

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
June 8, 2022 5:30 p.m.**

The Union Township Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Heather Daerr at 5:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited

**Roll Call:**

Attendees were: Heather Daerr, Chairperson; Charles Trax, Vice Chairman; Richard Lawson, Supervisor/Treasurer; Michalle Dupree, Supervisor

Also, in attendance was: Roberta Singer, Secretary/Ass't Treasurer. Terri Gladus, Project Manager; Colin Chung, Summer Intern for Union Township; Gary Sweat, Solicitor, Sweat Law Offices; Sean O'Dell, Engineer, Harshman CE Group, LLC; Sarah Scott, Esq. Sweat Law Offices

**Proof of Publication:** Confirmed

**Moment of Prayer:** None

**Public Comment:**

John Madaras – Pleasantview Road, Finleyville, PA – wanted Pleasantview to finish paving at least 50' or 100' in either direction – stated contractor used reclaim. Also brought up Coal Bluff and why has this not been done. Just needed to throw stones down so no more land would slide.

Kenneth Picard – 11 Hout Lane, Elrama, PA – brought up topic of SEREMS and not changing EMS service for Union Township.

Jackie Seiler – 33 Morton Avenue, Finleyville, PA – Rental of Park – status of it being usable.

Pete Guido (Tuscany Estates) – 125 Viareggio Way, Finleyville, PA – status of roads since Maronda has moved out. Needing lights, finish work at Tuscany Estates. Also asked for copies of plans & specs for clubhouse and pool.

Tom Hart – 11 Lake Drive, Finleyville, PA – spoke regarding changing EMS service and it would be a travesty.

Linda Evans Boren – 22 Parkvue Drive, Finleyville, PA – Questioning acceptance of Dave Esken's resignation and his name was not on letterhead and the legality of it. Questioned if Supervisor Dupree is or is not on bank accounts. Stated bill pay listing

with amounts paid to attorneys. Questions for Wolman from last meeting. Petition obtained to keep SEREMS.

Lori Kenavey, Brownsville Road Extension, Finleyville, PA – grass cutting along Brownsville Road Extension (Beverly) and out into road watching cars so nobody gets hit. Attorney's fees are extremely high – ridiculous. SEREMS need to stay in Township. Petition signed (612 persons) to keep SEREMS in the Township.

Joanne Ketter, 55 Finley Avenue, Finleyville, PA – will speak later

Cheryl Robinson, 6265 Brownsville Road Extension, Finleyville, PA – express opposition to removing SEREMS from the Township.

**Executive Sessions:** None

**Department Reports:**

Solicitor Report – Will comment on items as they come up during meeting. Addressed Mr. Guido's questions. Briefly addressed hearing to be held on Friday re: Finleyville Elrama Road sewer project.

Engineer Report – Will comment on items as they come up during meeting. Mentioned status of Patterson Road – and will come in under original estimate. Coal Bluff Road – finalizing permits and ready to go out to bid. Veterans Park – status – contractor will have equipment removed and will be ready for rental. Mess will be cleaned out.

Treasurer's Report – Discussion regarding signature cards for bank accounts, additions and removing signatures.

Discussion between Supervisors and Solicitor regarding Attorney Kathleen Gallagher's invoices and payment of same.

Various discussion amongst audience and garbled statements – unintelligible.

Chairman's Report – Made statement regarding Item #7.

Elrama Pump Station Report – In Supervisor Packet. Mr. Lawson gave update on Elrama Pump Station.

Road Crew Report – In Supervisor Packet. Discussion regarding Road Crew hanging Veteran's Banners and change in law by OSHA. Mr. Lawson stated no change and they are not permitted to stand in back of dump truck without being tied off.

Building Permit Report – In Supervisor Packet

Code/Zoning Report – In Supervisor Packet

Animal Control Report – In Supervisor Packet

Project Manager Report – In Supervisor Packet. Will be touched on as they come up during the meeting.

