

**Union Township
Board of Supervisors
Public Meeting
July 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**

The Union Township Legislative meeting was called to order by Supervisor Heather Daerr at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Proof of Publication Confirmed

Moment of Prayer by Pastor Al

Attendees at meeting were: Heather Daerr, Chairperson; Charles Trax, Vice Chairman; Richard Lawson, Supervisor/ Treasurer; Hal D. Breinig, Supervisor/Roadmaster; David A. Esken, Supervisor/Roadmaster

Also in attendance were: Roberta Singer, Secretary/Ass't Treasurer; Karen Brown, Administration; Gary Sweat, Solicitor, Sweat Law Offices; Jamie Harshman, Engineer – Harshman CE Group, LLC; Sean O'Dell, Engineer - Harshman CE Group, LLC, Sarah Scott, Esquire, Sweat Law Offices

Public Comments

Bernadette Speer – Chevy Chase Drive – Thank you for opening the Township Building for tax payments to be accepted. Please make revisions to Web Site that Keystone Collections collects EIT taxes and that Ms. Speer collects real estate and school taxes at the Township Building.

Michalle Dupree – 6178 State Route 88 – I see that you are going to vote on the Stream Ordinance and how vague it is. Curious if anyone reached out to DEP or Washington County Stream Alliance. There is just not enough their information to pass this Ordinance. Just wanted it on record that I object to the Streams Ordinance. Also, regarding the web site. I was at the Peters Creek meeting on Monday. They also have a problem with website and deduct meter. I feel like I am talking to myself. One of you can look up. Mr. Lawson stated that he can't look up and take notes. They are getting resident who are renting deduct meters from the Township and can't take readings from the Township meter – it must be on their meters to get readings.

Lori Kenavey – Brownsville Road Extension – Thank you for being appointed to the Auditor Board. I was sworn in and all paperwork turned into the Township. I have filed Financial Statement because I will be on the Republican and Democratic ballot in the fall to be elected as Auditor as this appointment will only run until the end of the year. One suggestion is that all elected and appointees have a background check so we don't run into issues as we did a couple weeks ago and have run into in the issues as have in

the past. And in good faith, I am turning in my clearances to show that as an auditor that there is nothing in my background to keep me from serving as Auditor. This is, of course, in the hopes that this Township will pass an ordinance that every elected official and appointed official must have clearances.

Regarding mowing and at the corner of Beverly and Brownsville Road Extension. Mowing is not being done. Site distance in question on this area. Brownsville Road is a state road but for 47 years they have done it.

Bill Pay List Questions.

\$3,925.00 – Invoice for Slusarczyk – what is that.

Ms. Daerr stated that if she gave us a list – we will pull invoices and supply her a copy.

Janet Hollingswoth – Hobbitt Lane – Start with prayer and goes into ugly dark place– but there is bashing from both sides. Very unprofessional. Daggers thrown from both sides. Not unified. Facebook – We are the people of Union Township on Facebook and posed question and it is really interesting thinking that the Supervisors represent this page. When serving the public, you should be more transparent. And when Michalle was speaking you all did have your heads down – and I understand frustration. You shut people down and make people not want to come. We want to make this a better Township – don't shut people down.

Ms. Singer responded to Ms. Kenavey about Slusarczyk for \$3,925.00 was for repairs to Gary Avenue property.

Executive Sessions: Personnel and Litigations

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Thursday, July 22, 2021

Monday, July 26, 2021

Solicitor's Report – will be available as meeting proceeds.

Chairman's Report – keeping open to report on as items come up.

Unfinished Business

Board of Auditor position – None.

Motion to Approve extension of the Tomko Grading Permit Agreement for 1 additional year.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Road Crew to repaint lines on Township Roads to freshen up and new lines for Police Officers to monitor speeding. (Request from Chief Kevin Harris of the Monongahela City Police).

Motion: Breinig

Second: Lawson

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 6 to commence legal action against Peters Creek Sanitary Authority to obtain a judicial Resolution of the disputes between Union Township and Peters Creek Sanitary Authority. Ms. Daerr read Resolution in full and a copy has been attached hereto.

