

November 6, 2023  
Board of Supervisors Meeting  
Schuylkill Township  
75 Walnut Street  
Mary-D, PA 17952

### **Introduction**

The Regular meeting of the Supervisors of Schuylkill Township was held on Monday, November 6, 2023 in the Municipal Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present at the meeting included Charles Fayash, Gary Feathers, and Charles Hosler. Charles Fayash asked the Board to amend the Agenda to add 51 Locust Street about a handicap sign and a fee of \$70 for post office box. Charles Hosler second the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

### **Meeting Minutes**

Charles Fayash called for the approval of the regular meeting minutes for September 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Charles Hosler made the motion, Gary Feathers seconded the Motion all in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **Charles Fayash read the Treasurer's Report. (October)**

As of October 31<sup>st</sup>. General Fund Balance \$219,719.00, Payroll Fund, \$4193.00, Liquid Fuels \$34,042.00, Solid Waste Fund \$85,578.00, ARP Local Fiscal Recovery Grant \$94,900.00, CACL Reserve Fund checking \$66,768.00, Reserve Fund Savings \$124,460.00. Total Balances of all Accounts equals \$640,597.00. Charles Fayash made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report pending audit. Gary Feathers seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0. Visa report one purchase \$342 for staples.

### **Answers to Last Month's Public Questions – None**

### **Public Comment on Agenda items only – None**

### **Police report – October 2023**

Chief Frank Demarco said there were a total of 10 calls answered, 302 warrant served, 2 animal dog bite complaints, both were handled by Rich Hine State Dog Warden, an abandon vehicle, Littering, Report request, municipal complaint, Trick or Treat was handled by officer Lex, disturbance and assisted other agencies. 13 citations were issued including: No driver's license, under suspension, no inspections, no insurance, 3 speeding, one for displayed registration, one stop sign and two registration. Lines were painted at the intersection of Tuscarora and the intersection of Mary-D. Two more spots going up one at the Brockton Bridge and one out by the dynamite plant. Later we will do in town when approved. Gary Feathers stated he had talked to Walker Township regarding the line and they agree you can enforce and they will provide a letter if needed. Chief said lines were marked off but not painted yet. Charles Fayash suggested Valley Street coming in and out of town near the Dollar General. Chief said the only problem he has is by law signs must be posted a certain way on local roads. The state has speed limits signs posted already. Speed limit signs must be so many feet apart and only enforced so many feet past the sign. Chief has to look into where the signs must go. Gary Feathers said Mark has to get pools on 209. Chief said the speed limit is 55 if not posted. Chief said we have to adopt an ordinance as to what the speed limit should be. Charles Fayash said we already have an ordinance and he believes it is 45mph. Mark Buccieri said he believes the speed limit in town is 25 mph. Gary Feathers said we need to know what the distance is between the signs to place the polls. Chief said on the local

road wherever you think we are having a problem. Gary Feathers said on old 209 there are heroine needles and other issues going on between 6 pm and 2 in the morning. That is what the residents are saying and I know what goes on behind my house. Chief said this is Tamaqua playground. Tamaqua is too hot so they come here. Gary Feathers said we need police patrol during 6 at night to 2 in the morning. Chief agreed with Gary Feathers on patrols in the evening. Chief said if we could sit down and talk about where to place the speed limit signs. When we determine the places and what the speed limits should be. Chief said he believes its 25 and 35 in town. Charles Fayash said town is 25, state is up to 30, and then drops down to 25. Charles Hosler said the cut off to the mountain road is 30. Chief said that area is properly posted and is state road. Charles Fayash said you could sit at the green building and they won't see you coming from Mary-D. Charles Fayash added parking over the white line will be ticketed. We already have a problem is Tuscarora. Chief said it's under PA vehicle code Impeding Traffic. Gary Feathers stated we discussed a 30 day warning, since the lines were just painted.

- **LPR Status** - Chief is going to check on the LPR agreement status. Not sure if it was faxed.

Charles Fayash asked it be faxed tonight. Chief said if it's faxed it's just a matter of scheduling.

