

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

In Attendance:

Chairman:	John Ford	Manager/Secretary:	Jenna Seesholtz
Vice Chairman:	David Thornton	Police Chief:	Eric Higgins
Member:	Harold Keppley, Jr.	Code Enforcement Officer:	Brian Brandt
Member:	Dale Wissler	Zoning Officer:	Sara Service
Member:	Keith Kauffman	Recycling Coordinator:	Missy Wallace

Others present: Todd Heidelbaugh – 475 Marlene Way, Joe & Leigh Ulicny – 14 E. Main Street, Dale Hibshman – 61 E. Main Street, Barbara Hummel – 11 E. Main Street, Sylvan & Rhoda Fisher – 87 Locust Street, Jim Caldwell – Rettew, Dave Hoglan – Rettew.

Call to Order

John Ford called the February 10, 2020 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Ford noted two spelling errors in the January 27, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Moved by Vice Chairman Thornton, second by Member Keppley to approve the January 27, 2020 regular meeting minutes as corrected. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Todd Heidelbaugh, 475 Marlene Way – Mr. Heidelbaugh talked about the upcoming Meet & Greet. Mr. Heidelbaugh said he will be running for Supervisor in 2021.

Special Business

East Main Street Sidewalk Project – Manager Seesholtz announced that there was a special meeting held prior to the Supervisors' regular meeting tonight from 6pm – 7pm. The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss the East Main Street Sidewalk Project with affected residents. Jim Caldwell & Dave Hoglan from Rettew Associates were present to answer questions. Mr. Caldwell said the Township needs to continue to move forward on the project or risk losing the grant funds. Several items of discussion included which section of East Main to include in the project, moving mailboxes and utility poles and potential homeowner contribution to the cost of fixing the sidewalks. Chairman Ford noted that there are more households effected in the section from Church Street moving East. Moved by Chairman Ford, second by Member Keppley to authorize Rettew move forward and perform further analysis for the sidewalk project on East Main Street from Church Street eastward. Motion approved unanimously. Rettew will prepare something for the next Board meeting on February 24, 2020.

Resolution 2020-19, Noah Shirk Planning Module – Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Thornton to adopt Resolution 2020-19 for the Noah Shirk Planning Module. Motion approved unanimously.

Subdivision/Land Development

Elmer & Fannie Zook temporary residence agreement – Moved by Member Wissler, second by Vice Chairman Thornton to sign the Temporary Residence Agreement for Elmer & Fannie Zook. Motion approved unanimously.

Old Business

Nolt Well Discussion – Manager Seesholtz provided the Water Authority meeting minutes for the Board to review. The Water Authority would like to rehabilitate the well for \$22,000. The Board would like more information such as whether the interconnection with Akron Borough is a viable option and if the plumbing at the water plan could be changed. Ms. Seesholtz will ask the Water Authority's Engineer, Dale Kopp, to attend the next meeting.

Employee Cell Phones – Moved by Member Wissler, second by Member Keppley to offer a \$40 stipend per month for employees who wish to use their personal cell phones for Township business with the understanding that the phone could be subject to a right to know law request or alternatively use a cell phone issued by the Township with the Township Manager's discretion. Motion passed with a 4 to 1 vote with Chairman Ford voting nay.

Employee Compensation – This discussion was tabled. No action was taken.

New Business

2019 902 Recycling Grant Application Revision and Compost Yard discussion – The Roadmaster provided several options moving forward relating to the operation of the Township’s Compost Site. Discussion followed about purchasing a \$55,000 topsoil screener with the 2019 grant funds. Also discussed was doing the mulch grinding in-house rather than subcontracting it to Martin’s. Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Thornton to authorize the purchase of a topsoil screener for \$55,000. Motion approved unanimously. Missy Wallace reported that she will be attending a pre-grant meeting at LCSWMA for the 2020 902 Recycling Grant. She said the Township will be going for a new grinder and a new loader with this grant round.

- Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Thornton to authorize the purchase of a topsoil screener for \$55,000. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Vice Chairman Thornton, second by Member Kauffman to maintain the compost site in-house and not use a subcontractor and to authorize the purchase of a new grinder and new loader with 2020 902 Recycling Grant Funds that the Township receives. Motion approved unanimously.

West Earl Fire Company Loan Document Approval – Chairman Ford said he received an amended letter from the Fire Company that states the Township is aware and acknowledging that the West Earl Fire Company is entering into the loan agreement. The loan will be used to purchase a new pumper truck. Member Keppley said he feels it’s setting a bad precedent when the prior letter was approved to be signed by a majority vote at the January 27, 2020 Supervisors’ meeting. Manager Seesholtz will get the original letter for the Board to sign.

ARRO Agreement – The agreement pertains to having a second water license, from an ARRO employee, posted at the water plant. It will cost the Township \$171 per week to have the license posted at the plant.

Rhoda Fisher, 87 Locust Street – Mrs. Fisher suggested placing a “Thumbs Up” column in the Township’s Newsletter. To recognize properties that are well kept or volunteer work such as cleaning trash out of the river. Mrs. Fisher also suggested adding a “West Earl History” section to the newsletter. The Board thanked Mrs. Fisher for attending the meeting and presenting these ideas. Member Wissler said this sounds like a great idea and the Board members agreed.

Payment of Bills

Moved by Vice Chairman Thornton, second by Member Wissler to pay the bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Reports

Zoning Officer’s Report – Will be provided for the February 24, 2020 meeting.

Code Enforcement Officer’s Report – Mr. Brandt is requesting some changes to Chapter 152 Street and Sidewalks so he can enforce sections of the Chapter. Mr. Brandt is also requesting that the Road Master, Neil Stoltzfus be appointed the Designated Official to conduct inspections after the road is restored and work is complete. Discussion about the road openings done in the streets in the Brian Development. Mr. Brandt said each offense would be a civil penalty of \$50 - \$60.

- Moved by Member Kauffman, second by Vice Chairman Thornton to appoint Brian Brandt as the officer designation to enforce Chapter 152, Article I Streets Openings and Excavation. Motion approved unanimously.
- Moved by Member Kauffman, second by Member Keppley to appoint Neil Stoltzfus the Designated Official for Chapter 152 of the Code of West Earl Township. Motion approved unanimously.

Manager’s Report – Manager Seesholtz said the Road Master would like to have a plow attachment installed on the new truck the Township is purchasing with grant funds. The cost would be \$37,000. Moved by Member Kauffman, second by Vice Chairman Thornton to authorize the purchase a plow attachment and have it installed on the new truck for \$37,000. Motion approved unanimously.

Police Chief’s Report – Chief Eric Higgins provided a report for the Board’s review.

Supervisors' Comments

Dave Thornton

- Requested a year-to-date budget be provided to the Board members.
- Asked that Township staff get the word out about the Meet & Greet and February 21st.

Keith Kauffman

- Continuing problems with Comcast – chipping sidewalks and not fixing them properly and there are pedestals that still have not been moved.

Harold Keppley – Member Keppley asked Manager Seesholtz if the Fire Company has responded to the request to again start meeting with Board members quarterly. Ms. Seesholtz said the Fire Company has asked for a list of dates for the meetings.

John Ford – Will be absent from the February 24th Supervisors' meeting.

Public Comment

Sylvan Fisher – Mr. Fisher thanked the Board members for meeting with the Fire Company. He said the guys in the Fire Company really appreciate it.

Adjournment

Moved by Member Kauffman, second by Member Wissler to adjourn the January 27, 2020 regular meeting at 9:15 p.m.
Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sara Service
Zoning Officer