

West Earl Township Board of Supervisors, 157 West Metzler Road, Brownstown, PA 17508

In Attendance:

Chairman:	John Ford	Member:	Jennifer Prunoske
Vice Chairman:	Keith Kauffman	Manager/Secretary:	Jenna Seesholtz
Member:	Butch Keppley	Roadmaster:	Neil Stoltzfus
Member:	David Thornton	Police Chief:	Eric Higgins

Others present: Dale Peachey-136 Cornerstone Way, Brenden Curry-LNP News, Earl Good-Farmersville Fire Company, Randy Zimmerman-West Earl Fire Company, Bryan Martin-West Earl Fire Company, Brian Brooks-West Earl Fire Company, Galen Fisher-Farmersville Fire Company, Mervin Zimmerman-Farmersville Fire Company.

Call to Order

Chairman Ford called the March 13, 2023 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

- **February 27, 2023 meeting minutes** – Chairman Ford noted that a typo under New Business #2 - submitted should be changed to submitting. Member Prunoske noted a change that should be made under her comments. She asked that the East Main Street highway occupancy permit plans be provided for Township staff to review prior to submission. Moved by Member Prunoske, second by Member Thornton to approve the February 27, 2023 meeting minutes as corrected. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Special Business

1. **Resolution 2023-15** - Assign first due response territory to fire companies. After a brief discussion about re-assigning the first due response territory Chairman Ford and Member Thornton said they would like to extend the courtesy of notifying Akron Fire Company about this change prior to passing the Resolution. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Thornton to table first due response resolution. Motion passed with a 3 to 2 vote with Member Keppley and Vice Chairman Kauffman voting no.
2. **Resolution 2023-15** - ARPA spending on Police vehicle. Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Kauffman to pass Resolution 2023-15 spending ARPA funds on a Police vehicle. Motion approved unanimously.

Subdivision/Land Development

1. **Small Stormwater project agreement for David & Lavina Fisher**- Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Kauffman to sign the small stormwater project agreement for David & Lavina Fisher. Motion approved unanimously.
2. **Small Stormwater project agreement for Steven Ray Stoltzfus** - Moved by Member Thornton, second by Vice Chairman Kauffman to sign the small stormwater project agreement for Steven Ray Stoltzfus. Motion approved unanimously.

New Business

1. **Penn Township Request for Fire Police** - Moved by Member Keppley, second by Member Prunoske to allow the West Earl Fire Police to help with traffic control for the Penn Township Fire Company mud sale on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Motion approved unanimously.
2. **North Hershey Avenue road widening** - Roadmaster Stoltzfus said that North Hershey Avenue is on the schedule for mill and overlay this year. He said with upcoming development projects in the area there would be an opportunity to widen North Hershey to help improve stormwater drainage. He asked the Board if he should hold off on the mill and overlay for one more year and see if there is the opportunity to widen the road. There was a consensus among the Board to widen North Hershey Avenue as suggested by the Roadmaster.
3. **Akron Water Tower Project Funding** - The Water Authority has asked if the Township would pay 50% of the

cost to paint the water tower. Manager Seesholtz said that ARPA funds could be used for this. Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Kauffman to pay 50% of the cost to paint the water tower with Township ARPA funds. Motion approved unanimously.

4. **Water Department sale of pipe** - Manager Seesholtz said water department purchased pipe for the water main project on East Main Street. Since that project has been canceled, the pipe is no longer needed. Manager Seesholtz is requesting approval to sell the pipe on Municibid. Moved by Chairman Ford, second by Member Thornton to authorize the Township Manager to put the water department pipe on Municibid with a reserve cost that is no more than 15% below what the Township could get from the vendor. Motion approved unanimously.
5. **Water Department Contract Authorization of Letter** - Moved by Vice Chairman Kauffman, second by Member Thornton to authorize the Manager to finalize the contract with Inframark and to send a contract separation letter to ARRO. Motion approved unanimously.
6. **Volunteer Fire Fighter Tax Credit** - Manager Seesholtz said this tax credit would be for active members of the fire companies. It would be 20% real estate or earned income tax credit, or it could be both. She said there are several Municipalities who offer this to their volunteer fire fighters. After a brief discussion the Board asked the Manager to have the Township Solicitor draft a resolution and also asked her to speak to surrounding Municipalities to see if they would want to join the Township in offering this to their fire fighters.
7. **Fire Tax Bank Accounts** - Moved by Vice Chairman Kauffman, second by Member Thornton to authorize the Manager to open accounts at PLGIT for the new fire tax. Motion approved unanimously.
8. **New roadcrew hire** - Will be discussed at a future meeting.
9. **Police Policies and Procedures Approval** - Chief Higgins said this is the last set of policies and procedures for the accreditation. Moved by Member Thornton, second by Member Keppley to approve the final Police Policies and Procedures. Motion approved unanimously.
10. **Lancaster County Drug Task Force Contribution** - Moved by Member Keppley, second by Member Thornton to send the contribution of \$4,280 which was budgeted for 2023. Motion approved unanimously.

Member Keppley asked about the new gate system and why it doesn't provide receipts. Discussion followed about the new system and letting people in after hours.

Financials

- **Payment of bills** - Moved by Member Thornton, second by Member Keppley to pay the bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.
- **Budget vs. Actual** - Provided for the Board's review.
- **Treasurer's Report** - None

Reports

- **Zoning Officer's Report** - February report provided for the Board's review. Nothing additional to report.
- **Manager's Report** - The Manager and Police Chief met with a resident who has an issue with his neighbor burning.
- **Police Chief's Report**
 - Chief Higgins will have his February report for the Board's next meeting.
 - The speed board has been set up on Main Street and will be up for two weeks.
 - The Coffee with a Cop event went well. The Chief said about 40-50 people showed up.
- **Roadmaster's Report**
 - East Main Street box culvert - PennDot willing to supply materials and the HOP for the project. Currently working on a detour plan.
 - Municibid - the trailer sold for \$4,000 and the old truck hood sold for \$750.

Public Comment

Brendan Curry, LNP News - Mr. Curry asked where the area of first due response is that the Board is changing. Manager Seesholtz provided a map for Mr. Curry to view.

Supervisors' Comments

John Ford - Chairman Ford requested an executive session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss employee

performance.

David Thornton - The Board is having a budget workshop prior to the next regular meeting. Member Thornton said that the Board members should come with some ideas to discuss. Member Thornton reminded the Board members that the PSATS convention is coming up along with the tour of the South Londonderry Police Department.

Other Items

Add to agenda - Moved by Member Thornton, second by Member Keppley to add the West Earl Fire Company road closure request to the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

School Lane Avenue Road Closure - Moved by Member Thornton, second by Member Prunoske to approve the closure of School Lane Avenue on Saturday, March 18, 2023, for the West Earl Fire Company Annual Mud Sale. Motion approved unanimously.

The Board took a brief recess and entered executive session at 8:53 p.m. The Board returned to their regular session at 9:18 p.m.

Adjournment

Moved by Member Thornton, second by Vice Chairman Kauffman to adjourn the March 13, 2023 regular meeting at 9:20 p.m.. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Sara Service
Zoning Officer