

**UNION TOWNSHIP
3904 FINLEYVILLE-ELRAMA ROAD
FINLEYVILLE, PA 15332**

**MINUTES OF UNION TOWNSHIP
JANUARY 10, 2024 AT 6:30 P.M.**

1. ROLL CALL/CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Board of Supervisors regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Present were Michalle Dupree, Larry Speer, Carl Hanford, and Suzonne Baynham.

Also present was Dennis M. Makel, Solicitor, Harold Ivery, MCSservice, and TJ Stephens, Bankson Engineers, Inc.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS & MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN)

Keith Straight - Redcon Engineering - The Saghy's sewage situation was discussed. Mr. Straight discussed the issues surrounding the installation of a grinder pump and the possibility of them turning it over to the Township for use. Supervisors were asked to consider informing the neighbors of this situation about tapping into this sewer lateral and talking further about a solution. This may include charging a tap in fee that would afford the Saghy's a viable way to recuperate some of their cost.

Emily Croup reported to WPXI news that she has flooding in front of her home on Spruce Street. The issue also affects other family members who live on this road and is an issue they have been fighting for years. Unfortunately, the problems remain so they came to the board meeting asking for this to be investigated.

Tara Cerutti and Lisa Burkhart - Lisa is the attorney for Tuscany Estates, Board of Directors - Came to introduce themselves and ask questions. Mr. Makel suggests a meeting be held with representatives of Tuscany Estates which will be scheduled.

4. MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by L. Speer and seconded by M. Dupree to approval the meeting minutes from December 19, 2023 regularly scheduled meeting subject to the recommendation of the remaining board member, Michalle Dupree.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by C. Hanford to approve the January 2, 2024 Reorganization Meeting minutes.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board Chair announced that an Executive Session was held at 5:00 pm to discuss personnel and litigation.

6. **TOWNSHIP REPORTS**

- A. Police Report - Officer Lenzi read his report and answered supervisor questions.
- B. Fire Department Report - No Report
- C. MCS Services (Building/Zoning) - No Report. H. Ivery met with one supervisor recently and offered to meet with the others soon.
- D. Bankson (Engineer) - TJ Stephens's report included the following items:
 - > The solar engineers are updating their Finleyville Elrama Road plan.
 - > Red Rock Fence planned to start fencing Veterans Park on January 15.
Bankson would like to locate pathways for ADA compliant sidewalks, backstops, dugouts, etc. while the surveyor is on site.
 - > There is no update on #5 or #6.
 - > The Aragon Place storm sewer is insufficient. Consideration should be given to repair this sewer.
 - > The Saghy sewage issue was discussed at length at the start of the meeting.
- E. Administrative/ Supervisor Reports - M. Dupree reported that she attended the annual meeting of the Washington County Sewage Council.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by C. Hanford to terminate the heavy hauling agreement with Widmer for the Airport Sewage Project upon a satisfactory review by the Township Engineer of the condition of Airport Road and under the condition of satisfying the professional fees out of the escrow account.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.
- B. A motion was made by S. Baynham and seconded by L. Speer to approve Southeast Regional Emergency Medical Service's Annual Subscription Request for \$300.00.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.
- C. A motion was made by L. Speer and seconded by S. Baynham to approve the 2024 payment of \$26,950.00 to Southeast Regional Emergency Medical Services as per the 2023 SEREMS Contract for the ALS Ambulance Service.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.
- D. A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by C. Hanford to table Mineral Beach Subdivision Plan No. 1.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.
- E. A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by L. Speer to table advertising an ordinance to vacate portions of Oak St./Anna St./George St./Finley Ave./ and an unnamed alley.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

- F. A motion was made by C. Hanford and seconded by M. Dupree to advertise hiring for a Road Crew position subject to the conditions set forth in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.
- G. A motion was made by L. Speer and seconded by S. Baynham to table G, H, and I on the agenda: Weber Subdivision 1, Trax Subdivision, and Cheplic Subdivision.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

8. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. The Saghy Forced Main Sewer design was reviewed at the beginning of the meeting.
- B. MS4 Pollution Reduction Plan Amendment status - We are required to advertise for a 45-day public comment period.
- C. Tuscany Estates/ Maronda Homes - The HOA requested that the Township set up a meeting with representatives from Tuscany Estates, Maronda Homes, Quaker Engineering, Union Township Supervisors, and Mr. Makel, Township Solicitor.
- D. Mingo Well Grading Permit discussion.
- E. Sewage delinquencies - A discussion regarding delinquencies in the West Elizabeth Sewage Authority area brought up questions about authorization and agreement details.
- F. Budget for 2024/Audit 2022 - Kim Turnley and Associates should be invited to answer questions regarding the 2022 Audit. The 2024 Budget should be made available to incoming supervisors for their review.

9. **BOARD APPOINTMENTS/vacancies (Previously Tabled on Jan. 2)**

- A. Board of Supervisors (1-seat)
- B. Planning Commission (1-seat)
- C. Zoning Hearing Board (1-seat)
- D. Vacancy Board Chair
- E. Emergency Management Coordinator

A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by C. Hanford to remove D, Vacancy Board Chair, from the table.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by S. Baynham and seconded by L. Speer to appoint Debbie Sargent as Vacancy Board Chair.
VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

10. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

- A. A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by L. Speer to approve the payroll of December 22, 2023 in the amount of \$8,890.77.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

- B. A motion was made by C. Hanford and seconded by M. Dupree to approve the payroll of January 5, 2024 in the amount of \$9,137.61.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

- C. A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by S. Baynham to approve the Tax Collector pay dated December 29, 2023.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried. L. Speer abstained.

A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by L. Speer to table the payments made to Supervisors subject to further review of the current ordinance dealing with Union Township Supervisor pay.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

- D. A motion was made by L. Speer and seconded by C. Hanford to approve other bills/invoices from the General Fund in the amount of \$268,041.60.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

- E. A motion was made by M. Dupree and seconded by S. Baynham to approve bills/invoices from the Elrama Sewage Account in the amount of \$7,358.97.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. Hanford and seconded by S. Baynham at 8:40 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR. Motion Carried.



Diana Kristobek, Secretary

Michalle Dupree, Board Chairperson