Motion: Trax

Second: Breinig

Roll Call: Daerr—yes Trax—yes Lawson—abstain Breinig—yes Esken—yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Filing Declaratory Judgment Action and Injunction against Peters Creek Sanitary Authority.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – abstain Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Facebook Page/live streaming of meeting to be administered by Roberta Singer, Secretary.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve purchase of I-Pad and accessories to live stream meetings and GIS Tracking/Maintenance. Total Cost not to exceed: \$1,200.00

Motion: Esken

Second: Breinig

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve additional cost for asphalt repair of the driveway apron at 4042 Finleyville-Elrama Road.

Motion: Esken

Second: Breinig

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve payment of Invoice #1 from J5 Contracting for the Pleasantview Slide Repair project in the amount of \$182,338.60.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve payment of Invoice #1B from J5 Contracting for the Pleasantview Slide Repair project in the amount of \$36,044.39.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Environmental Performance Standards Ordinance.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Esken

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve hiring Terri Gladus as GIS and Township Administrator on a part-time basis and for Sweat Law Office to begin drafting a Contract for Ms. Gladus.

Motion: Trax

Second: Breinig

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Resolution No. 7 initiating the policy for copies of Supervisor's Meeting Packets to be available for Right to Know requests.

Motion: Esken

Second: Lawson

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Discussion Items:

Discuss regarding additional police & protection coverage. Solicitors to meet to discuss and additional coverage to start as of September 1, 2021.

Discuss regarding pay per call with Elrama Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Lenny Bailey spoke about the negatives of this program. Table until next meeting.

Discuss Washington Financial Account and possible other products to place funds into. Balance as of June 30, 2021, is \$500,956.11. Keep active per Washington Financial.

Discuss request for ACH Authorization from Washington County Recorder of Deeds. This ACH Deposit will replace physical paper checks being sent out to each municipality.

Motion to Approve Payroll dated July 23, 2021, in the amount of \$9,295.12 which consists of 1 Administrative, 1 LGA Intern, 2 Road Crew and 1 Road Master.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – abstain Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Breinig abstained because he is working and getting paid.

Motion to Approve Bill Pay List for General Fund in the amount of \$67,440.24.

Motion: Breinig

Second: Lawson

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

Correspondence - Discuss Chrome Shop Loan Documents and Township only using \$12,099.35 and not the \$20,000.00 as originally stated. Waiting for return of check. An error on loan documents submitted to the Township – as we only used \$12,099.00 and not the \$20,000.00.

Public Comments:

George Powell – Finleyville Elrama Road – Lots going on in Township – hidden secret – Jefferson Hill and South Park Township started long wall mining to be coming into the area. Keep eyes and ears open for any and all information. Can go as far as West Newton. Keep an eye on the houses in our community.

Lori Kenavey – Brownsville Road Extension – Q & A Hearing – can we do Zoom or live stream to hearing / meetings? Also, availability for questions and comments. Ms. Scott to set up Zoom for Q & A Hearing.

Michalle Dupree – 6178 State Route 88 – regarding 2021 Meeting Minutes – not in book because they need to get condensed. Not sure about condensing them. Also, feel your frustration about information from PCSA – same kinds of issues with PCSA and disconnect between Ms. Scott and myself – regarding Right to Know – wanted information from packets presented to the Board – as an audience member confused about what you guys are talking about and voting on. Right to know from January 2020. I paid to have transcribed and hearing on 5/27/2020. No information was received regarding this hearing. Could not get transcript as it was not approved – and requested audio recording if not transcribed yet. I was requesting everything but there is a disconnect between Ms. Scott and myself.

Ms. Daerr questioned about condensing minutes. Ms. Singer and Ms. Brown stated that once minutes are not touch or modified once approved.

Also, Ms. Scott made statement that there is no charge for my appearance at these meetings. Mr. Sweat stated that she is a young attorney and learning and I reserve the right to change that policy in the minutes. I reserve the right to change that in the future.

