

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP
75 WALNUT STREET
MARY-D, PA 17952**

The Regular meeting of the Supervisors of Schuylkill Township was held Monday, April 4, 2022. Those present included Charles Fayash, Gary Feathers & Charles Hosler. The Pledge of the Allegiance was recited.

Meeting Minutes-Hosler made motion to approve February & March's meeting minutes, 2nd Feathers. All Approved

Treasurer's Report-February 2022 Ending Balance \$516,147.12, March 2022 Ending Balance \$524,272.35 February Visa Report – \$668.90 Staples - \$296.94 Toner & Drum Units, Ink Cartridges for printer & fax; \$27.00 for UCC Permits for 3rd & 4th Qtr 2021; Staples- \$344.96 for 2 24in Monitors for Secretary Office. March Visa Report- \$782.48; \$23.90 Walmart.com for cables to connect monitors, \$154.01 – Speedway(gas) – for GMC; \$100.00 LSA Grant Application Fee; \$534.06 Kens Tires – Tires for Police Car; (\$29.49)- (credit) returned cables to Staples. Fayash made motion to accept the treasurer's reports for February and March pending audit, 2nd Feathers, All Approved. MCT interest rate went from .01 to .03. Reserve account will CaCl will be opened 4/8/22 @3:15pm. Feathers motioned to accept the Visa Report, 2nd Hosler. All Approved.

Answers to Last Month's Public Questions - Budget for Highways, Roads and Streets for 2022 is \$114,500. 20% of the budget is for Street lights. 2022 - \$7710.84, 2021 - \$22,934.43, 2020 - \$22,034.43, 2019 - \$21,596.86

Public comment on agenda items only – Christine Verdier reserves her right to make public comment on Mary D Plug Contract when it is being discussed.

Police Report –Traffic speeding–5; 1Littering citation for dropping garbage on the road; 1 ATV side by side citation; Assist other agencies, traffic hazards, ATV dirt bike chase resulting in arrests, 2 abandoned vehicles, warrant service. Officers will continue to patrol and enforce ATV's up on Hilltop Lane. Requesting Supervisors to have street signs posted at Hilltop Lane and the end of Chinchars property, clearly marking our township road. I am securing 2 signs being donated by Reading Anthracite to be placed on Hilltop Lane advising and prohibiting the parking of trailers, trucks and riding ATVS. Township jeep almost complete needs some exhaust work and extra work on the rocker panels to pass inspection. We will need to discuss at a future meeting how to proceed with it. The new engine is in and running good. Police car damage was over 4K Chief DiMarco spoke with the ins co, they gave the go ahead to start the work, the \$500 deductible was paid by the defendant. Joe Leskin asked what happened to the police car, Fayash stated 2 weeks ago there was a chase that led off road and damaged the vehicle.

Code Enforcement Report – Discussed in Executive Session

Roadmaster Report-Buccieri stated he plowed & salted roads, patched potholes, fixed crooked signs, trimmed tree branches, storm clean up, cleaned all storm drains; grated road sides for water runoff, equipment maintenance, building & ground maintenance; removed generators that sold for \$1500. Tree quotes and Road quotes will be in by mid month workshop.

Solicitors Report-Noise ordinance to be signed now & Tallick Subdivision Plans signed which was completed prior to the meeting. Fayash motioned to pass the Noise Ordinance, 2nd Feathers; All Approved.

Zoning Report- 2 Zoning Permits Feb- Fabrizio, Fence & Chernes, demolition garage, 2 Zoning Permits March Zwirnman, change of use –carpet warehouse 590 Valley St., Olsen, Fence

Committee Reports

Council of Government- Met – date discrepancy

Tax Collection Committee- did not meet

Eastern Schuylkill Recreation Committee- did not meet

Communications: ESRP will meet @ Schuylkill Township on April 13th 6 pm to discussed proposed amendments; Applied for Grant thru LSA for Skidloader – Under Review as of 4/1/22; Rec'd Franchise fees from Breezeline for \$3382.00; Salt contract for 2022-2023 completed – 100 ton; Breezeline will no longer carry MLB Network effective 2/28/22- Customer can order directly from MLB Network; Rec'd Payment for delinquent garbage on property 599 Old Route 209, in the amount of \$3568.82

