

Ordinance No. 1987-1

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS, CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, TO JOIN THE MOSHANNON VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND FORMALLY ADOPTING THE ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT CREATING THE MOSHANNON VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Morris deem it to be in the best interest of the township to belong to a voluntary organization of local governments to foster a cooperative effort to resolve problems, determine policies and formulate plans that are common and regional; and

WHEREAS, the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments is such an organization of local governments of this area;

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of the township of Morris, the Morris Township shall become a member of the Moshannon Valley Council of governments and shall hereby adopt the Articles of Agreement creating the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments, which is set forth as follows:

SECTION I. PREAMBLE

We, the representative of the local governments of the Moshannon Valley Area, hereby join together in a voluntary organization to be known as the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments.

The purpose of this council of governments shall be to meet at regular intervals to discuss and study items of mutual interest and concern, and to develop policy and action recommendations for ratification, and intergovernmental cooperation agreements for ratification and implementation by the separate member governmental groups.

We members realize that our individual and common destinies rest with the interdependent actions of the communities which comprise our region. Therefore, this voluntary association which we have formed is a vehicle for closer cooperation between these communities. As a voluntary organization of municipalities, the members seek by mutual agreement, to solve problems for the mutual benefit.

Our goal is to retain and strengthen our locale which combining our total resources for regional challenges which are beyond our individual capabilities.

This agreement is for the purpose of forming a Council of Governments only. It will be necessary for participating municipalities to enter into separate joint agreements for the adoption of any service program.

SECTION II. PURPOSE

The Moshannon Valley Council of Governments shall be voluntary organization of local governments to foster a cooperative effort of resolve problems, determine policies and formulate plans that are common and regional. The purpose of this organization are:

- a. To serve as a mutual forum to identify, discuss study and bring into focus mutual problems and needs.
- b. To serve as a vehicle for the collection and exchange of information of mutual interest and concern.
- c. To provide a continuing organizational machinery to insure effective communication and coordination among municipalities and Federal, State and County agencies.
- d. To foster, develop and review policies, plans and principles for the growth, development, conservation and rehabilitation of Moshannon Valley.
- e. To facilitate agreements and cooperative action proposals among municipalities for specific projects and other interrelated developmental needs; and for the adoption of common policies, plans and action projects.
- f. To furnish general and technical aid to member municipalities as they direct or request to promote and accomplish approve agreements, policies and plans.
- g. To review and coordinate Federal, State and Local programs of importance to the membership of the Council of Governments

SECTION III. MEMBERSHIP

- A. Eligibility: Membership shall be open to all municipalities who wish to participate. Such municipalities are those that have executed this agreement as set forth in Article XIII hereafter.
- B. Admission: To become member municipalities shall formally enter into Articles of Agreement creating the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments pursuant to

action of said municipalities by ordinance of the governing body and shall comply with requirements concerning financial contributions. New members shall adopt such ordinance and financial contributions. New members shall adopt such ordinance and submit the same to the Council of Governments for recognition and admission to membership.

- C. Representation: Each member municipality shall be officially represented by one (1) duly elected official and two (2) citizen members.
- D. Withdrawal: A member municipality may withdraw from such membership when its local governments legislative body signifies its intention to withdraw by ordinance. Said ordinance shall be forwarded in writing to the Council. A sixty (60) day notice of such action shall be required. (Before such a withdrawal shall become effective, a sixty-day period must lapse before the ordinance shall take effect.) Withdrawal by the municipality from the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments shall in no way serve to void or lessen any legal or financial obligation incurred by the municipality while a member of the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments.
- E. Participation: All participation is to be voluntary. Any member municipality is eligible to participate in any special feasibility study or action report or project, provided such municipality approves its participation by appropriate action of its governing body. Copy thereof is to be filled with the General Council. Any member municipality is eligible to participate in any regional service program, provided that the governing body of that municipality approves its participation.
- F. Dues: The annual dues shall not be less than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars per member municipality. Dues to be used to defray annual operating costs.
 - i. Special Projects Budget: Service fees, capital costs or other charges incurred in the undertaking of a special study, project or program, shall be divided among participating members in a manner recommended and passed by the General Council.