Ms. Daerr spoke about the Right to Know Requests – we are a small Township and we are in a difficult position. The experienced growth has put a burden on our administrative staff and with that said, please note that for the record. We encourage everyone to watch what is going on in the Township. Please keep in mind that it is a large undertaking for the Township. To date, we have spent almost \$15,000 in responding to and answering Right to Knows. We have received exorbitant requests and our staff has keep up as best as possible.

Ms. Daerr also spoke about – it is hard to answer public comment. It is truly your time. Normally, other Townships have 1 public comment section. We have 2. We want you to be heard. We want you to have your allotted time. We can't always answer anything since we don't always have things at our fingertips and we don't want to answer incorrectly so we do our research and answer at a later date. Zoning Hearing Board minutes. We do not have them and they are not kept here. Steve Taczak handles the Zoning Hearing Board. If the Township even wanted transcripts, we would have to pay for them.

On a more personal note, it has been a very trying tremendous year. With the pandemic and protecting staff and citizens. Exorbitant amounts of litigation. We have not totaled it. We have had many wins in court and spent over \$100,000.00 and the taxpayers are paying a lot. We have no choice – we have to defend. Tremendous amounts of Facebook post and have painted the Supervisors and even some of their families in a very negative light. It has been a tremendous strain on everyone. New Facebook page will help with correct information and will keep you notified with facts and truth.

Janet Hollingsworth – Hobbitt Lane – re: Union Township Volunteer Fire Department – typo. Also are we still looking for a Township Manager. We had extensive search and had 3 go arounds with interviews, etc. Possibly made at least 7 offers and nobody accepted offer. It was in budget and in 2019 and with our attempts to hire and 2020 was a trying year. We spent hours, days, weeks, months, and with the litigation looming, we have posted wins and the time we were spending, we took the Manager budget out and felt so uncertain about the whole situation, we removed from the budget. We are planning on looking to put it back in the budget. And the last thing – did Ms. Speer get permission to reopen the tax office.

Mr. Esken made statement about the amount of time we all spend on the phone, meetings, etc. and that we don't get paid for any of that. We are here for you guys, my phone number is on Facebook page - please call me anytime.

Frank Latorre – Boyka Drive – Comment about what Ms. Kenavey said regarding adopting and checking references. There were a lot of lies and misconceptions about me and a lot of those were fabricated. There were a lot of lies and I sat in 2 PCSA meetings and the lies that are projected in these meeting and the lies that are made about this Board is ridiculous. They tell members of the sewer authority not to believe anything the Union Township Supervisors say because they are all lies. Please get your facts right before you chastise people. Comments hurt me, my family and it all turned out to be a big lie. No apologies were offered. Just think about what you do to other people before you speak about them.

Also spoke about car cruise on Tuesday night and the good the church does for anyone. Cruise on September 7 is for charity for Horses for Hope for the children. All monies and proceeds for Horses for Hope and help children with special needs. Lots that need to be done up there and all donations gratefully accepted.

Kevin Hallam (?) 5858 Don Street – regarding what Ms. Kenavey said. Background check on officials. Also comment about paying volunteer fireman. Will they be 1099'd and covered under WC. Rate has to be competitive.

Supervisor Comments:

Motion to go into Executive Session for personnel reasons and possible litigation at 6:30 pm.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken – yes

Motion Carried

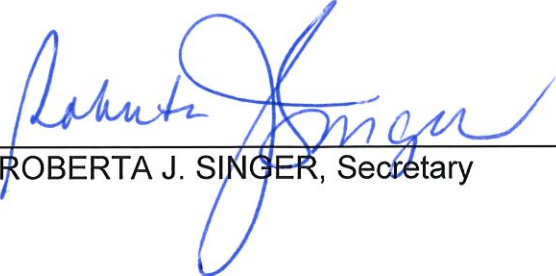
Motion to Adjourn @ 7:25 p.m.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Roll Call: Daerr – yes Trax – yes Lawson – yes Breinig – yes Esken - yes

Motion Carried



ROBERTA J. SINGER, Secretary