December 16th 2024

The Branch Township Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on December 16th 2024 at 6:00pm at the Branch Township Memorial Building Llewellyn PA. In attendance was Joseph Carvajal, David Schultz Sr. Sue Ellen Holley (Supervisors)Gino DiNicola (Solicitor).

A Motion to approve the November meeting minutes was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Holley, all in favor.

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

General Fund

Net Payroll 11/19-12/16	17,167.03	Federal Tax Deposit	58.28
Federal Tax Deposit	1,445.16	Federal Tax Deposit	1,351.46
Federal Tax Deposit	1,172.60	Federal Tax Deposit	1,271.22
PA Withholding	371.76	PA withholding	315.96
Elan Financial	447.23	Lowes	10.05
Wex Bank	496.29	Arro Consulting	1,121.32
Capital Blue Cross	3,463.77	Casella	13,748.36
Comcast	292.33	Gino DiNicola	180.00
Guers Topsoil	1,900.00	Hadesty's	149.19
Laudeman Pest	50.00	Mike Franko Plumbing	175.00
Minersville Auto	96.80	NEPA	295.00
PSATS	996.00	Republican Herald	309.14
Robert E Reedy's	697.57	SCMA	80.00
SWIFT	1,195.00	Steel & Metal Service Center	216.70
United Concordia	179.35	United State Post Office	72.00
Verizon	290.94	Miller Municipal	65.00
Werner Lumber	443.75	PPL	163.89

Liquid Fuels

PPL	3,319.36	Pottsville Materials	946.50
PPL	3,319.36	Storks Plow	270.00
Pottsville Materials	1,163.50		

Income

Berkheimer	22,217.77	Commonwealth Of PA	503.32
Delinquent Sanitation	1,058.00	District Justice Court	204.49
Gail Bedford	5,309.12	Schuylkill County	1,090.32

Account Balances

General Fund	1,090.81	PA Invest GF	209,398.26
		PA Invest GF Sub Acc	132,617.59
ARPA	16,641.45		
Liquid Fuels	150.44	PA Invest LF	43,582.54
Cemetery Checking	4,189.40		

Public Comment
Micheal Direnzo questioned dry hydrant and request a statement from the township. Supervisor Carvajal said we will get to the dry hydrant discussion during the agenda.

Agenda
A motion to approve the 2025 Budget with no tax increase was made by Supervisor Holley, seconded by Supervisor Schultz, all in favor.

Dry hydrant –Supervisor Holley explained that the Township does not have records for the dry hydrant beside the minutes making a reference to it. Mr. Direnzo stated that the dry hydrant is inoperable and inaccessible and wants the Township to acknowledge that this happened for DEP. Supervisor Holley asked if Mr. Direnzo had paperwork on the hydrant. Mr. Direnzo said he does but will not provide a copy till he sees where the Township stands on the issue. After a lengthy discussion Supervisor Carvajal requested the information from Mr. Direnzo for the Township.

Ordinance 2024-1 Supervisor Compensation. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Holley, all in favor.

Sanitation Policy- A motion to approve a 20-dollar charge monthly for a second can, made payable directly to the Township was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, all in favor.
A motion to approve NON-PAYERS not to receive a new can until accounts are brought up to date was made by Supervisor Holley, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, all in favor.

A motion to discontinue the dumpster by the post office due to misuse was made by Supervisor Holley, seconded by Carvajal, all in favor. Services will still be provided for the school dumpster and the one at the Township building.

A motion to approve transfer from the ARPA fund to the General fund 1,900.00 for playground mulch, 823.59 LSA Grant was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, all in favor.

A motion to approve purchase from ARPA Funds for two solar speed signs in the amount of 4,708.33 each was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Holley, all in favor.

Approval to purchase police base radio (10,379.52) and use remainder of ARPA funds towards purchase- A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Holley, seconded by Supervisor Schultz, all in favor.

Standing Reports
Building Code Official Report – A motion to approve the report was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, all in favor. A complete report will be kept on file at the Township Office.

Solicitors report- Solicitor DiNicola reported working on Ord # 2024- 1 Supervisors Compensation, Dry Hydrant issue that requires more information. Solicitor DiNicola was also contacted about the solar project inspection fee from a third-party inspector, he spoke with John and the inspector and believes the fees have been corrected at this time. A motion to approve the report was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Holley, all in favor.

Roadmasters report-Township workers had been doing road repairs and cold path throughout the township, new mulch in the playgrounds, equipment repairs, Christmas tree install. A motion to approve the report was made by Supervisor Holley, seconded by Supervisor Carvajal, all in favor. A complete report will be kept on file at the township office.

Police report- The Police report was read into the record by Supervisor Carvajal. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Schultz, seconded by Supervisor Holley, all in favor. A complete report will be kept on file at the Township office.

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

Notice: Reorganization meeting January 6th at 6:00pm
Auditors meeting January 7th at 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned 6:52 pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Sue Ellen Holley
Secretary /Treasurer