Old Business: Linda Whetstone, Handicap Parking, Fayash Motioned to approve, 2nd Feathers, All approved Discussion ensued regarding 5-2008 was the last resolution done, In 2017 it was presented other options, however nothing was adopted at the time \$100 installation for sign and yearly \$60; PPL pending review of our Maintenance agreement & contract for street light with their attorneys; Paint the building – Chief DiMarco is setting up; Copy machine contract pending at manufacturer level thru Costars; Camera at entry to building – pending Costars for estimates; Facebook page – need to complete; Contingency plan for secretary – keys made in closet need to obtain lock box-password book already completed; Mary D Plug Contract- letter sent regarding the need for the copy of contract & to provide the township with the current testing & last 3 tests completed on fire hydrants- letter rec'd 3/31/2022; Feathers stated we rec'd the tests, Question if of plugs itself do we need 11 when we are paying for a Blythe Township hydrant which has higher output & sustainment right here on the corner. Feathers feels they could be reduced down by 3, N Main & Walnut, S Main & Walnut & Forest Lane, Verdier understands the Blythe hydrant. Verdier stated the hydrants on reports are listed by areas in the top field. If we are doing this per Verdier, we are going to do it right. Per Verdier these were installed by the township will the township remove them and when is the township paying for the other 8 hydrants. Per Verdier in the Second Class Township Code – you put them in you take them out. Then with the 8 hydrants in arrears does she need to notify the public? Per Feather this is what is being decided tonight in executive session. Verdier asked if anyone with her had anything about the fire hydrants discussed. Per Ron Novak North, South Main and Walnut are the most vital service due to crossing an intersection of a fire service and block the town off. The other connection is the interconnection to Blythe. Feathers asked Novak if they use the Blythe hydrant, Per Novak only if they have too. We hit N Main or S Main first; once everything gets there they establish the water connection. Feathers asked why you don't hit the Blythe. Per Novak they are both just as good as the Blythe hydrant. Per Feathers we are paying for 3 hydrants? Blythe is the better output and sustainment. Discussion ensued between Feathers and Novak. Per Novak those are the 2 best hydrants in Mary D, next to the Blythe hydrant, Per Novak it is used to interconnect to Blythe whether it is a fire emergency or water emergency. Feathers asked are you then connecting and back flushing system using Blythe's Water? Per Novak – No. Feathers stated you just said you connected it in the Blythe? Per Novak you have to ask Blythe Township Water Company permission to do this and BTMA has a protocol in place for them when this is done. Feathers stated the township owns the hydrants, Christine just stated we do. Feathers stated you are hooking on to a hydrant with another hydrant with another water company. Per Novak correct in an emergency situation. Discussion ensued regarding the lines. Verdier asked Novak if there was anything with the hydrant on Forest Lane. Per Novak that was put in for flushing purposes. Feathers stated that was put in for you guys. Per Novak he wasn't part of that hydrant being installed. Verdier asked Feathers why a phone call or meeting couldn't be done vs. a threatening letter. Per Feathers it wasn't a threatening letter it was asking for the contract from the water company. Per Fayash, BTMA and Tamaqua will be going through the same as Mary D Community Association. Job posting – no responses, hung at post offices, Brockton mailboxes, website & to run in both papers 3/31 to 4/2 rec'd application today will discuss in executive session; Sanderson Street per Fayash, met with Engineers walked the whole road, waiting on the engineering study to decide what we are going to do; PSATS Convention April 24 to April 27, 2022

New Business: Review and update Ordinance 78-1 Pertains to old 209, any other street if posted by ordinances signs; discussion ensued regarding updating this ordinance, Per Atty Baranko wait until we get the engineer study. Discuss community yard sale date Fayash made motion for 6/11/2022 Rain date 6/12/2022 2nd Feathers, All Approved; PIRMA Invoice for \$11,112 for General Liability, Auto Liability, Law Enforcement Liability, Public Officials Liability due by 5/8/2021 – Brockton Fire Truck removed dropped premium from \$11,464 to \$11,112; Garbage bill rate for 2022-2023 discussion ensued. Hosler made motion to set garbage bill rate at \$200.00 due by 6/30/2022. 2nd Feathers. All Approved. Fayash reminded residents if they have a problem paying the garbage bill please see Township Secretary there are payment programs available. Robert Kupetz some homes have so much garbage out and it is being picked up by Tamaqua Transfer. Fayash, Feathers, and Hill stated that garbage does get left behind. Discussion ensued regarding the garbage contract; we did a 5 year contract. George Yatsko Handicap Parking Hill stated Yatsko has proper paperwork and Mr. Yatsko is aware of the handicap parking fees and that anyone with a handicap plate could park there. 60 Locust Ave Mary D; Bob Kupetz-Laurel Ave Driveway (letter)- Hosler asked where the bank was, Kupetz stated on the right of the property, Mr. Kupetz would like to remove the bank that was put there on his property and move it to his property line. The rest will be up to the township, due to it being township property. Major part of bank is on township property.