SECTION IV. POLICY BODY

The Moshannon Valley Council of Governments shall have one policy body - A GENERAL COUNCIL

A. GENERAL COUNCIL

1. The General Council shall be the policy body of the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments
2. Voting: Each member municipality will have one vote on the General Council, to be cast by duly elected official.
3. Quorum: A quorum of the General Council shall consist of a simple majority of the total voting membership.
4. Meetings:
 - A. General: General meetings are to be held monthly on a date specified by the General Council.
 - B. Special: The General Council is required to meet upon the call of its President or by petition of any two (2) voting municipalities of the General Council.
5. Responsibilities: The responsibilities of the General Council Are:
 - A. To adopt the Council of Governments budget and membership dues schedule.
 - B. To adopt and amend by-laws.
 - C. To approve regional service programs.
 - D. To approve special feasibility studies.
 - E. To initiate action projects.
 - F. To initiate, advise and aid in the establishment of cooperative arrangements, including inter-local agreements among municipalities in the Region.
 - G. To propose, initiate or approve any study, policy discussion, plan or other council policy matters.
 - H. To resolve membership questions.
 - I. To make recommendations to any local governments or to other appropriate agencies or entities.
 - J. To propose amendments to intergovernmental agreements for ratification of members.
 - K. To elect annually a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary/Treasurer.
 - L. To seek and accept contributions and grants-in-aid.

SECTION VI. FINANCES

Funds, including membership dues, which accrue to the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments for use in furthering its aims and purposes shall be controlled, disbursed and accounted for in a manner prescribed and approved by the Council and general applicable laws.

SECTION VII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these by-laws may be recommended from time to time by a majority vote of the Council. However, no amendments to this agreement shall be effective until it has been approved by a majority of the member municipalities by resolution of its governing body.

SECTION VIII. OFFICERS

The Officers shall be President, Vice-President, and a Secretary/Treasurer. The officers shall be elected by the general Council for a one-year term at the annual election meeting. Officers who can no longer perform the duties of their office can be replaced by the General Council.

SECTION IX. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- A. The President shall preside at all meetings, appoint committees and be responsible for the general operation of the organization with such other duties that are normally associated with the position of Chairman of a governing body.
- B. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his or her absence or disability. With additional duties as may be necessary and assigned from time to time.
- C. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep the minutes of all meetings and submit them for approval. He or she shall prepare the agenda of all regular and special meetings under the direction of the President, provide notices of all meetings to council members, arrange proper and legal notice of all meetings and hearing, and to attend to the correspondence of the Council. At the conclusion of his or her term of office, the Secretary/Treasurer shall turn over to his or her successor all books, records and papers and all other data belonging to the Council.

SECTION X. COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint committees as the General Council determines to be necessary.

SECTION XI. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- A. The annual organization meeting shall be held by the Council on a regular meeting date in a month decided by the Council.
- B. Nomination: The President shall appoint a nominating committee at a meeting previous to the meeting selected for the reorganization to present a slate of officers at the election meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the annual organization thereafter by a roll call vote.
- C. A candidate receiving a majority vote of those present, providing there is a quorum present, shall be declared elected and shall serve on (1) year or until his successor shall take office.
- D. Vacancies in office shall be filled as soon as possible by regular election procedures. Also the General Council will have the authority to declare a vacancy if a voting member of the C.O.G. neglects or refuses to attend three (3) consecutive regular meetings unless, of course, detained by sickness or other necessary and justified absence.

SECTION XII. ORDER AND BUSINESS

- A. The order of business at regular meeting shall be:
 - I. Roll Call- to ascertain the members of quorum.
 - II. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and action thereof.
 - III. Communication and bills and actions thereon.
 - IV. Reports on Officers and Committees.
 - V. Old Business
 - VI. New Business
 - VII. Adjournment
- B. A motion from the floor must be made and passed in order to dispense with any item on the agenda.

SECTION XIII. RULES OF ORDER

Any matter pertaining to the operating of meetings and the procedure thereof shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

ENACTED and ORDAINED this 10th day of June, 1987.

MORRIS TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ALBERT T. YONTOSH, chairman
GEORGE ARSENICH, v-chairman
WILLARD L. VERBECK, supervisor

ATTEST:

SHARLENE M. YONTOSH
Secretary

I hereby certify this is a true and correct copy of Morris Township
Ordinance #1987-1.

Secretary/Treasurer