### **Code enforcement Report**

Nothing for code enforcement except what we discussed about Swenson. Chief said he was personally served and explained what the Judge ordered if he comes back he will be arrested. The property has been checked. We have been communicating with the neighbors Mrs. Ritz to contact police if she see anything. Discussion of the cleanup of the property and who is responsible. Chief also stated Swenson's car was towed due to quality of life issue.

### **Road Master Report**

- **Tuscarora Basketball Court Status** - Charles Fayash asked about the Tuscarora Basketball court status. Mark Buccieri said the court is now on hold because of the cold weather. We will get it done in the spring. Charles Fayash asked is the 1<sup>st</sup> quote was correct with the ball field. Mark Buccieri confirmed the quote included the ball field for free.
- **Second Road paving project status** - Complete.
- **Tree Removal Seneca Street Status** Charles Fayash said the tree removal on Seneca Street is complete. There are logs available take at your own risk.
- **Township line painting status** - Gary Feathers said it was 90% completed. He will contact the contractor regarding finishing. Gary Feathers said the quote was for Schuylkill Township.
- **Garage Door openers Status** - Mark Buccieri said it was completed, the seals on the doors still needs a bottom piece, still waiting on the part.

Charles Fayash thanked everyone for the no parking signs, for the lines, and the road flares on Halloween. He state we need different flares that don't leave nails on the road.

**Mark Buccieri read the Road Master report for October 2023.** Boarded up 86 and 88 Back Street, cut township grass, paved and patched pot holes, equipment repair and maintenance, painted stop lines at main intersections, prep road for line painting, trim trees back, repair drains in front of Mary-D fire company, and other paving projects, will be starting back on stop sign projects, get trucks ready to plows, and salt spreaders.

Charles Fayash asked about the no parking signs for Brockton for the 300 block on the north side. Mark confirmed that there will be two signs. Charles Fayash explained the snake road on valley Street this was to allow parking on the north side of the 200 block and more parking on the south side on the 300 block. Previous ordinance stated 300 block had no parking at all, it was not enforced. Trying to help out the residence for more parking. Charles Fayash said the engineer advised on the lines.

### Solicitor's Report

Attorney Baranko asked did we post the order for no trespassing sign at the Swenson's property. The Chief stated he was served in person and no signs were posted. Attorney Baranko said we should post No Trespassing signs front and back of the property and take pictures. On the county road haven't heard from Paul Dotty, so I know he acknowledged receipt. Attorney Baranko stated everything was good with the deeds. Gary Feathers asked about the garbage contract. Attorney Baranko reviewed the Refuge billing paper work contract and he was fine with it.

### Zoning Report

- **September 26 – October 18 – Zoning Hearing Solar Array.** Charles Fayash said it was passed on conditions.
- **One permit for Fence.**

### Committee Reports

COG will be meeting November 15

Tax committee will be meeting sometime in December

### Communications

Gary Feathers said the web designer will be having a rate increase in January for an additional \$100.00. UCC/ zoning will also have a rate increase. The solicitor Slusser will have an increase.

### OLD Business

- **Return of Township property to county:** Charles Fayash said as discussed we haven't heard anything as the solicitor previously stated.
- **Hometown Hero Flags** – Gary Feathers it was submitted with one change for a misspelling. Should be coming in a few weeks.
- **Zoning Permit – Increase Discussion** - Gary Feathers said we haven't had a follow up discussion. Charles Fayash said would should table it to next meeting.
- **Swenson Property** – Charles Fayash said we previously discussed this, he asked about cleaning the property up. Attorney Baranko said we should start with a demolition. Quotes are usually around \$20,000 to \$32,000 depending on the size of the structure for demolition, but we are talking just clean up, so if we have \$22,500 max we would have go to bid and 3 telephonic bids. Gary Feathers said we will need help with the contract. Mark Buccieri asked about personal property such as dressers. Gary Feathers said we are just cleaning the outside. Attorney Baranko said we have the right to go inside. What the Judge was looking for is to remediate. No personal effects just propane tanks, and batteries the hazardous items. Before you can back in Dave Miller indicated they have to go thru permitting for electrical. Charles Fayash said a resident wants to make sure whoever has the contract has insurance. Attorney Baranko said it would be included in the contract.
- **Secretary Position – Status** – Charles Fayash made a motion to hire Ann Miller as Secretary 20 to 24 hours a week. Gary Feathers 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Charles Hosler abstained from the vote, because he is related. Motion was carried 2 -1. Gary Feathers formally introduced Ann Miller as the Secretary.
- **State Fireman relief check presented to relief. Need to complete the report to state** – Gary Feathers said the Treasure Dana Brubaker was working on it, and it would be finished tonight.
- **Completion of Refuged Billing Paperwork**\_Gary Feathers made a motion to accept the Refuge Billing Contract to outsource the billing of the garbage. Charles Fayash said the process is

