

MINUTES
September 20, 2021
Hybrid Workshop of the Board of Supervisors (Zoom ID was advertised in advance in the
Pike County Dispatch)
560 Route 6 & 209
6:30 p.m.

The estimate of Sawkill Power Equipment's emergency bank repair following the storm, Ida, that Mr. Richard Peter had sent was about half a million dollars. Mike Sullivan might be contacted, as he might know some programs.

Tetra-tech had confirmed that Milford Township is NFIP eligible. The flood plain regulations of this Township are from 1985, and the flood plain manager cannot be identified. An objective to do stormwater improvements on steep slope roadways in the Township, such as Vandermark Drive, Schocopee, and Schoolhouse was added, as there is a continuous cycle of stormwater damages with these roads because of the slopes.

For private roads, the road owner is responsible for the EMS access, but the Township could notify the owner. The Fire Department and the EMS could be contacted to make them check on whether private roads are accessible, and the owners could be notified if their roads are not. According to Ms. Terri Christensen, the Secretary for the Milford Fire Department, fire trucks probably cannot enter Kern Lane, which is a private road, and a Dingman Township bridge has been a challenge for the Fire and EMS. There are two houses on Kern Lane and the rest are cabins, and those houses and cabins can possibly be accessed from the Malibu Trail. The hose would have to be taken across the brook unless the brook is flooded. The Fire Department will thoroughly review the situation and respond back to the Township with what needs to be done for them to access the road.

ReImagine Appalachia Coalition - Kim Gobreski: Ms. Gobreski said that they were going to all townships, boroughs, and Counties in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky to ask for support for the infrastructure money for the entire Appalachian region. They want to activate the CCC for upgrading the electric system, bringing the broadband and good union jobs to these areas. The plan, which focuses on bringing broadband to the area, more sustainable transportation system, new jobs, and more energy efficient manufacturing, was endorsed by over 100 organizations and 100 local elected officials, and they are working on getting Congress to give them a part of this infrastructure money. They were located in Philadelphia of Pennsylvania, and they were not affiliated with any for-profit companies. More information was requested by the Supervisors.

MINUTES
September 20, 2021
Hybrid Meeting of the Board of Supervisors (Zoom meeting ID was advertised in advance
in the Pike County Dispatch)
560 Route 6 & 209
7:00 p.m.

A scheduled meeting of Milford Township Supervisors was called to order at 7 P.M. by Chairperson Penney Luhrs. Also present were Vice Chairperson Rachel Hendricks , Supervisor

Gary M. Williams (in person), Solicitor Anthony Magnotta (in person), and Secretary/Treasurer Shahana Shamim (in person).

Rachel Hendricks made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, Gary M. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Shahana reported that since the last meeting she had received \$29.71 from Magisterial District Court, \$10,228.57 from R.E. Transfer Tax, \$511.26 from Highmark, and \$269.08 from Code inspections. She also reported the financial institution account balances as \$311,403.18, \$7,188.07, \$17,531.26, \$8,190.84 and \$87,269.95 in Wayne Bank (Investment), Wayne Bank (Payroll), NBT Bank, PLGIT (General), and PLGIT (Liquid Fuels) accounts respectively.

Roadmaster:

Vandermark Drive: Gary M. Williams, the Roadmaster, reported that the water had been running from Vandermark Drive to Kern Road, which is right below Vandermark Drive, and it is not accessible by any machines that the Township owns. The Township roadcrews are unable to fix this. One of the property owners was affected a lot and he had shoveled 30'-35' of the road. The water is running towards the road where the electric, the cable, and the gas wires are located, those are all on the ground, and it needs to be looked at by the engineer. He had told the homeowner who was most affected, that it was being worked on. The Engineer had suggested placing a pipe for directing the water towards the brook, it would have to cross Kern Road, and it would be quite expensive. There is a channel, through which the water flows down, and a few years ago the Township had cleaned and rocked to slow down that water flow. The Engineer would have to design, make an estimate, and then it would have to be put out for bid.

Penney said that a loan could be found from DCED for the bridge repair. The Solicitor said that it was a private road, and hence the Township doesn't have liability for the bridge repair. He continued that if the fire truck can't get into a private development, it's their responsibility to fix that, not the Township's. That bridge would be owned by one of those property owners, . Rachel asked Ms. Christensen to inform the Township if Kern Lane is inaccessible for the fire truck and the EMS. She added that the Township would notify the property owners of Kern Lane in that case. Gary added that the owner of the last house of Kern Lane had built that bridge, which is quite strong, but may not be strong enough to bear the 22,000 pounds backhoe of Milford Township. Rachel made a motion to authorize Kiley Associates to provide a design and an estimate for necessary repairs for Vandermark Drive both on an emergency basis and a long-term correction basis, Mr. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously. Penney added that it would have to be put out for bidding then. Ms. Hendricks suggested considering if the ARP funding could be used for the design or for just for the improvements.

Public Participation #1:

None

Correspondence:

Shahana presented various correspondences received, including from PSATS, Pike County Historical Society and Museum, Pike County Office of Community Planning, Solicitor, Bob DiLorenzo, EMS, Rachel Hendricks, liability Insurance, Pike County Conservation District,

Joseph Dooley, Hickory Hills Estates, Vito DiBiasi, Shohola Township, Pike County Road Task Force, and Pike County Second Amendment Sanctuary. Rachel said that Pike County Second Amendment Sanctuary group is asking Municipalities not to put any resources for enforcing any new gun rules. The Solicitor explained that there is a group of individuals, who call themselves Second Amendment Sanctuary Group, and they are asking Municipalities to adopt resolutions asking not to enforce laws or use any of the Municipality's resources to enforce any law, which would restrict the right to bear arms under the Pennsylvania and US constitution. The problem with the resolution that they provided to us is that sometimes arms are required to be taken away from certain individuals, and that is not unconstitutional. Dingman Township was concerned about the contents of this resolution, and they had written their own resolution.