Police Report from City of Monongahela – as read by Office Chase Taylor

**Vacancies**

Supervisor and/ Roadmaster  
Parks and Recreation Board  
Board of Auditors  
Planning Department Alternate

**Action Items**

Motion to the Board to add an agenda item, demi minus in nature, Approve / Deny removing the action item D4 from April 13, 2022 meeting which requested approve/deny Supervisor Dupree as signatory on any and all bank accounts and pension funds.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: Ms. Dupree asked if it will be removed from the meeting minutes.

Discussion ensued regarding removing and/or how this is to be handled.

Roll Call: Daerr - yes Trax - yes Lawson - yes Dupree- abstain

Motion Died

Motion to Approve acceptance of resignation of David Esken as Union Township Supervisor / Roadmaster.

Motion: Dupree

Second:

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- Trax- Lawson - Dupree-

Motion Died

Motion to Approve removing Dave Esken from all bank accounts as signatory.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Esken being removed and status of signature cards. Ms. Dupree asked why Mr. Esken's resignation is not being accepted. Mr. Sweat stated that they have 45 days to accept resignation and then 30 days to assign a new Supervisor.

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Fireworks Display on Friday, July 22, 2022 by Finleyville Volunteer Fire Dept. Fireworks display to be launched by Pyrotecnico Fireworks. (See letter dated May 22, 2022 from Douglas Detig, Carnival Chairman)

Motion: Lawson

Second: Daerr

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr-yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- yes

Motion Carried

Motion to approve Plavchak Construction Company Payment Application #1 for the Elrama Central Park Phase 1, Contract #3 (Electric Contractor). This payment application amounted to \$31,160.00.

Motion: Lawson  
Second: Trax  
Deliberation: None  
Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no  
Motion Carried

Motion to Approve payment of Trident Check in the amount of \$1,344.00 as deductible in the Kovach v. Union Township, et al.

Motion: Lawson  
Second: Trax  
Deliberation: No conflict for Mr. Lawson and Ms. Daerr to vote for payment of this bill. Ms. Dupree questioned the et al matter. It was explained that et al means everybody listed.  
Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no  
Motion Carried

Discussion regarding ambulance service in Union Township. Ms. Daerr stated to let Ms. Dupree lead discussion regarding ambulance service and its history. Ms. Dupree stated she feels this topic needs to be put to rest as it has been going on for a while. She would like to have a decision made and move on.

Ms. Daerr spoke to statement regarding money we were spending. Inaudible chatter from the audience continuing. Ms. Daerr gave history on Tanner Smida presentation and history of building and SEREMS requesting funds from the Township. Ms. Gladus to post all information on-line regarding all donations and history dating back for donations and contributions.

Constant disruptions from the audience and inaudible speaking by various parties.

Discussion continued regarding various

Motion to Deny changing EMS services to 1<sup>st</sup> Response Medical Services.

Motion: Dupree  
Second:  
Deliberation:  
Roll Call: Daerr- Trax- Lawson - Dupree-  
Motion Died

Motion to Approve execution of PAWC's Agreement. This Agreement was created to protect the Township's Sanitary Force Main during PAWC's construction operations during PAWC's Aldrich Water Treatment Plan project.

Motion: Daerr  
Second: Lawson

Deliberation: Inaudible chatter amongst the audience. Charlie Wilson spoke up about receiving a copy of the PAWC Agreement and the Township's Sanitary Force Main. Discussion ensued about the force main into Jefferson Hills Borough.  
Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- yes  
Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Union Township's payment for Frank Sever to attend CDL classes for his CDL license.

Motion: Daerr  
Second: Lawson  
Deliberation: Payment to be made directly to CDL company and clear in agreement with Mr. Sever that if he fails 1<sup>st</sup> time, he pays for 2<sup>nd</sup> set of classes. Discussion continued regarding obtaining CDL and if it is needed. Ms. Dupree stated her objection since she felt there was no need to have Sweat Law Office confirm with Union that he needs to obtain his CDL and that the Township must pay for same in the amount of around \$5,000.00.

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no  
Motion Carried

Motion to Approve execution of Intern Colin Chung's contract. Said contract is for \$15.00 per hour for 300 hours between May 31, 2022 and August 31, 2022.

Motion: Daerr  
Second: Lawson  
Deliberation: Ms. Dupree questioned that he has started work and his contract was not signed. Ms. Gladus assured that he was approved to work and that he is covered on the insurance and his paperwork is completed.

