

**Union Township Board of Supervisors
Public Meeting
September 22, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m.**

The Union Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Heather Daerr at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Proof of Publication confirmed

Moment of Prayer by Paster Ken

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; Terri Gladus, Twp. Adm.; Michael Cruny, 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; Sarah Boyce, Engineer – Harshman CE Group, LLC

Public Comment:

Mike Barna – 4042 Finleyville Elrama Road – spoke regarding emergency preparedness; help regarding flooding, etc. What if we had a volunteer committee that would offer to help when there is an emergency in the Township. Helping our road crew in emergencies. It was discussed that we would have issues to discuss with the Union representative so as not to violate the current CBA with Local 205.

Terry DeWitt - spoke about flooding and damages during Hurricane Ida rainfall. Putting new drains in and putting sewage in to stop flooding and if there is anything that the Township can help with would be greatly appreciated. Also spoke about streams and debris in streams from the rain incident. They are going to try and keep mitigate water in the future.

Janet Hollingsworth – 69 Hobbitt Lane – comment to Mr. Esken and she apologized if she offended him in any way. Also received notice regarding Q & A Hearing – husband was not at hearing but his name was on letter. Ms. Scott explained that Ms. Hollingsworth and her husband's name was on the list to receive the final determination.

Linda Evans Boren – 22 Parkvue Drive – spoke about free flu clinic shots at St. Francis – asked to have it put on website and Facebook page – this is being sponsored by SEREMS. Clinic on Thursday, October 14 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and later

from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Found flyer from 2011 and wanted to share with everyone. Also commented on Agenda Item C – Solicitor’s report on Right to Know Request. As I have served on the Board and we have never engaged an attorney for the Right to Know Requests. Ms. Scott has been hired to assist and after review of Sweat Law Offices expenses which is normally just a Secretarial position. Spoke regarding getting documents via e-mails, and responses from other various Townships and how they are handling things. Spoke about Right to Know requests she has submitted and the amount of time for response from same. There are times when part is filled and some are not. Appeal filed and to go through mediation process. Still has not received information she has requested. She stated that thousands of tax dollars are being spent on Right to Know requests. Right to Knows should be handled within the 5-days within which it was requested. She presented a new Right to Know Request and read same so that there is not a future report completed on same.

Michalle Dupree – 6178 State Route 88 – Agenda Item #6 – PulsePoint – have we committed to fund this program? Agenda Item #H-4 – Stormwater Management document from FEMA. Under Solicitor’s Report – RTK report – minutes from past meetings are still not on-line on the website. Also mentioned about eliminating Tax Collector’s Office in the Township Building. Also commented upon Supervisors reimbursing themselves for tens of thousands of dollars – the taxpayers have a right to know how many other reimbursements are you giving yourselves? Also commented upon taxpayers funding federal lawsuits in the hundreds of thousands of dollars – we have a right to know how we got into court in the first place. The secretary mentioned that there are over 200 boxes in the c-can with unorganized and unmarked – we have a right to know why it is that way. Also, why would you hire a consultant with an ethics violation? We have a right to know that as well. When the Board writes contracts with employees that they have hand-picked and hired and then leaving the taxpayers to pay the ultimate litigation and settlement and how much that decisions cost us. Commends persons attending the meetings and doing Right to Knows.

Supervisor Lawson – made statement regarding reimbursement and you have every right to ask but the problem is that she had them in her hand. Every receipt and every copy of each check was produced. The whole purpose of all this grandstanding is to make this Board look bad. There is transparency in this Board. I don’t like people telling me what I should or should not be doing. I bought that stuff and I have receipts for everything that was reimbursed. I take pride in being a Supervisor and the doubt that you leave is not right.

Executive Sessions: Personnel & Litigation

September 8, 2021
September 15, 2021
September 21, 2021

Solicitor’s Report – will comment on items as they come up during the meeting.
Sarah Scott, Esquire – gave report on current Right to Know Requests.

Unfinished Business: - Vacancies - None

Motion to table purchase of additional equipment, signs, etc. for emergency preparedness.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Breinig

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

Motion Tabled

Motion to approve rental of port-a-john for soccer league if they decide to use Township property for soccer games/practice. Bid for \$215.00 from Approved Toilet Rental was the low bidder for \$215.0 which includes delivery, removal, ad weekly cleaning and restocking).

Motion: Daerr

Second: Esken

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve Konton Subdivision Plan conditioned upon satisfying Harshman CE Group's review comments, per Harshman's September 21, 2021, review letter.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Breinig

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

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Leco Subdivision Plan as part of the Act 537 Plan for the Mingo Package Plant.