Old Business:

- a. **Ambulance Report – Terri Christensen - Presentation of Plaque - Milford Fire Department & EMS Station 33:** Ms. Christensen said that she was an EMT and the Secretary of the Fire Department and EMS. She continued that the time span of her report was from July 2nd to September 19th; there were total 263 calls, 227 of those calls were during paid time, and 36 of those were during volunteer time. There were 86 transports and 60 RMAs, which meant that the EMT goes to the house, and then the patient refuses to receive any medical assistance. There were 60 QRSs, which meant that they were unavailable to take the call because of the volunteer shortage or they were already busy on another call. There were seven DOA/NTs, which meant that someone passes away, and these calls often require performing 20 minutes of quality CPR on scene. If the patient dies then the time has to be noted, then they wait for the coroner to arrive, and otherwise the patient has to be transported according to the instruction. There were three DOA/NTs in Dingman Township, two in Milford Borough, one in Shohola, and one in Sussex. There were 18 cancellations, which meant that the EMS was on the way, and then the call was cancelled. The ambulance had been in service from 7:00 A.M. till 7:00 P.M. seven days a week with a paid EMT and driver, but a couple of weeks ago, the paid personnel stopped working during the weekends because the level of funding was structured to change to 5 days a week in the fall through the end of the year. Westfall was a big hit that month, as their ambulance had been out of service. Mr. Williams said that Dingman is a large township. Rachel added that the fair share of Dingman Township, Milford Township, and Milford Borough needed to be figured out. Ms. Christensen added that during the downtime, the EMTs spend time doing the chore list and disinfecting, and Kyle makes EMTs watch videos to keep them up to date. She added that the department had originally started with volunteers, those who were comparatively older quit after the COVID-19 hit, as they didn't want to be exposed to this virus, and then the paid EMS started. Rachel said that she would send this information hand out to other municipalities so that they know what's happening. The Solicitor added that 16% of the calls went to Westfall, and there were a lot of calls from Shohola, which doesn't contribute. Rachel added that Milford Township had made a lot of calls to Dingman and Tafton in the past. Penney thanked r the Milford Fire Department & EMS Station 33 for their service to the community, and she presented a Plaque of appreciation to for the Department to Ms. Christensen.

- b. SRCP Grant Funds – next step of the process:** Supervisors discussed that Mr. Mrozinski had asked to send the scope of work and budget for updating the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is supposed to be updated every ten years, this Township's was updated 13 years ago, and a budget needed to be set. The Borough had done theirs recently, and the scope of work their update could be acquired. Borough's Comprehensive Plan is complex, and it cost them \$24,000. Rachel said that the Comprehensive Plan needed to be easily understandable and concise. She made a motion to respond back to Mr. Mrozinski informing him that they wanted to have an easily understandable and concise Comprehensive Plan, and the budget for this update would be \$25,000. She added that the Borough's scope of work for their Comprehensive Plan update should be requested from Mr. Mrozinski. Mr. Williams seconded to her motions, and those passed unanimously.
- c. Hickory Hills Estates – change of request – parking lot for September 30, 2021 meeting:** Ms. Hendricks made a motion to approve this change of request, Mr. Williams seconded, and it passed unanimously.

New Business:

- a. 2022 budget preparation:** Ms. Hendricks said that the 2022 budget needed to be discussed at the next two workshops, and she asked the Secretary to start working on it. Ms. Phyllis Simpson asked if the draft budget would be available to the public. Rachel replied that it would be available, but it would be very preliminary, not yet a draft that was being considered for adoption.
- b. ReImagine Appalachia Coalition - Kim Gobreski:** Rachel said that a presentation was made, and Supervisors had asked for additional information. She made a motion to table this item to the next meeting's agenda, Penney seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- c. COVID-19 Protocols:** Rachel said that there might be a lot of public participation in the near future, she was concerned about the safety of the people, and protocols for the Township building would be at the Board of Supervisors discretion. She added that the Township personnel could get sick, and hence, wearing masks whenever there is more than one person in the room could be mandated. She further added that the State Government had mandated wearing masks for the school kids. Ms. Simpson said that there would be budget meetings in the near future, the room might get filled, and she suggested coming into the building with masks. The Solicitor suggested placing more separations between seats. Rachel added that Mr. DiBiasi had said that there would be a lot of attendees when there is a public hearing for adopting the water protection ordinance that the Planning Commission is working on. Penney suggested mandating mask wearing when there is a certain number of attendees. Rachel added that the spread-out sitting won't accommodate a lot of people. The Solicitor added that this room won't be able to fit even 50 people with the regular seating. Mr. Williams added that Milford Borough often does their meetings in churches. The majority of the Board was not in favor of requiring masks at this time.
- d. Bond for Interim Tax Collector:** The Solicitor said that the bond is in Viola's name, and it needed to be changed to Lorelei's name. Supervisors asked the Secretary to contact the County Clerk to make this update.

Public Participation #2:

Phyllis Simpson inquired if the meeting schedule was advertised in the newspaper. The Supervisors replied that it was, at the beginning of the year, and it is also posted on the website.

There was no other business or executive session needed. Ms. Hendricks made a motion to pay the bills and adjourn, Ms. Luhrs seconded, and it passed unanimously. Adjournment was at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shahana Shamim

Secretary/Treasurer