

Sunbury, PA 17801
November 10, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Township Supervisors was held on November 10, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. at the Shamokin Township Municipal Building.

In attendance were Supervisors Gregory Rachau, John Klinger, and Paul Rapp, Solicitor Jim Bathgate, Roadmaster Jon Clemens, Sewage Officer Ken Young, Secretary/Treasurer Stephanie McKinney and 24 visitors.

Supervisor Rachau moved, seconded by Supervisor Rapp to approve the October minutes as presented. Motion was passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report was read and approved on a motion by Supervisor Klinger seconded by Supervisor Rachau. Motion was passed unanimously.

Floodplain Ordinance

Solicitor Bathgate reported that the state's floodplain coordinator is requesting some information about the floodplain issue and he is working on a response to the floodplain coordinator.

Streambed Stabilization

Bids were opened for the streambed stabilization that is being conducted through DEP. The following bids were received:

Mitchell Knorr Contracting	\$44,000.00
Farhat Excavating	\$73,813.00
Glenn O Hawbaker	\$42,935.00
Columbia Excavating	\$43,350.00
Flyway Excavating	\$82,750.00
Neal Lynn Contracting	\$67,497.00

Supervisor Klinger moved, seconded by Supervisor Rapp to approve the apparent low bidder of Glenn O Hawbaker at \$42,935.00 pending review of submitted documents, confirmed signatures, and required insurances and bonding by William Kcenich of PA DEP. Motion was passed unanimously.

Poppy Road Bridge

Concerning the Poppy Road bridge, Roadmaster Jon Clemens reported inspections will now be yearly with the first one in March with the regular bridge inspection rotation.

Rails to Trails

Concerning the Rails to Trails Program, Mr. Clemens reported there he attended the public meeting held by Northumberland County in Sunbury and Supervisor Klinger attended the meeting held in Shamokin. There were a number of residents opposed to the program in attendance at both meetings. The County claimed to have maintenance agreements with all the municipalities, at that point Mr. Clemens pointed out that there was no agreement with Shamokin Township and

in fact he has been asking who is going to maintain the paths. Mr. Clemens stated at the meeting that Shamokin Township would not be paying any tax money to this program and Shamokin's representative stated they wouldn't financially support it either. The mayor of Sunbury stated he had no idea about the program.

Supervisor Klinger stated that after the meeting it was discussed that it was likely wasn't going to come into Shamokin Township. The new plan discussed was the trail would go through Shamokin to Mount Carmel. Supervisor Klinger recommended that every property owner check their deeds to see if they own the railroad bed.

Mr. John Kurtz read an impact statement and the group presented a petition signed by 100 registered voters in Northumberland County that were against the Rails to Trails Program. The petition was also presented to the county and local state representatives.

The board was asked their position on the program and all three supervisors responded that they were against it. The group requested a letter be sent to the county noting that the township and the board are not in favor of the program. Supervisor Rapp moved, seconded by Supervisor Rachau to task the Solicitor with sending a letter to the County Commissioners, the local state reps, and the AOAA that Shamokin Township was not in support of the Rails to Trails program in Shamokin Township. Motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Mike Duzick thanked the supervisors for sending Jon Clemens to the first meeting. He represented the township well.

Mr. Clemens noted that at the meeting he attended a representative from Union County was there and noted that the Lewisburg Rails to Trails Program has been bankrupted three times and the municipalities have taken over.

County Wide Action Plan

Mr. Clemens reported that there are no updates to the County Wide Action Plan.

Building Insulation

Mr. Clemens reported that building spray foam has been completed.

Insurance.

Mr. Clemens presented some plans for Eye and Dental Insurance from Highmark for \$74 for dental and \$14 for the vision plan. Capital Blue Cross rates were \$32-45/person a month for the dental. The vision was \$9.78 per person. Supervisor Rachau moved, seconded by Supervisor Klinger to provide the full-time employees with Eye and Dental insurance from Highmark Insurance for a monthly cost of \$74/family for dental and \$14.14/family for vision. Motion was passed unanimously.

Secretary McKinney reported that insurance numbers are in and the Workers Comp was down \$3,296 from last year, the EMC pricing is \$24,600 down \$861 from last year and the fire company policy is up in March and a large increase is not expected.

Supervisor Klinger moved, seconded by Supervisor Rapp to accept the insurance policy for 2022 from EMC Insurance and SWIF for the Fire Company Workers Comp. Motion was passed unanimously.

Pension

Mr. Clemens reported that the full-time employees met with Univest to discuss the pension and it was brought up that there is not a death benefit in the plan. A model ordinance was presented to address that. The board requested that the solicitor draft an ordinance for the next meeting to add a death benefit to the full-time employee's pension.

Nuisance Complaints

Concerning the nuisance complaints, Solicitor Bathgate reported that there is a hearing for the issue on Holly Road. The property on S.R. 61 has been cleaned up and the file is closed.

American Rescue Plan Funding

Concerning the American Rescue Plan Funding, Secretary McKinney reported that it is recommended that a separate account be opened for the funds. Supervisor Rachau moved, seconded by Supervisor Klinger to open a checking account for the ARPA funds. Motion was passed unanimously.

The county sent a letter to gather information on any critical infrastructure projects in the township and a survey was sent to gather ideas. There were no township ideas at this time.

2022 Budget

Secretary McKinney stated that the 2022 budget was ready to be advertised for adoption next month. Supervisor Rachau moved, seconded by Supervisor Klinger to advertise for review the 2022 budget. Motion was passed unanimously

2021 Audit

Secretary McKinney reported that she is getting quotes from some local CPA's to complete the next audit. She is waiting for one more quote and hopes to present them in December.

Letter From Kulpmont Borough

A letter was received from Kulpmont concerning a survey about the YMCA but it was discovered that the survey expired on October 31st.

Supervisor Rachau moved, seconded by Supervisor Rapp to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. and to pay the invoices. Motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie A. McKinney
Secretary/Treasurer