

**Union Township Board of Supervisors
Public Meeting
August 10, 2022 5:30pm**

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Roll Call:

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

Also, in attendance were: Roberta Singer, Secretary/Ass't Treasurer; Colin Chung, Municipal/GIS Intern; Gary Sweat, Solicitor, Sweat Law Offices; Sean O'Dell, Engineer, Harshman CE Group, LLC; Sarah Scott, Esq. Sweat Law Offices,

Proof of Publication Confirmed

Public Comment:

Charles Wilson – 247 Mingo Church Road - commented on Finleyville Eirama Rd Sewage Court decision. Commented on the return of the RTK officers after leaving the last meeting, meaning that the Board is taking responsibility for the claims made by Supervisor Dupree at the last meeting. Commented on the key bank agenda item and making sure the Board knows where the money in the account came from.

Linda Evans-Boren- 22 Parkvue Drive- commented on Key Bank account agenda items, stating she does not feel like it will have a large impact. Commented on the binder claims that Supervisor Dupree brought up at the last meeting. Commented on the attorney's and engineering fees that are on the bill pay list and the lack of them as a discussion item. Commented on her previous claims about engineering bills and costs. And she commented on her response she received from a RTK request she submitted.

Kevin Daerr – 6187 State Route 88 – commented on the Board of Auditor vacancy listed and inquired why Board of Auditors did not attend the advertised meeting and why it was held at an early 4pm time.

Moment of Prayer: Pastor Ken

Supervisor/Staff Comments: None

Executive Sessions: July 27, 2022 (Personnel)

Department Reports:

Engineers Report- stated the report is in the packet and he will elaborate as items arise in the meeting

Treasurer's Report- commented on the revenue items that have been received vs those that will be received in coming months. Stated that we have spent 49% of engineer fees budgeted for and about 42% of the budgeted solicitor fees this year.

Explained that even without any more income this year, the Township could operate at the current rate for 12 months. Commented on the solicitor's consistent discounts on the Township bills.

Dupree stated that other municipalities receive profit and loss analysis for each account for each month. She stated that she does not have that but it seems that Lawson does. Lawson stated that he used last quarters numbers and a monthly one would be extra cost from Palermo's and that would have to be a Board decision.

Dupree stated that she saw a chart of accounts only once and wants it more often. Singer stated that she usually makes them, there was not one this month because she had been alone in the office but she usually does provide them on the monthly basis and she will make sure that it is a priority.

Daerr stated that that was a good question and a monthly statement from Mr. Palermo is something she could consider on a future agenda. She also asked the board if they all feel comfortable reaching out to Mr. Palermo individually.

Chairwoman's Report-

Daerr addressed the Right to Know binder discussion from the last meeting. Barna stated that he looked at the binder and they were deeply organized and seemed reasonable. Lawson stated that instead of ridiculing for this, the office should be commended for their organization. Dupree stated that her issue was the seeming joke made by a Sweat law official about sending an RTK to the wrong address.

Daerr commented on the audits that were performed by the state and that a good verbal report was received, and we are waiting for the official written audit. Commented on legal fees and engineering fees. She highlighted many of the projects that are being worked on and have been completed that contributed to the engineering bills.

Project Manager Report- in packet

Road Crew Report- in packet

Building Permit Report- in packet

Code/Zoning Report- in packet

Animal Control Report- in packet

Police Report from City of Monongahela-in packet and read by Officer Taylor

Solicitors Report- in packet and commented on Tomko's grading permit extension, the Shire plan repository lot purchase, the binders brought up several meetings ago and his confirmation that they are not worrisome or inappropriate.

Dupree stated that she felt the binders were not appropriate for several reasons. He commented on the court decision and order from Judge Lucas regarding the Finleyville Elrama Road Sewage project.

Unfinished Business:

Vacancies:

- Road Master
- Parks and Recreation Board
- Board of Auditors
- Planning Department Alternate

Action Items:

Motion to approve minutes from August 5, 2022, Special Meeting

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: Daerr corrected a spelling error

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

Motion carried

Dupree abstained because she was not in attendance

Discussion regarding the 2022 Road and Drainage Program – Coal Bluff Road Repair bids and Engineer's recommendation(s). And a public comment that came in via email from Dr. Lori Kenavey regarding only two bids being received. O'Dell summarized his letter to the board. Sweat recommended approving the base bid tonight and the alternates at a later meeting if necessary.

