**Meeting Minutes April 2023**

**Time Meeting called to order: 6pm**

**Supervisor’s Present at Meeting:** Chairperson - Jill Careyva, Vice Chairperson- Jon Dettery, Supervisor - Kyle Mummey, Solicitor - Attorney James Wallbillich, Secretary/Treasurer - Liza Verges, Engineer – William Everett, Code Enforcement Officer - Tara Dolzani

**Absent:** Zoning Officer - Jonathon Biros

Jill Careyva – I would like to thank the Volunteer EMS group for the work they do. On March 12th, they came to my residence to help my husband who had a life-threatening accident. Thank you, they do a great job.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items Only:**

Tom Houser – Asked about the Invoice Cost. His understanding is the Township intends to raise the responsibility of people bringing litigation against the Township. An increase will prevent people who are not financially blessed to bring charges against the Townships and he believes they should remain as they are.

**Reports**

* Regular Meeting Minutes for March 2023 – Motion to approve minutes made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* Treasurer’s Report –We are now doing direct deposit for employees and it reflects in the report under Quickbooks. Tom Houser request under employee’s gross report, it should also include employees’ hours worked. Motion to accept Treasurers Report and bills for payment for February and March 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* Solicitor’s Report
1. Noise Ordinance – It was circulated in draft for the supervisors to review. It has been available for review at the Township Office, newspaper and its website for the public. There was some input from the public about the ordinance. Jill Careyva feels it should be tabled and further reviewed and revised before accepting it. Kyle Mummey agrees it should be tabled and discussed before the next meeting. Kyle Mummey makes a motion to table the Noise Ordinance and Jill Careyva seconds. All in favor, motion carried.
2. Recover/Invoice costs – The Township has not determined to raise the cost for persons to participate in filing the applications. What we are looking into is whether all the costs that were recoverable on for applications that have been processed during his time as Solicitor or prior to his time as Solicitor had been properly accounted for in terms of those cost that are already recoverable and were recovered and that the appropriate application fees were recovered.
3. Cogan Appeal-to be discussed during Executive Session under Litigation Matters.
4. L&B Appeal-to be discussed during Executive Session under Litigation Matters.
5. Dettery Petition-to be discussed during Executive Session under Litigation Matters. No further comment at this time.

Motion to accept Solicitor’s Report for March 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.

Tom Houser states that in 2018 he requested to go before the Zoning Hearing Board for an issue with a neighbor and paid $350.00 in fees and now in 2022 his fee was $1,000.00. It is relevant as the cost nearly tripled. The Solicitor states that he is not trying to raise fees or cost and he is unaware of the fees from 5 years ago.

* Police Report – Report given by Officer Dimmick. Motion to accept Police Report for March 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.
* Code Enforcement Report – There were abandoned vehicles. She is still looking into the trailers. Building Permits must be displayed on the property before working on the property. A ceased and desist letter will be issued if permits are not displayed. Pam Keech asked about the Cogan Properties and if he will be getting a ceased and desist letter as he is working on the property without permits. Pam Keech states there are no permits displayed on his property as they have flown a drone over it and have not seen a permit. Tara Dolzani states she will speak to the Mr. Cogan. Tara Dolzani states burning season is upon us and she will stop and give a warning if she sees anyone burning illegally, such things as cardboard, plastics or trash. There is no open burning, and the high winds can create brush fires. She received a complaint about a property that has not been condemned but is vacant and falling apart on West Market St. She received several emails and states all political signs must be picked up 15 days after Election Day. Motion to accept Code Enforcement Report for March 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.
* Zoning Report –There were 2 permits issued and 2 permit applications under review. Motion to accept Zoning Report for March 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* Engineer’s Report – Some road projects for 2023. He gave a list of costs to the Supervisors of approximately $675,000. Looking into paving those roads such as Swanks Rd, Pumpy Station Rd, Old Mill Rd and Phineyville Rd. Another project is the American Legion Park. He states more work on that as we go. They have a schedule of completion by December 2024. He drove around with the Roadmaster Colin Kelly on Monday April 3rd,2023 to see which roads need maintenance. Tom Houser askes about a road that needed repairs and the Township was withholding some money until they fix it. Was it completed? It’s not done yet and we withheld $24,000 on it and it was Old Mill Rd. Rick Grabosky asks about Girard Manor Rd. A pipe under the road that is collapsed about 4 or 5 feet and the hole has been there since January of 2023. They are logging up there and going around the hole. Martin Kutsko asked about the drainage by the Post Office in front of the Legion. Is that going up for bid? Motion to accept Engineer’s Report for March 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* Road Report – Colin Kelly states they have been working on drainage. Checking culvert pipes for blockages. They were looking at Girard Manor Rd and it’s a project. Everything is moving along maintenance wise. Motion to accept Road Report for March 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.
* Open Records Report – There were 2 Right to Know Requests received and approved. Tom Houser asked what can the Code Enforcement Officer do about an Electric Mobile Sign. They are not permitted as stated in Townships Ordinances. The sign is located at a homestead and not a business. Code Enforcement Officer states a permit was issued for the sign with an incorrect Parcel #. Not sure if that was an error. Permit given by former Code Enforcement Officer Michelle Moyer. However, the sign is illegal as no mobile signs are permitted. Kyle Mummey asked will they receive a ceased and desist letter as it is illegal. Tara Dolzani answered yes. Motion to accept Open Records Report for March 2023 made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Jill Careyva. All in favor, motion carried.
* Pumpy Project Report- Rick Grabosky states Shenandoah owns the Pumpy Station. The status on the Pumpy it was never condemned. DEP said the dam is fine. The drain of the dam can be filled. The overflow has to be worked on. The dam has to be dredged. The hatchery across the street is fine. They will work on getting it up and running again with Fish and Boat Commission. If it’s more than 5,000 trout than they will need a filtration system. The dam needs to be fixed first. Dave Briggs states they are looking for petitions for support of the project. The more support makes it easy for the committee to get grants. There will be a one-page resolution when you get it sign it, pass it on. Shenandoah is putting a lot of money into this project. They ask if we would write up a letter stating East Union Townships Supervisors are in support of the Pumpy Project. Kyle Mummey would like to thank Dave Sarno, Rick Grabosky and Dave Briggs for all their work. Motion to accept Pumpy Project Report for March 2023 made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

