junk.

Mrs. Hosier asked if the budget will be available soon, the Board said that it will be on the web-site on Monday.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Piersol,
Sec/Treas.