cheaper than having the secretary to collect it. Charles Hosler 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried 3-0.

- **PLGIT'S Account – Status** – Gary Feathers made a motion to approve Resolution number 2023-3. For the PLGIT'S account with the Pennsylvania local government investment Trust Company. Charles Fayash 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried 3-0. Charles Fayash added this is to transfer a couple accounts over for a 5% or 6% interest instead of the .1% we are getting now.

#### **New Business**

- **Township Secretary – Hiring Action** – Previously discussed the position has been filled
- **22-Ton Road Salt ordered** – Mark Buccieri confirmed the salt was delivered.
- **Township Annual Donations to Township Fire Company's** – Charles Fayash said the total would be increased from \$4500.00 to \$5000.00. Since we only have two fire companies each would get \$2500 each. Charles Fayash made a motion to donate a total of \$5000 to our two fire companies, which would be \$2500 each. Charles Hosler 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried 3-0.
- **2024 Schuylkill Township Budget** – Still working on the budget at this time.
- **Amended add on**
- **Post Office box Fee \$70.00** – Charles Fayash explained we are looking into putting a mailbox at this location. He made a motion to pay the \$70.00 to the post office if we are able to have our own mailbox we will be reimbursed. Charles Hosler second. All in favor. Motion carried 3-0.
- **Remove handicap sign at 51 Locust street** – New owner requested sign be removed. Charles Fayash made a motion to remove the sign at 51 Locust Street. Charles Hosler 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried 3-0

#### **Public Comments** –

**Joseph Leskin** – Brockton - asked where the two dog bites happened. Chief said one in Brockton and one in Mary-D. Separate incidents not the same dog. Joseph asked when the speeding and running the stop sign is going to be looked at on Valley Street. Mr. Leskin offered for the police to sit on his property to monitor traffic. Gary Feathers asked Mr. Leskin to write a letter allowing Police to park on his property.

**Dorothy Wisner** – Brockton – asked as to the status of the draining near her property, previously discussed in the September meeting. PennDOT contacted her saying it wasn't their issue and you stated it wasn't a township issue. She wanted to know if anyone contacted Jim from PennDOT to let them know it's not a township issue. Charles Fayash said we reached out to our engineer and he was going to contact PennDOT. The Solicitor said it is state property and part of it is on private property, not sure if they can go on private property. Gary Feathers said it was PennDOT's drain. Dorothy Wisner said there is a fire hydrant on the property and isn't there an easement. Gary Feathers said the fire hydrant belongs to the Blythe township water authority. Charles Hosler said we can contact the engineer to see if he called PennDOT. Dorothy Wisner asked if someone would call her to let her know when they contact PennDOT. Chief asked for her to leave her name and number.

#### **Executive Session**

Charles Fayash made a motion to go into executive session. Charles Fayash seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0.

Charles Fayash called the meeting back in session. He said we spoke about some properties. Charles Fayash said he would like to make a motion to have a special meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to

discuss our budget, to be approved for advertisement. Gary Feathers 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All if Favor.  
Motion was carried. 3-0

**Adjournment:**

Gary Feathers called for a motion to adjourn. Charles Fayash 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0.

Attest:

Ann Marie Miller

Township Secretary