Mr. Kupetz had his property surveyed a few years ago and those are the pins that are reflected on the property. He wants the full width of his property. Vehicle in picture is the neighbors and on township property. Discussion ensued regarding the area with the supervisors. Per Fayash and Feathers this will be discussed in executive session

Public Comment –Robert Kupetz, Mary D- Where are we with the parking situation? Per Feathers we are waiting on the engineers from Breezeline and Verizon. How long till he knows about his driveway question? Per Fayash a decision will be given at next meeting on 5/2/2022. John Zubris, Brockton- Mr. Zubris stated that Christine Verdier said that the 3 Supervisors sent Mary D Community Association a threatening letter, he would like to see or hear the letter, letter date 3/21/2022 was read, Per Verdier it was the 1st one sent, which is the email. The following emails & letters were read to public:

Verdier, Christine <cverdier@pasen.gov>

Mon, Mar 21, 2022 at 3:13 PM

To: Denise Hill <bossschtwn@gmail.com>

Cc: Debbie Balliet <herbalifer5@yahoo.com>, Suzanne Apanavage <SuzanneApanavage@verizon.net>

Denise,

I understand that Gary had some questions as to why Mary D Community Association bills the township for Fire Hydrant rentals—as I assume you also get a similar bill from Blythe Township Municipal Authority for Brockton & Tuscarora. Hope the attached letters answers all questions that have been raised.

Christine Verdier

Chief of Staff

State Senator David Argall

*PO Box 150
Mahanoy City, PA 17948*

570-773-0891

570-617-4778 (mobile)

www.senatorargall.com



Schuylkill Township Fire Hydrant Rental Letter 2022.docx

15K

Denise Hill <bosschtwn@gmail.com>
To: "Verdier, Christine" <cverdier@pasen.gov>
Cc: Debbie Balliet <herbalifer5@yahoo.com>, Suzanne Apanavage <SuzanneApanavage@verizon.net>

Mon, Mar 21, 2022 at 3:18 PM

Christine,

Thank you. I will forward it to the supervisors.

Thanks,

Denise

Denise Hill
Schuylkill Township
Secretary/Treasurer
Schuylkill Township Municipal Building
75 Walnut Street
PO Box 405
Mary D, PA 17952
570-668-1039

bosschtwn@gmail.com

E-mail:

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Denise Hill <bosschtwn@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 21, 2022 at 3:20 PM

To: Charles Fayash <cfayash@yahoo.com>, GARY FEATHERS <gary.feathers.supervisor@gmail.com>, "Charles.Hosler@merakey.org" <Charles.Hosler@merakey.org>

Supervisors,

Please see below email from Christine Verdier regarding the Mary D, fire hydrant rentals.

Thanks,

Denise

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[Quoted text hidden]

Schuylkill Township Fire Hydrant Rental Letter 2022.docx
15K

Gary <gary.feathers.supervisor@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 21, 2022 at 8:04
PM

To: Denise Hill <bossschtwn@gmail.com>, Charles Fayash <cfayash@yahoo.com>, "Charles.Hosler@merakey.org" <Charles.Hosler@merakey.org>

Denise,

Please respond to Ms. Verdier requesting the following.

1. A copy of the "contract" between Schuylkill Township and Mary D Community Association for hydrant, and what we are paying for.
2. A copy of the current and last three certified hydrant pressure rating for each individual hydrant.

Also, please put on the agenda for next meeting, if we do not already have in place that we need to discuss and adopt the NFPA codes and standards. Specially as it applies fire hydrants and fire protection/service for the township

Example: [NFPA 291](#) provides guidance on fire flow tests and marking of hydrants in order to determine and indicate the relative available fire service water supply from hydrants and to identify possible deficiencies which could be corrected to ensure adequate fire flows as needed. Is code for fire hydrant system

Gary

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

[Quoted text hidden]

Mary D Community Association
PO Box 115
Mary D, PA 17952

March 21, 2022

Gary Feathers, Supervisor
Schuylkill Township
PO Box 405
Mary D, PA 17952

Dear Mr. Feathers,

The Mary D Community Association would like to update you regarding the fire hydrant rental fee we submitted to the township for payment in January.