Motion to table selecting Alternate #1 to be included in the 2022 Road and Drainage Program – Coal Bluff Road Repairs

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax
Deliberation: none
Roll Call: Lawson- yes Barna- yes Dupree- yes Trax- yes Daerr- yes
Motion Tabled

Motion to table selecting alternate #2 to be included in the 2022 Road and Drainage Program – Coal Bluff Road Repairs

Motion: Barna
Second: Trax
Deliberation: none
Roll Call: Daerr- yes Lawson- yes Barna- yes Dupree- yes Trax- yes
Motion Tabled

Motion to approve awarding the 2022 Road and Drainage Program – Coal Bluff Road Repair Project to the lowest responsible bidder based on the Engineer's recommendation(s), who is Slusarczyk Excavating in the amount of \$267,016.00

Motion: Daerr
Second: Lawson
Deliberation: none
Roll Call: Trax- yes Daerr- yes Lawson- yes Barna- yes Dupree- yes
Motion Carried

Motion to approve privately owned deduct meter policy

Motion: Daerr
Second: Lawson
Deliberation: none
Roll Call: Dupree- yes Trax- yes Daerr- yes Lawson- yes Barna- yes
Motion Carried

Motion to approve Wheeling and Lake Erie Railway Company Invoice for \$8,773.57 for flagging and services performed as part of the 2022 Patterson Road Slide Repair Project

Motion: Lawson
Second: Trax
Deliberation: Dupree asked if there is a schedule to maintain the catch basin to avoid future issues. Lawson stated that they did their due diligence to get the bill down as much as possible.
Roll Call: Dupree- yes Trax- yes Daerr- yes Lawson- yes Barna- yes
Motion Carried

Discussion regarding Parks and Recreation two (2) funding requests

Motion to approve Parks and Recreation Board's Request for funds for a movie night in the park with a budget not to exceed \$1,000.00

Motion: Trax

Second: Daerr

Deliberation:

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve Parks and Recreation Board's request for funds for a fall cookie decorating event with a budget not to exceed \$1,000.00

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

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

Motion Carried

Discuss Key Bank status and closing the one account with Key Bank to simplify the administration on the accounts and a desire to rescind the original motion.

Motion to table any further action on the Key Bank status as coted to close that bank account

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: occurred about further investigation being necessary

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

Motion Tabled

Motion to approve adding Michael B. Barna as a signer on all bank accounts

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: none

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

Motion Carried

Barna abstained as the motion was about him

Motion to approve the updated and current Sequestered Account Agreement for Highland Village with Washington Financial, as concerns the sanitary sewer portion of the project, which is a reduction of \$139,935.40

Motion: Daerr

Second: Lawson

Deliberation: none

Roll Call: Daerr- yes Lawson- yes Barna- yes Dupree- yes Trax- yes
Motion Carried

Discussion items:

Discussion regarding Veteran's Memorial Park construction status

Discussion regarding the Tomko Grading Permit renewal

Discussion regarding the purchase of five (5) abandoned parcels from repository for immediate citizen repurchase

Discussion regarding distribution of keys for internal file room at the Township Building and c-can storage facility at the Township Building

Bill Pay List:

Motion to approve Payroll dated August 5th, 2022, in the amount of \$13,268.52 for 2 administration, 1 intern and 3 road crew

Motion: Lawson

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve Bill Pay List for the Brentwood Bank General Account in the amount of \$109,386.25

Motion: Trax

Second: Daerr

Deliberation: Dupree commented on Attorney fees and sustainability of this spending

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

Motion Carried

Motion to approve the Bill Pay List for the Brentwood Overlook Account in the amount of \$475.00

Motion: Daerr

Second: Trax

Deliberation: none

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

Motion Carried

Correspondence None

Public Comment

Linda Evans-Boren – 22 Parkvue Drive – commented on solicitor and engineering bills as compared to the budget, her right-to-know request that she does not feel was fulfilled adequately. Sweat asked for clarification on some of her claims.

Bernadette Speer – 5016 Chevy Chase Drive – expressed concerns about political signs being up past the 35 days allowed by ordinance

Charles Wilson – 247 Mingo Church Road - commented on PSCA decision and claimed that Sweat lied to the judge

Kevin Daerr – 6187 Route 88 - comment regarding the difference in in solicitor budget in Union Twp versus other municipalities and asked Gary if other Townships deal with similar issues such as “gang stalking, gas lighting and harassing statements” towards professionals and board members.

Gary responded that this is unique to Union Township in his experience.

Remarks by Supervisors and/or Staff

Daerr commented that when she came on to the Board, she found it unacceptable that the Township did not have basic amenities, and costs reflect this board’s efforts to address that. She then commented on EMS service and that the Board is waiting to receive a contract.

Barna commended Colin for fixing the microphone situation.

Dupree stated that citizen concern about EMS may come from the fact that they were paid for two months and then payments stopped. She stated that solicitor bills are outrageous.

Singer addressed the reason for her leaving during the last meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM

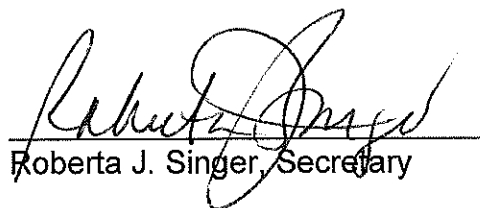
Motion: Daerr

Second: Barna

Deliberation: none

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

Motion Carried



Roberta J. Singer, Secretary