

MORRIS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING

February 1, 2023 4:30 PM

The regular meeting of the Morris Township Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Josiah Jones with a salute to the flag.

A roll call of officers showed Josiah Jones, Emerson Reams, James Williams, Patrick White, Rod Beard, Fred Little and Patti Moore

**Guests:** Ed Andrasko Jr., Willard Verbeck, Perry Reiter, Tommy Crain, William Clark, Kyle Eyerly

**Minutes:** The Chairman entertained a motion, James Williams motioned, and Emerson Reams seconded to accept the minutes from the January 3, 2023, Re-Organization and Board of Supervisors Meeting. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

**Financial Reports:** The Chairman entertained a motion, Emerson Reams motioned, and James Williams seconded to approve the financial report. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

**Bills:** The Chairman entertained a motion, Emerson Reams motioned, and James Williams seconded to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

**Planning Commission:** None

**Solicitor Report:** Solicitor Beard provided the solicitors report. He stated the Rails to Trails will need further research to move forward with the project. He provided information for Volunteer Fire Companies regarding providing tax relief for active volunteer firefighters. James Williams requested on behalf of Chad Baughman for the solicitor to investigate a Knox Box Ordinance for Knox Rapid Access System which provides non-destructive emergency access to commercial properties.

**Public Comments:**

David Karcewski stated he would like the township to reconsider the rails to trails proposed project. He stated multiple concerns regarding this project, safety, financial issues, destruction of property. Solicitor Beard stated he will be looking into all these issues prior to proceeding with this project. Josiah Jones stated this project is very preliminary and investigation will continue. Josiah stated this will be a multi-use trail, pedestrian, horse riding, etc. open to all residents.

**Fire Protection Update:** William Verbeck stated the 2023 Annual Gun Bash tickets are in and being distributed for sale.

**Road Masters report:** Fred Little provided the Road Masters Report.

Josiah Jones stated we have received 2 grants from the Clearfield County Conservation District for Emigh Run drainage and phase 2 of Eagle Street for daylighting.

**Code Enforcement Update:** Patrick White provided the code enforcement update. He stated the car "FU not junk" was removed after being ordered from the court located at a residence along RT 53. He updated the status on dilapidated houses waiting to be demolished. The Mandel house on Whitman Street has been cleaned up and is now for sale.

**Morris Township Recreation:** Kyle Eyerly gave the recreation report. Kyle stated the recreation board would like to apply for the DCNR grant. He stated he will be getting the batting cage ordered and also discussed having the scoreboard installed by spring, installing a disconnect for possibly putting power to the pavilion at a future time. He stated there is still a need for infield dirt for the softball field. This purchase was preapproved. Practice will resume in

March, weather permitting.

**Municipal Authority of the Township of Morris:** William Verbeck provided the municipal authority report. The Authority reorganized and officers remained the same as in 2022.

**2023 Paving Projects:**

**Eagle St and Firemans Drive:** The Chairman entertained a motion, Emerson Reams motioned, and James Williams seconded to begin the bidding process to pave Eagle Street and Firemans Drive. It was decided to secure a loan for \$283,000.00 with County National Bank as lender to pay for this project. Chairman Josiah Jones will be the signer for the loan. Solicitor Beard will take care of the LGUDA through DCED for this project. Bid packets will be opened at the March 1, 2023, Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

**Elm Street, Oak Street and Mirkwood St.:** The Chairman entertained a motion, Emerson Reams motioned, and James Williams seconded to begin the bidding process to pave Elm Street, Oak Street and Mirkwood Street located in the Shady Acre Development at a cost of \$94,733.00 to be expended from the general fund. Bid packets will be opened at the March 1, 2023, Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

**Codification of Ordinances:** The Chairman entertained a motion, James Williams motioned, and Emerson Reams seconded to hire Rod Beard to complete the Codification of the township ordinances for a cost of \$15,000 to \$18,000 with a 6 to 9 month estimate on completion. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

**2023 Stone Bids:** The Chairman entertained a motion, Emerson Reams motioned, and James Williams seconded to begin the bidding process for:

- 800 Ton of 1B Limestone
- 400 Ton of 2B Limestone
- 800 Ton of 2A Limestone

Bid packets will be opened at the March 1, 2023, Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

**2023 Spring White Goods Day:** The Chairman entertained a motion, James Williams motioned, and Emerson Reams seconded to hold the spring white goods day on May 20, 2023, from 8AM to 12PM. The tentative date for the fall cleanup is September 16, 2023, from 8AM to 12PM. The collection will include metal items, appliances, tires, and electronics. A fee may apply for tires. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

**Executive Session:** Not required.

**Adjournment:** The Chairman entertained a motion, James Williams motioned, and Emerson Reams seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Respectively Submitted. Patti Moore, Secretary