

August 21st 2023

The Branch Township Board of Supervisor regular monthly meeting was held on August 21st at 6:00pm at the Branch Township Memorial Building Llewellyn PA. In attendance was Robert Houser, David Schultz, Joseph Carvajal (Supervisors) Gino DiNicola (Solicitor) John Andruchek (Building Code Official) Joanne Bingaman (Zoning Hearing Board) Sue Ellen Holley (Secretary/Treasurer) William Kattner (Police).

A Motion to approve July 17th meeting minutes was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried.

A motion to approve the current months bills was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried.

General Fund

Net payroll 7/17-8/21/2023	24,812.40	PA Withholding	351.59
Federal Tax Deposit	1,372.38	Federal Tax Deposit	87.40
Federal Tax Deposit	1,653.68	Federal Tax Deposit	1,449.76
Nationwide 457B	80.00	PA Withholding	402.90
Federal Tax Deposit	1,366.02	Federal Tax Deposit	1,421.00
PA Withholding	351.77	Capital one	134.66
Lowe's	157.67	United States Post Office	132.00
Elan Financial	356.49	Wex Bank	1,053.66
Arro Consulting	1,455.24	Borough Of Minersville	1,395.23
Capital Blue Cross	8,353.31	Comcast	288.95
Fehr Supply	12,412.50	GFL	13,748.36
Gino DiNicola	180.00	Groff Tractor	2,626.26
H. A. Thomson	757.00	Hadesty's	374.72
Highmark Blue Shield	74.68	Joseph Carvajal	20.00
Kramer's Power Equipment	12.54	Mammoth Materials	42.00
Minersville Auto Parts	423.99	No Sweat Service Group	1,671.20
PPL	296.53	Pfeiffer, Brown, DiNicola & Frantz	2,662.50
Pottsville Materials	1,391.47	Robert E Reedy's	174.49
Robert Houser	20.00	SCMA	80.00
Trail Towing	615.23	United Concordia	417.69
Verizon	328.99		

Liquid Fuels

Pottsville Materials	3,184.37	PPL	3,467.72
Steel & Metal Service Center	176.29		

Income

Berkheimer	28,469.46	Comcast	5,235.34
County of Schuylkill	2,688.68	Delinquent Sanitation	5,057.08
District Justice Court	5.39	Dudash Pipeline (Building Permit)	55.50
E&J Management (Building permit)	272.00	Ericido Beltre-Montero (Dumpster permit)	25.00
Gail Bedford	27,095.91	Lumina Solar (Building permit)	122.86
Maria Barber (Building Permit)	10.50	Reilly Township Supervisors	3,708.38
Schuylkill County	747.92	Stephanie Moyer (building permit)	8.50
Trinity Solar (Building Permit)	138.50	Woods & Wildlife	750.00

Account Balances

General Fund	6,623.80	PA Invest GF	259,986.05
Liquid Fuels	2,815.50	PA Invest LF	68,758.63
ARPA	138,126.47	Cemetery	3,988.34
Police Checking	4,907.26		

Public Participation

David Strausser asked if there is a limit on yard sales per year. John Andruckek responded with 3or 4.

Agenda

A motion to advertise for the Zoning hearing Board vacancy was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried.

A motion to approve the letter of intent to participate in the Hazard Mitigation plan with Schuylkill County was made by Supervisor Houser, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried.

Branch Reilly Police Agreement-Solicitor DiNicola reviewed the agreement. The Township could prepare a new agreement, do nothing, or the language speaks of a 30-day notice of termination. Time will have to be given due to shared police vehicles and things like that. Supervisor Carvajal said it has been 2 years with no change. Supervisor Schultz agrees. Supervisor Carvajal wants to give more than 30 days. Officer Kattner stated the Township will lose 60 hours of coverage. After a lengthy discussion Supervisor Carvajal stated mutual aid would continue and no one would lose their job. Officer Kattner then stated he will be looking for another job. A motion to give Rielly Township Supervisors 60 days’ notice of termination was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried.

Trick or Treat Night -Tuesday October 31st 6:00pm- 8:00pm Rain date November 1st. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Carvajal, seconded by Supervisor Schultz, the motion carried.

Weight limits & restrictions on roads- Supervisor Schultz asked Solicitor DiNicola what can be done. Solicitor DiNicola suggested contacting the engineers and focusing on the roads of most concern. Supervisor Schultz explained he does not want to stop anyone but make sure the roads are bonded. After a lengthy discussion Supervisor Schultz will contact Arro.

Fee Schedule Resolution 2023-7 for Municipal Liens- A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Carvajal, seconded by Supervisor Schultz, the motion carried.

Standing reports

The Building Code Official report was read into the record by John Andruckek. A motion to approve the report was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried. A complete report will be kept on file at the Township office.

Solicitors report – Solicitor DiNicola has been working on the fee schedule resolution, Police matters, and will be requesting an extension for an upcoming hearing on Dec 28th. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried.

Road master’s report- Township workers have been cutting grass (Llewellyn Cemetery, walking trail, Township property, Silverton Road, Brickey Road, Dowdentown Road) & tree removal on Brickey Rd. The workers had prepared Washington Street for overlay. Supervisor Schultz had met with Minersville Street Department in regard to the Spring St. encroaching issue. After a lengthy discussion Supervisor Schultz asked Solicitor DiNicola to reach out to Minersville Solicitor. A motion

to approve the report was made by Supervisor Carvajal, seconded by Supervisor Houser, the motion carried. A complete report will be kept on file at the Township Office.

The Police report was read into the record by Officer Kattner. A motion to approve the report was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried. A complete report will be kept on file at the Township Office.

A motion to approve the Arro Consulting report was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried. A complete report will be kept on file at the Township office.

Old Business

619 Pine Hill Street- Demolition in progress

Delinquent Sanitation- Termination of services were sent to GFL 7/31. Municipal Lien Notices were sent to residents on 7/31

Walking Trail-

Spring Street encroaching issue- covered during Road master's report

A motion to approve the Fire Police in Schuylkill Haven was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, the motion carried.

Karen Schmitt asked about Police coverage and response time from State Police. Shawn Schmitt asked if the Township has to pay the State Police and what is the wait time. Supervisor Schultz said no because we have our own department Officer Kattner said it is about 45 mins for them vs 7 for us. Supervisor Carvajal explained that mutual aid between the townships will continue.

Meeting Adj. 6:43

Respectfully Submitted by
Sue Ellen Holley
Secretary / Treasurer