Motion: Breinig

Second: Lawson

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve Coal Bluff Drainage Project Change Order with no monetary value changing scope of work based upon Harshman CE Group, LLC Letter of Recommendation dated September 21, 2021.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Breinig

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve authorizing Harshman CE Group, LLC to prepare bid documents, plan sheets, and necessary permits to repair slides and storm water issues along Coal Bluff Road as a result of storm damage from August 31, 2021, event.

Motion: Breinig

Second: Lawson

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve rental of water cooler system for the Township Building. Bids received and reviewed with Deans Water at approximately \$75.00 per month; Tyler Mountain at approximately \$70.21 per month; Crystal Spring at approximately \$56.41 per month. Authority to enter into Agreement with Crystal Springs for \$56.41 per month.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Breinig

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve payment to J5 Contracting for the Pleasantview Slide Repair Project. Invoices that are being presented are as follows: Invoice 2A for \$57,776.70; Invoice 2B for \$3,087.50; Invoice 3A for \$31,885.15.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Esken

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve authorizing Engineer to obtain written quotes from qualified contractors for the repair of the Hurricane Ida storm damaged driveway at 19 Cedar Lane in the immediate vicinity of the Pleasantview Slide Repair Project.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Trax

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

Motion Carried

Discussion regarding donations to the Fire Departments and Ambulance Service for 2021. To be placed on next meeting Agenda for approve / deny.

Discussion regarding 4042 Finleyville Elrama Road – pipe location and location of pipe to stream. To be placed on next meeting Agenda for discussion

Discussion regarding removal of Veteran's Flags – to be done after November 11, 2021 – with the help of Elrama Volunteer Fire Department. To be placed on next meeting Agenda for approve / deny.

Discussion regarding stormwater management and flooding in Union Township.

Discussion regarding scheduling Community Day for Union Township to dedicate newly removed park – Veteran's Memorial Park. To be placed on next meeting Agenda for approve / deny.

Discussion regarding Emergency Management Manual Update. To be placed on next meeting Agenda.

Discussion regarding update to PulsePoint and Tanner Smida supplying information to date. Donation.

Discussion regarding Coal Bluff Road closure(s). This topic has already been discussed earlier in meeting. We will need to figure out and post detours and permanent closure.

Supervisor Breinig left meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Motion to Approve Payroll dated September 17, 2021, in the amount of \$8,448.44 which consists of 1 Administrative, 1 Twp. Adm., 2 Road Crew and 1 Road Master.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

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

Motion Carried

Motion for Bill Pay list for the General Account in the amount of \$77,846.92.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Trax

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

Motion Carried

Motion for Bill Pay list for the Elrama Sewage Account in the amount of \$6,653.66.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

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

Motion Carried

Motion for Bill Pay list for the Overlook Sewage Account in the amount of \$1,209.90.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Trax

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

Motion Carried

Correspondence:

Public Comments:

Jim Smith – 6709 Highland Avenue – he has water in his garage and there is a 20' log blocking culvert. Also, there is a tree in the center of the creek and it is all damming up. Mr. Smith has taken pictures. All kinds of flooding on Highland Avenue since tree is damming up creek. This has been ongoing problem and eroding land. Culverts not lined up straight. He was advised to fill out a Complaint form and we will have a look at it and have tree removed. He filled out Complaint form 2 years ago. Mr. O'Dell spoke as to responsibility of who is to clean up creeks and flooding issues. Code enforcement will go out and look at situation. We will do what we can to help clean up and rectify the situation.

Michalle Dupree – 6178 State Route 88 – Thank Ms. Scott for clarification regarding documents received. Not all of the documents she requested are in her hands. Also questioned which developer commented on flood plain. NVR has requested that.

\$20.00 increase in everybody's increase in sewage bill. Have recording from July 8, 2020, from Ms. Daerr stating we may have to increase \$20.00 per person which is a consideration to help pay for outdated sewage project.

Lori Kenavey – Brownsville Road Extension – spoke regarding State Route 88 Corridor and flooding was seriously bad. Creek behind has been overflowing. Water is pouring off of Martik's property/asphalt. There are still major issues with flooding.

Terri DeWitt – questioned who was building homes at Mineral Beach Site. Engineer stated that Ryan Homes was building and that 112 were to be constructed at this site.

Supervisor Comments: None

Motion to Adjourn @ 7:03 p.m.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

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

Motion Carried


ROBERTA J. SINGER, Secretary