

**CENTRE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Centre Township Board of Supervisors was held on September 26, 2023 at the Centre Township Municipal Building, 449 Bucks Hill Road, Mohrsville, PA. Chairman Jason Troutman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a Moment of Silence. The following were present: Chairman Jason Troutman, Vice Chairman James Fitterling and Supervisor Charles Zimmerman. Solicitor Matt Fessler, Engineer Ryan Rhode, Zoning/Codes Enforcement Jeff Fiant and Secretary Jennifer Wassell-Bonser.

**HEARING OF VISITORS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Director of the Schuylkill Valley Community Library, Marissa Loeb, and Board of Trustee Member, Melissa, provided high-lights of various programs offered at the Library in addition to information about the goals of the Board of Trustees in conjunction with community outreach and fundraising efforts through-out the year.

The Board of Supervisors thanked the representatives of the Schuylkill Valley Community Library for attending the meeting and the information provided.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None at this time.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion was made by James Fitterling to approve the August 22, 2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Charles Zimmerman. Upon roll call, Troutman, Zimmerman, and Fitterling voted yes.**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**A motion was made by Charles Zimmerman and seconded by James Fitterling to approve the payment of bills. Upon roll call, Troutman, Zimmerman and Fitterling voted yes.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS/SOLICITORS REPORT – Liz Magovern**

None at this time.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Vice Chairman James Fitterling reviewed the Road Department Report which included equipment prep work for the upcoming winter, the second mowing cycle, various roadwork, in addition to general road work and storm clean-up of downed trees throughout the Township.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT – RYAN RHODE**

2023 Street Work – Ryan Rhode confirmed that the 2023 Street Work has been completed and confirmed that the Township Roadmaster is satisfied with the previously discussed driveway adjustments. The Township Engineer reviewed the final Payment Application and Change Order reflecting a contract reduction of \$10,302.82 and full payment in the amount of \$320,477.23 for the 2023 Roadwork Project completed by New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co., Inc.

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MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

**Jason Troutman made a motion to accept and approve Change Order No. 1 for the contract reduction in the amount of \$10,302.82 for the driveway transition repairs completed by New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co., Inc. for the 2023 Street Work Contract. James Fitterling seconded the motion. All in favor.**

**Jason Troutman made a motion approving Payment Application No. 1 for the 2023 Street Work Contract to New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co., Inc. for the final full payment in the amount of \$320,477.23 in accordance with the terms of the Contract. Charles Zimmerman seconded the motion. All in favor.**

**ZONING OFFICER REPORT**

Township Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer, Jeff Fiant noted that five building permits were issued in August with a total construction value of \$439,000.00. There were also sixteen building inspections performed and two property maintenance issues, and four zoning/ordinance enforcement issues.

Jeff noted that the hearing relative to the dog death issue was held and vet bills and a fine were awarded which will be submitted to the Township for award to the owner of the dog.

Jeff also provided an update relative to various issues in the Township including confirmation that the Plum Road property previously discussed is in the process of becoming compliant. Jeff also reviewed details regarding a complaint received about a property on Main Street with rogue rabbits, unlicensed vehicles, and rubbish on the property, noting that the property owner is working on the issues and has contained the rabbits. Jeff reviewed an issue related to organic wastewater that was also addressed as follow-up to a complaint received about Appeeling Fruit. Jeff also noted that Kraft will be sending an informational letter to a property owner on Shartlesville Road to address an issue related to a fire that was left smoldering through-out the night recently.

**SEO REPORT**

None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Troutman noted that a vacancy remains for anyone who may be interested in serving on the Authority Board.

**Jason Troutman made a motion to approve the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Township Pension Plan in the amount of \$8,169.00. Seconded by James Fitterling. Upon roll call, Troutman, Fitterling, and Zimmerman voted yes.**

**Charles Zimmerman made a motion to approve the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Township Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$0. Seconded by James Fitterling. Upon roll call, Troutman, Fitterling, and Zimmerman voted yes.**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

None at this time.

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MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

**HEARING OF VISITORS – GENERAL**

Jamie Swoyer addressed the Board of Supervisors relative to grant opportunities for upgrading Township Public Works equipment. The Board of Supervisors stated that they are in the process of conducting research for said grants and will continue to do so.

Chrissy Stamm informed the Board that the neighboring property located 402 Plum Road has begun renting out the garage and currently running a high-volume business. Mrs. Stamm noted that there have been several vehicles blocking the roadway and their driveway and yard. Mrs. Stamm provided an example of a situation where she could not leave her driveway due to the business's vehicles blocking her driveway. It was noted that Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer, Jeff Fiant, will look into the situation.

Linda Gehman, Bellemans Church Road, addressed the Board relative to concerns that their well water may have been contaminated as a result of a new well being drilled at a neighboring property that is in the process of renovations. Mrs. Gehman noted that a water test recently conducted for their property showed extremely high levels of e-coli. Mrs. Gehman noted that it was observed that the water and sewer lines are shared in addition to being tied into an old abandoned cesspit. It was noted that the issue was addressed at the recent Municipal Authority Meeting and it was suggested that the Township SEO conduct a site inspection since the Authority does not regulate private wells that it may potentially be a civil case with the neighboring property causing the issue.

Jerry Hussman addressed the Board regarding the status of clean-up efforts for the property located on Trolley Road. The Township Solicitor stated there is no comment at this time due to on-going litigation and that the Township is working with the property owner at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business to come before the Board, James Fitterling made a motion, seconded by Charles Zimmerman, to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. Upon roll call, Troutman, Fitterling, and Zimmerman voted yes.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer A. Wassell-Bonser  
Township Secretary