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no  
Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Temporary Occupancy Permit for Brizzi property. Property is located at 102 Airport Road, Finleyville, PA 15332

Motion: Daerr  
Second: Trax  
Deliberation: None  
Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no  
Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Holding Tank Agreement between Union Township and South Hills Pet Resort. Property is located at 15 Old Route 88.

Motion: Lawson  
Second: Trax  
Deliberation: None  
Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no  
Motion Carried

Motion to Approve purchase of additional Deduct Meter from Cox Piping Supply – not to exceed \$150.00.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve executing Letter of Support for the City of Monongahela Police Department for the GY 2022 COPS Hiring Program Department Justice Grant.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: Ms. Dupree asked who will be executing the letter. She was informed that all 4 Supervisors will be signing.

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- yes

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Michalle Dupree as signatory to all bank accounts and/or pension funds.

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- abstain

Motion Carried

### **Discussion Items:**

Discussion regarding part-time road crew applicant. Ms. Gladus stated that as long as we have no regular road crew member laid off, we are permitted to have a part-time employee. Gave update on applicant and qualifications. Discussed what job duties applicant will be doing and what he is to be trained in. Ms. Gladus to work with Mr. Lawson regarding a job description. Applicant would be part-time with no benefits, and within Union constraints. Discussion ensued regarding approval and/or disapproval of hiring part-time.

Discussion regarding banking signors and status of same. As of tonight, all Supervisors are considered signors. Also, two officers need to execute signature cards as well as the secretary.

Discussion regarding Key Bank and Washington Financial usage. Also, regarding Brentwood Bank. To be placed on next months' Agenda for further discussion. Accounts to be reviewed to be determined how accounts are classified and best options. This item is to be added to Agenda for next month. Ms. Singer to do an additional e-mail explaining reasons why it would be beneficial to narrow down bank accounts.

Discuss policy for public comment. Residents explaining that 10 minutes and 12 minutes are too long and that public comment should be curbed to 4 minutes. It was also mentioned that Board Members should also curb discussions. Residents want to get to business and not sit through an hour of public comments.

Discuss regarding newsletter. Need to look at electronic newsletter rather than printing and mailing out. Can be done monthly rather than paying exorbitant amounts for printing and mailing. A new draft to be distributed to the Board for review prior to being released to the public. We can also put in legal updates if desired.

Discuss Deduct Meter situation. Already discussed above and received approval for purchase of an additional deduct meter not to exceed \$150.00.

Discuss Waste Management Contract Extension. On next Agenda for approve/deny. Getting additional cost for making recycling 2x's a month rather than once a month.

**Bill Pay Listing:**

Motion to Approve Payroll dated May 11, 2022, in the amount of \$13,899.42 for 2 Administration, 3 Road Crew, 1 Tax Collector and 2 Zoning Hearing Board Members (George Powell & Don Fincham).

Motion: Lawson

Second: Trax

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Payroll dated May 27, 2022, in the amount of \$16,654.32 for 2 Administration, 3 Road Crew, and 1 Tax Collector.

Motion: Lawson

Second: Trax

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no

Motion Carried

Motion Approve Bill Pay List for the Brentwood Bank General Account in the amount of \$13,606.39. (5/25/2022)

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Bill Pay List for the Brentwood Bank Elrama Sewage Account in the amount of \$6,867.50. (5/25/2022)

Motion: Lawson

Second: Daerr

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no  
Motion Carried

Motion to Approve / Deny Bill Pay List for the Brentwood Bank Escrow Account in the amount of \$19,500.00. (5/25/2022)

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Bill Pay List for the Brentwood Bank General Account in the amount of \$151,142.55 (6/08/2022)

Motion: Lawson

Second: Trax

Deliberation: Ms. Dupree added that \$101,000.00 from contractor been delayed – excused under Act 65 Contractor Protection Act.

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no

Motion Carried

Motion to Approve Bill Pay List for the Brentwood Bank Elrama Sewage Account in the amount of \$123.70. (6/08/2022)

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax- yes Lawson - yes Dupree- no

Motion Carried

**Correspondence Read:**

Received letter of interest from Charles Wilson for Supervisor position received today.