* DCED Police Program- Jill Careyva states what if all the supervisors sent a letter to DCED. Kyle Mummey states its first come first served. The program is a free program and they come and do a study on the Police Department. They analyzed the crime in the area and how many officers employed. This program was relayed to the Township during the Police Contract Negotiations. A request has been submitted. A response once received will be notified to the Board of Supervisors.

**New Business:**

* Discussion on hiring additional part time Police Officers- Jill Careyva feels we should wait for the DCED Police Program before hiring any new Officers. Kyle Mummey believes as a resident we should have a 24/7 Police Department. Martin Kutsko expresses that he is against it. Ray Trojan expresses that we have an Ordinance against Quads running up and down the State Route 924 to the gas station and pizza parlor. Jill Careyva states no matter how many Police we have we can not stop every quad or side by side. Chris Dimmick and Tara Dolzani states the Police Department is not a 24/7 Department. Motion to hire additional Police Officers for coverage made by Kyle Mummey, there was no second. The matter is not considered at this time.
* Discussion of Street Sweeping Schedule- Colin Kelly was not familiar with it but did read the manual. Kyle Mummey, Jon Dettery and Colin Kelly will come up with a schedule for Street Sweeping. Motion to create a Street Sweeping Schedule made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.
* Spring and Fall Clean-Up- Jill Careyva thinks by next meeting we can come up with a date for Clean-Up. It was $10 per person. Fall Clean-Up is by the county. Motion to make a schedule for Spring Clean-Up made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* Letter from person of interest for Sewer Authority Board (2-Vacant Seats)- 2 Letters received. One was from Lou Onore who would like to continue his service on the Sewer Authority Board. The second letter was from Joseph Flaim who would like to serve on the Sewer Authority Board. Motion to fill Sewer Authority Board vacant seats made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.
* Planning Committee Recommendations-to be discussed during Executive Session under Litigation Matters.
* Discuss the DCED grant for a comprehensive plan - Kyle Mummey states Jo Anna Shovlin gave a presentation with the help of a DCED Representative. We currently don’t have a Comprehensive Plan. We fall under Schuylkill County’s Comprehensive Plan which is over 10 years old. To include it in the 2024 Budget you must apply for the grant by June 2023. The solicitor states making a grant application on a regional level it would require 4 different public meetings, 4 different solicitors, 4 different rewrites. By the time you get done with a regional solution for a Comprehensive Plan, it’s not as cheap and it’s not as simple. Kyle Mummey states that’s only if we go on a regional level. We can try for it just under East Union Township as myself and former treasure Michael Gaisick applied for DCED grant and that’s how we got a new police vehicle. Motion to proceed forward with applying for a DCED Grant for the reason of a Comprehensive Plan made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* Executive Session - Litigation Matters - Motion to enter into Executive Session made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. **Began at 7:20pm and meeting reconvened at 7:55pm.**

The Planning Commission met on March 28th, 2023 to review plans submitted. The 1st plan was from Mountain Chapel LLC requested to reverse subdivide of 2 small lands into 1. It was voted unanimously to recommend this plan. Supervisors sign plans.

The 2nd plan was from L&B Landholding LLC for the purpose of sub-division. It was voted 2-1. Recommended to table consideration until next month’s meeting.

The Cogan Appeal was issued an order in the case and anyone to argue the case. They filed their response. Judge will rule once briefing is done.

L&B Appeal- The rezoning was reversed by The Zoning Hearing Board. L&B Landholding has filed an appeal with the County Court House. A petition to intervene has been filed by Mr. Houser. The court will decide the appeal.

Dettery Petition-Subjected to a surcharge by Board of Auditors. The surcharge was reduced by the courts and under the state statue Mr. Dettery is seeking his counsel fees because the surcharge of $42,000 was reduced to zero. Briefings due on April 28th, 2023.

**Public Participation:**

Member- Cogan Appeals, why isn’t North Union Township involved also? What permits were issued?

Member- Is there a date set for the Appeal?

Kyle Mummey- I want to see what permits were issued.

Member- If there is noise from a 50-caliber rifle, how does the township enforce the Noise Ordinance?

Bob Gabardi- As an auditor questioning the appeal on that ruling, when do we have to submit by? April 28th Bob will tell Attorney Karpovich

**Motion to Adjourn and Time made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried. Time 8:30pm**

**Members of Public in Attendance (please see attached sign-in sheet):** Geri and Rod Currier, Pam Keech and John Upperman, Raymond Trojan, Kaylee Lindenmuth, Jen and Mike Crounse, Thomas and June Nenstiel, Vincent Dauchess, Rick Grabosky, Wendy Danchision, Martin Kutsko, Kris Pasupuleti, Suzanne Castro, Patty Coleman, John Coleman, John Petrylak, Hubert Hautz, Ron Kaschak, Jackie Houser, Tom Houser, Liz Tolan, Dave Pavelko, Pam Hartz