As you know, water service is provided by the Mary D Community Association to the Village of Mary D only. We are entrusted by the Community, through our bylaws, to provide water service to all members and nonmembers throughout the community.

According to Article 18 of the Second Class Township Code, Section 1801 allows the Board of Supervisors to provide for fire protection in the township. Section 1801 authorizes the supervisors the ability to place and maintain those hydrants installed.

While fire hydrants have been installed by a township, the Community Association is who the Board of Supervisors contracts with to supply sufficient water for the protection of property from fire (Section 1802). The cost of servicing water to those hydrants lies with the Community Association. We bill the Township a flat rate of \$188 per hydrant for the eleven hydrants within the Village.

If you have further questions, feel free to join us at a meeting of the Association held on the Second Wednesday of every month at the Mary D Fire Hall at 7pm.

Sincerely,

Christine Verdier, President
Mary D Community Association Board

Schuylkill Township Supervisors
PO Box 405 75 Walnut Street
Mary-D, PA 17952

Phone: 570-668-1039 Fax: 570-668-0908

March 23, 2022

Christine Verdier, President
Mary-D Community Association
PO Box 115 Mary-D, PA 17952

Dear Ms. Verdier,

In response to your letter, dated March 21, 2022, the supervisors and I are requesting a copy of the contract between Schuylkill Township and Mary-D Community Association for the hydrants and what we are paying for.

The supervisors and I are also requesting a copy of the current and last three certified hydrant pressure rating for each individual hydrant.

Sincerely,

Gary Feathers, Vice Chairman

dmh

Public Comment-continued

Erin Donley, Brockton – Is there a contract on file from the Community Association to the Township for the services? Per Feathers No, Per Erin she (Verdier) stated that the Community Association contracts with the Township? Why isn't there one stating this is what you pay for. If there was another fire in Mary D like the Dennings previous fire, are the hydrants capable of handling it, the pressure and continuous hours to fight the fire. Per Feathers base on the NFPA it will work however for the sustainment that's another story. Discussion ensued regarding the sustainability of the hydrants. Why are we paying for them then? If they can't sustain to put out a fire why are you paying? Discussion ensued regarding the hydrants. Bridget Leskin, Brockton, Water drain issue on Valley and Emerick is a hazardous. Last week someone was thrown into their wall. Discussion ensued and the supervisors will have Mark look at it. Joe Leskin, brought up same subject 3 years ago and told nothing could be done, have the engineer look at it. Mark Boyle, where would the weight limit start and stop, Per Fayash until the engineer study is complete we don't know. Robert Kupetz, Mary D-the storm basin in front of his house on Laurel Ave, the red brick are falling inside the basin, He tries to maintain in front of his house, Can the township give me the approval to get the stuff and Mr. Kupetz will do this to fix the storm basin. Per Feathers we will look at it when we look at the driveway. Discussion ensued regarding the basin and fixing it. Joe Leskin, Brockton- I asked the supervisors to install a speed limit sign on his end of the street, next speed limit sign is by Williams. Discussion ensued regarding the stop signs and where they are placed now. Discussion ensued with Atty Baranko about speed signs and stop signs. Erin Donley, Brockton- question about Sanderson street, I know you are waiting on engineers, how long will this take. Per Feathers they are looking at it and he meets with Engineer for something different on Wednesday night and will discuss with him. Erin feels the people responsible for it, should be the ones taking care of it. Jen Chinchar, Mary D – Will there be more police officers on now that it is getting nicer out. Per Fayash there will be, however we do not give out the police schedules to the public. Cheryl Kistler, Mary D- you mentioned the noise ordinance, is this something new or being revamped? Per Feathers and Fayash this is new and per Atty Baranko, gave her a copy of the ordinance. This was approved tonight.

Fayash motioned to go into executive session.

Discussed Delinquent code enforcement, Discussed fire hydrants for Mary D, Fayash made motion to pay for 10 hydrants @ \$188 per hydrant. One on Forest Lane was Identified by Ron Novak that it is a blow out, township will not pay for that one. 2nd Feathers. All Approved. Spoke about Applicant setting up interview on 4/20/22 at 630 pm prior to the Workshop Mtg @ 7 pm, Discussed Locust Ave – will be going up to look at culvert and Kupetz Bank, and drain on Emerick Street, Brockton.c

Fayash made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd Feathers. All approved.

Adjourned

Attest: Denise Hill