Donation from EQT for Parks & Rec Yoga in the Park event in the amount of \$300.00.

Correspondence from PA DEP regarding the NPDES Individual Permit Application for Garvin Road Widening and Resurfacing – Withdrawal of Application. Mr. O'Dell asked that a copy be forwarded to him. Mr. Sweat to receive a copy as well.

Received e-mail from Washington County regarding Court of Common Pleas of Washington County is required to evaluate and submit a plan to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts to (1) reestablish; (2) realign; and/or (3) eliminate the individual magisterial districts of the County. Comments on this proposal must be received no later than the close of business on June 21, 2022, as set forth in the notice to the public. Copies of this item to be placed on website and Facebook page.



**Public Comment:**

George Powell – Finleyville Elrama Road, Finleyville, PA – Ambulance service - no problem with and just exploring our options. And everyone in this meeting, we all need to be in school board meetings to get safety in schools.

Charlie Wilson – 316 Stone Church Road, Finleyville, PA – Ambulance service – we get the best service. I have attended other Township meeting and their comments regarding Union Township meetings and this Board is a joke with hundreds of thousands going out on legal issues, etc. Prior members on the Board and never had these issues with legal bills.

Larry Spahr – 181 McChain Road, Finleyville, PA – Regarding what Mrs. Dupree/Mrs. Cox said earlier about bill payments from attorneys from last year, cash method or accrual method for the accounting and is Mr. Palermo aware of outstanding bills and do we get financial statements at all. Never seen financial statements on the table along with bill pays and Agenda. We need to get accurate statements for the Township's financial position. This Township has some significant unpaid invoices and we need to get up to date as that indicates some serious troubles for the Township.

Kevin Daerr – 6187 State Route 88, Finleyville, PA – Public comments and restricting down to 4 minutes. At prior meeting, I was cut off by Mrs. Evans I was cut off and showed respect and stopped and sat down. SEREMS – how long have we been talking about this issue.

Charlie Wilson – asked question about minutes of meetings. We approved minutes in February but have not since then. The Board decided that we will be sending out all minutes to allow ample time to review. There will be bulk meeting approval on June 22, 2022. Ms. Dupree advised that she objected to skipping around and approving minutes and offered help in getting them done.

Linda Evans Boren – 22 Parkvue Drive, Finleyville, PA – I apologize if anyone took offense to my passionate concern for the lives of people in my community. Homework for the board – SEREMS cost going up \$3,000.00 and what is the percentage of increase for legal bills. And what is the percentage of increase or engineering bills. I am sure we will be astounded by that figure. Questioned about attorneys being covered by insurance premium that we pay. Not understanding why, we are filing against other parties.

**Remarks and/or Comments by Supervisors and/or Staff:**

Ms. Daerr made mention of financial statements. We are not required by law and we do not get monthly statements. Just call or do Right to Know to get financial information and you will get them immediately.

Inaudible chatter. Mrs. Dupree made comment

Mr. Lawson commented on Veterans Park – what is going on with water to be able to play on field next year. Let us get serious about water situation. Trees and backstop for new fence. Also, salt prices are increasing and if we order before July 29, we can get it for this year's price. Also, I would like to bring to the Board's attention we have received a memo about inlets and we have 139 inlets that are falling apart. 32 very bad. Some need tops cleaned – we are talking and arguing about part time help. We need help dealing with what we have to take care of. I will speak with road crew about amount of salt and get it ordered so that is taken care of.

Mr. Sweat left meeting at 9:25 p.m.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting @ 9:35 p.m.**

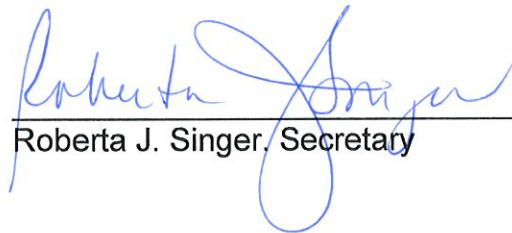
Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: None

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Trax - yes Lawson - yes Dupree - yes

Motion Carried



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Roberta J. Singer, Secretary