

**Minutes of South Beaver Township Regular Meeting**

**February 8, 2023**

The regular February meeting of the South Beaver Township Board of Supervisors held in the South Beaver Municipal Building located at 805 Blackhawk Road was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Thomas Miller. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Officials present: Thomas Miller, John Onuska, Jack Mintier, Ashley Carr, John Heyl, Joseph Budicak, Dan Petrich

Others present: Kevin Henderson, Keith Girting, Ed & Sue Ford, Frank Zebich, Holly Vogt, Andy Leech, Don Kaercher

John Onuska made a motion to approve the January regular and reorganization meeting minutes. Jack Mintier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jack Mintier made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the following bills: General Fund, Check No. #15659-#15720, Total \$52,123.61, Payroll Fund, Check No. #11553-#11597, Total \$40,571.64, State Fund, Check No. #2134-2136, Total \$7,054.11, Fire Tax, Check No. #165-167, Total \$549.12. John Onuska seconded the motion. Motion carried.

John Heyl gave the engineers report. It will be filed.

Dan Petrich gave the police report. It will be filed. Dan reported that the radios for police and fire are just about done, the new car is at the dealer and will be sent to the upfitter within a week or so and radios were loaned to East Palestine for better communication. Dan asked the Supervisors to place an order for ammunition. John Onuska made a motion to approve the ammunition purchase not to exceed \$6,000 from the American Rescue Funds Account. Jack Mintier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kevin Henderson gave the road report. Kevin received quotes for the tires for the grader, he said a decision needs to be made on whether the grader will be replaced or if new tires should be put on it, it is really not worth anything without tires and with them only worth the amount of the tires. AR Oliastro is coming out Friday to finish the paving on Watts Mill. Kevin also suggested buying a mower for the municipal building and fire department on Blackhawk Road so on days when the grass mower is here a truck isn't being tied up for the day to transport the mower. He asked the supervisors approval to look into purchasing a shed to store the mower behind the fire station which can also be used by the police department for storage. The supervisors were in favor of Kevin looking into mower and shed quotes.

Keith Girting gave the fire report. It will be filed. Keith reported that the airpicks are in and he is meeting with a representative on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Holly Vogt the Beaver County Director for the Department of Sustainability and Waste Management was present to talk to the board about the recycling program and the difference grants that are available. The Supervisors were very interested in what Holly had to say and would like to look into the recycling program further before making a decision.

Joseph Budicak reported that Attorney Douglas representing Rustic Meadows contacted him about coming the meeting tonight. No one was present on behalf of Rustic Meadows. Joe and the Supervisors held an executive session on the matter.

Keith Girting was present and reported that he and John attended an online webinar through PSATS about Fire Department retention and recruitment to help with the lack of volunteer fire members. Keith said that he can provide the township with a time log of the fire department members, which could be done either

monthly or quarterly. Thomas Miller asked if the fire tax account would allow for a Fire Department Reimbursement to it's members. Ashley Carr read the ordinance and Joseph Budicak believes that this type of reimbursement would fall under services as listed in the ordinance. Dan Petrich was in favor of reimbursement and showing our volunteers some appreciation but did suggest there be an open agreement for audit purposes. Jack Mintier made a motion to approve \$5,000 from the fire tax account to the South Beaver Volunteer Fire Department for reimbursement to members for the year 2022, the reimbursement will be reviewed yearly, any carry over will be utilized for the next years allotment, any records shall be available to the Township at any time for audit purposes and the reimbursement is only for call out hours and major training. John Onuska abstained from voting since he is a member of the fire department. Thomas Miller was against the reimbursement proposal because he didn't believe that social members who fundraise should be paid as listed on the original proposal sheet from the fire department. Per the Pennsylvania Public Official and employees ethics act states "where one member has abstained from voting as a result of conflict of interest and the two remaining members of the governing board have cast opposing votes, the member who has abstained shall be permitted to vote to break the tie." John Onuska seconded the motion. Thomas Miller was in favor of the vote after it was explained that the reimbursement was only for call out hours and major training. All in favor. Motion carried.

Joseph Budicak had sent out suggestions to the Board members for updating the burning ordinance. The Supervisors would like to look into the recycling program more before making any updates the burning ordinance.

Three applications were received for the cleaning position. The Supervisors will make interview phone calls this week.

Jack Mintier made a motion to approve the generator installation contract through LSSE. John Onuska seconded the motion. Motion carried. John Heyl will send out letter quote requests to electricians. If they come in over the bidding threshold then the project will have to be advertised.

Ashley Carr worked with Joseph Budicak and SEO Jeffrey Winkle on a waiver from the well isolation distance between an existing private water well and the existing on lot septic system for 112 Forest Lane which was approved prior to the meeting date, due to the closing of the property taking place. John Onuska made a motion to ratify the vote and approval of the Well Isolation Waiver. Thomas Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on the earned time and retention bonus for former employee Douglas Lytle. The Supervisors agreed to pay Douglas for any of his unused earned time off and to prorate the retention bonus payback amount from when it was received to termination. The supervisors asked Ashley Carr to send his final check along with a certified letter requesting payback of the ARP Retention Bonus.

Tom Miller adjourned the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Carr