

June 21,2021

The Supervisors monthly meeting was held on June 21, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Branch Township Memorial Building Llewellyn, PA.

Attending were Laine Gehres, Robert Houser, David Schultz (Supervisors), Sue Ellen Holley (Secretary /Treasurer), Gino DiNicola (Solicitor), Joe Carvajal (Zoning Board),Desiree Smith (Auditor), Theresa Brensinger (Auditor).

Minutes From the May meeting were then read by Supervisor Gehres, A motion to approve the minutes was made by Supervisor Schultz and seconded by Supervisor Houser all Supervisors in favor.

The Bills were then read. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Schultz and seconded by Supervisor Houser all Supervisors in favor.

GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS:

Federal Tax Deposit	4,094.10	Federal Tax Deposit	1,356.02
Federal Tax Deposit	1,225.84	Federal Tax Deposit	1,313.50
PA Withholding	567.09	PA Withholding	311.33
Kelly Printing	49.95	PPL	117.23
Berkheimer	90.00	Berkheimer	40.00
Wex Bank	382.09	Sue Ellen Holley(reimbursement)	81.40
David M. Schultz	73.56	John Andruchek	100.27
Laine Gehres	73.56	Robert Houser	73.56
Minersville Auto	662.69	Capital One	319.29
Capital Blue Cross	10,604.09	Comcast	229.47
County Waste	13,348.36	Gino DiNicola	180.00
Hadesty's	102.77	Highmark Blue Shield	42.80
Jonathan Pfeil	384.15	Ken's Tire	25.00
Miller's Distributing	64.01	Pfeiffer ,Brown, DiNicola,Frantz	5,287.50
PPL	31.75	Pottsville Materials	817.09
Quandel Concrete	735.00	Republican Herald	68.41
Robert E Reedy	103.64	SCMA	75.15
United Concordia	476.68	Verizon	492.08
Zerbe Law Office	1,568.21	Branch Reilly Police	355.19
Steel & Metal Services	17.15		

LIQUID FUELS DISBURSEMENTS:

PPL 3,044.75

BRANCH REILLY POLICE DEPARTMENT DISBURSEMENTS:

Wex Bank	630.49	Comcast	95.99
Verizon	120.05	Trail Towing	35.00
Capital One	68.90		

PERMITS:

Michael Novack (Building)	23.70	Edward Siminitus (Building)	104.50
Jeff Quandel (Building/Zoning)	207.50	Maria Monderewicz (Dumpster)	25.00
Jessica Purcell (Dumpster)	25.00		

Bob Laughlin wanted to make sure the Township was aware of the 5K run that is being held on Sunday June 27th. (This was voted on and approved at the May meeting). Also the culvert in front of his house is falling in. He feels the situation has become dangerous. Supervisor Schultz is aware of the problem and has contacted Penn Dot several times. He will notify Penn Dot again and try to have them take care of the problem.

Mr. Laughlin also made a complaint about the high grass and weeds on a few properties on Dowdowntown Road.

Desiree Smith would like to thank the Fire Department for their successful job in getting over 200,000.00 in grants. She also was wondering if the Black Diamond Road work was a temporary fix or if the Township plans to do more to that part of the road. Supervisor Schultz will check into the area she is inquiring about.

Warren Ernst had a complaint about the garbage not being picked up curbside. Supervisor Gehres explained that County Waste is short staffed and that complaints should also be called into the township office as well as to County Waste.

Susan Kuehn complained that water is running down the highway and flowing through her yard. Supervisor Schultz will check into the situation

Supervisor Gehres contacted the county controller regarding the blighted properties in Branch Township. There are funds available; however, Branch will need to submit an application. If the properties are sold at Judicial Sale, the Township will be required to pay 25% of the demolition costs. If the Township sells the property, they would be responsible for the real estate taxes owed. On a motion by Robert Houser, seconded by Dave Schultz, the Township will apply for grant money for (3) properties. All Supervisors in favor.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2021-6 authorizing Sue Ellen Holley to act on behalf of Branch Township for transactions with Berkheimer was made by David Schultz, seconded by Robert Houser, all Supervisors in favor.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2021-5 was made by Supervisor Schultz. This resolution would establish a policy that would determine health care benefits for Branch Township Supervisors and dependents. This motion died for lack of a "second".

The Building Code Official's report was read into the record. There were (3) building permits and (2) zoning permits issued. A motion to approve this report was made by Dave Schultz, seconded by Robert Houser, all Supervisors in favor.

Dave Schultz, Road Master, reported Township workers have been repairing the upper playground swing set, removing old mulch, mesh and roots, raising and resetting sills for less pitch under the swings, and installing new mesh and mulch. The swing set was painted, and new hardware, chains and a new swing will be installed. Work was done on Dowdowntown Road and pot holes were filled on Steins Mill Road. Grass was cut in the cemetery and around the monument in preparation for Memorial Day. Two silk wreathes from Trail Gardens donated by Joyce Beach and Dave Schultz, Sr. were placed at the monument. A wreath donated by Laine Gehres and Robert Houser was placed at the banner. Significant work was done at the Township building to get ready for the beginning of the recycling program. Barriers were purchased and installed and a cement pad will be poured. A motion to accept this report was made by Robert Houser, seconded by Laine Gehres, all Supervisors in favor.

Supervisor David Schultz (Road Master) reported that Township workers have been working on the Willing Street project, finishing up getting the headwall put in. The workers have also been working on the Llewellyn playground, re-meshing, mulching, installing a new small child swing. The workers have been cutting grass, trimming brush and getting ready for patching and sealing of Township roads. A motion was made by Supervisor Laine Gehres and seconded by Supervisor Robert Houser, all Supervisors in favor.

The Police Report was then read into the record and a motion to approve was made by Supervisor Laine Gehres and seconded by Supervisor David Schultz, all Supervisors in favor.

Unfinished Business: Supervisor David Schultz brought up a draft resolution about health coverage for Supervisors and part time Employees. Gino DiNicola set up a work session to discuss for Thursday June 3rd at 12:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gehres at 6:50

Respectfully submitted by:

Sue Ellen Holley
Secretary/ Treasurer