JANUARY 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Branch Township Supervisors was held on Monday, January 18, 2021, 6:00 P.M. at the Branch Township Memorial Building, Llewellyn, PA. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, masks were required and social distancing was practiced. Attending were Laine Gehres, Robert Houser, David M. Schultz, Supervisors, Joyce Beach, Secretary/Treasurer, Gino DiNicola, Solicitor and Dave Bell of the Planning Commission.

Minutes from the December meeting and from the January Re-organization Meeting were available for inspection. A motion to approve the December minutes was made by David M. Schultz, seconded by Robert Houser, all Supervisors in favor.

A motionto approve the minutes of the Reorganization was made by David M. Schultz, seconded by Robert Houser, all Supervisors in favor.

The bills were read. A motion to approved the bills for payment was made by Dave Schultz, seconded by Robert Houser, all Supervisors in favor.

GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS:

Net Payroll (12/13/20 thru 01/09/21) 14674.17 Federal Tax Deposit 969.12

Capital Blue Cross 9943.21 Federal Tax Deposit 1099.96

P P L Electric Utilities 146.09 Verizon 875.37

Republican Herald 104.97 Mammoth Materials 15.00

Laudeman Termite & Pest Control 46.00 Kramer’s Power Equip. 23.44

United Concordia 436.56 State Workers Ins. Fund 1162.00

Minersville Auto Parts 137.17 Steel & Metal Service Ctr. 11.92

Robert E. Reedy & Sons 712.91 SCMA 73.30

BTMA 1340.00 Praxair 6.97

Laine Gehres 73.57 Robert Houser 73.57

David M. Schultz 73.57 Gino DiNicola 180.00

Comcast 245.82 Verizon 491.95

Fry’s Plastic 2734.96 Pottsville Materials 3983.39

H A Thomson 512.00 Hadestys 229.70

Branch Reilly Police (Dec.) 332.02 Branch-Reilly Police 912.24

LIQUID FUELS DISBURSEMENTS:

No Sweat Service Group 1070.25 American Rock Slat Co. 3321.99

Plasterer Equip. Co. 137.42 P P L Electric Utilities 5696.76

Sands Ford of Pottsville 2316.22 Storks Plows 662.74

BRANCH-REILLY POLICE DEPARTMENT DISBURSEMENTS (DEC. & JAN.)

Wex Bank 356.43 USPS 55.00  
Capital One 720.54 Comcast 154.92

Galls 154.92 Wex Bank 533.74

Capital One 77.88 Comcast 95.66

Galls 154.92

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS:

Karyn Kiraly 25.00 Berkheimer 608.18

Berkheimer 855.21 Berkheimer 5573.91

Berkheimer 1419.25

LIQUID FUELS RECEIPTS;

BRANCH-REILLY POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIPTS:

Branch Township Supervisors 332.02 Reilly Township Supervisors 332.02

Branch Township Supervisors 500.00 Branch Township Supervisors 912.24

Reilly Township Supervisors 1412.24

DUMPSTR PERMIT:

Karyn Kiraly 25.00

Gino DiNicola had the updated version of the Branch Township Floodplain Ordinance. A motion to approve was made by Dave M. Schyltz, seconded by Robert Houser, all Supervisors in favor.

Mr.Cory Renninger voiced concerns regarding timbering that may soon be occurring on property adjacent to his. The concern is the route the owners of the property plan on using to get the cut timer out. When the application for a timbering permit was made, a timbering plan was submitted. That plan does not show the timber being taken out onto Church Road and to date the plan has not been amended. Once the timbering begins, the building code official will need to make sure the plan submitted is being followed.

The Branch Township Auditors met on January 14, 2021. At that meeting they approved the request for a $1.00 per hour increase to $17.00 per hour for working Supervisors.

The Building Code Official report prepared by John Andruchek was read into the record by Joyce Beach. A motion to approve the report was made by Dave Schultz, seconded by Laine Gehres, all Supervisors In favor.

The Solicitor reported Mr. Jones of West West Terrace has once again appealed the citation he was given. This time to the State Supreme Court asking them to revisit the issue. Gino will talk to the Building Code Official regarding this ongoing matter. Regarding the request the Township received to vacate a road in New Minersville, Dave Bell said no official request to vacate and no plan has been provided to him. Gino will contact Attorney Securda regarding this matter. A motion to approve was made by Dave Schultz, seconded by Robert Houser, all Supervisors in favor.

Dave Schultz, Road Master reported Township workers have been repairing pot holes with hot asphalt. The work to replace the storm drain on Willing Street and behind the butcher shop is nearly completed. Concrete blocks to hold the bank back were installed, new asphalt over the storm drain was put down. The engine of the Ford f-350 was repaired at Sands Ford (broken valve spring). A new 2020 F-350 dump truck with snow plow and spreader was purchased at Sands Ford. Township workers were busy plowing approximately 10” of snow from a winter storm that was dumped on the Township. The breezeway connecting the Township building and the police garage was completed by John Wank. Mr. Zimmerman has begun cutting trees on Township property along Silverton Road. A motion to approve this report was made by Robert Houser, seconded by Laine Gehres, all Supervisors in favor.

No police report was available.

Dave Bell presented the plans for the Woodford Subdivision for signatures and approval. The recycling dumpsters have been removed from the Township. At this point, recyclables will need to be put in with regular garbage. We will check with the County for further updates.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce M. Beach

Branch Township, Secretary/Tresurer