**Meeting Minutes June 2023**

**Time Meeting called to order:** 6:00 pm

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

**Absent:** Code Enforcement Officer – Tara Dolzani, Zoning Officer – Jonathon Biros

**Public Comment on Agenda Items Only:**

**Reports**

* Motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for May 2023- Motion to table until next meeting by Kyle Mummey, seconded Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* Treasurer’s Report - Motion to accept Treasurers Report & bills for payment for May 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* **Solicitor’s Report**
* Noise Ordinance – With respect to the Solicitors Report for this evening I would ask the Supervisors to look at the May Meeting Minutes under Solicitors Report and it states “the solicitor's suggestion is for the board to make a motion to authorize the re-advertisement of the Amended Noise Ordinance to be considered for adoption at the next meeting. Motion made by Jill Careyva seconded by Kyle Mummey.  All in favor, motion carried.” Since you have tabled the minutes, I would like for you to confirm that that was the motion made and carried as it is recorded in the May Meeting Minutes that was just read. Is this correct? Yes, its accurate, by all 3 BOS. With respect to the Solicitor’s Report Minutes from last time, it states “Motion to accept Solicitor’s Report for April 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.”. Is that accurate to your recollection as well? Yes, by the 3 BOS. Thank you very much for doing that. I would like to introduced the Ordinance that is titled Noise Ordinance into the Codification of Ordinances. All the procedures necessary were done to procced with the motion to adopt the Amended Noise Ordinance. They do not have to adopt it if they choose not to. If they choose to, I would have the BOS sign it and Liza number it. By vote, 3 yay’s. Motion to adopt the Noise Ordinance made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* Dettery Order – There was a proceeding filed against Jon Dettery. A request for reimbursement of legal fees as a result of a surcharge being reduced to zero. The court ordered the Township to pay Jon Dettery to reimburse him his legal fees in the amount of $4,750.00. To be discussed during executive session before being called for a vote by Kyle Mummey.
* I would like to share that this afternoon I received a copy of an order of a decision by Judge Cobbs to deny the request of Cogan’s Appeal. In its decision that Zoning Hearing Boards requests was that it was incompatible with the existing zoning area. Even though the expert reports provided were found by the judge to be credible. He felt that all the ordinance requirements were not met. Cogan has a 30-day window to appeal this decision. That was the result of your zoning hearing board, using the county’s comprehensive plan and the county’s courthouse. Motion to accept Solicitor’s Report for May 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* **Zoning Report** – There were 2 Permits issued, 1 Permit Application is under review, 2 Permit Applications were denied. There were no Planning Board Actions and no Zoning Hearing Board Actions. Motion to accept Zoning Report for May2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.
* **Police Report**
* Suggestion to Promote Officer Dimmick to Sergeant- Motion to add onto agenda the Suggestion to Promote Officer Dimmick to Sergeant after agenda circulated made by Kyle Mummey, seconded by Jill Careyva. All in favor motion carried.
* Motion to Promote Officer Dimmick to Sergeant made by Kyle Mummey seconded by Jill Careyva. All in favor, motion carried.
* Motion to accept Police Report given by Officer Dimmick for May 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* **Engineer’s Report** – William Everett states there are 3 Bridges that are being replaced on Route 924 between Sheppton and Brandonville. Detours information will be available soon. Repairs on Old Mill Road are complete and the final payment may be released to H&K Group. Projection for 2023 Road Project is around $350,000. A motion to get some bids for the 2023 Road Project made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried. Bob Gabardi asked about if they were still logging and going through Girard Manor Rd. before money is spent on fixing it which BOS responded no, the loggers travel through Pole Rd. Motion to accept Engineer’s Report for May 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.
* **Road Report** – Colin Kelly states they finished the west side of the township cleaning ditches and such. Mowed the grass in the parks. He also got the key to the playground. Motion to accept Road Report for May 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* **Open Records Report** – There were 0 Rights to Know Request received for May 2023. Motion to accept Open Records Report for May 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* **Code Enforcement Report** – There were several code violations such as 3 Abandoned Vehicles, 3 Animal Complaints/Checked (Sheppton), 1 Building Permit (working without permit posted), 1 Burning Ordinance (burning illegally in Sheppton around Franklin/ Market St), 2 emails received, 1 Garbage Dumping (Sheppton), 1 Lawn/Weeds (Brandonville), 1 Permit Violation (Brandonville, constructing a deck without Permit), 2 Phone calls/Messages, 1 Political Sign (signs need to be removed 15 days after Election day), 1 Quality of Life, 2 Zoning Ordinance Violations (Letters to be mailed) and 19 calls total. Motion to accept Code Enforcement Report for May 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Jon Dettery. All in favor, motion carried.
* **Pumpy Project Report**- Rick Grabosky states there isn’t much going on. They have started taking membership dues and donations of $20.00. Someone asked about water coming out of it and Rick Grabosky states there is water in it. The pipe is open as you got to have water for the crick and you can’t turn the water off as there are fish in it. Motion to accept Pumpy Project Report for May 2023 made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

* Discuss Uniforms for Roadcrew- Roadcrew were not interested in uniforms. They prefer T-shirts, jeans and hoodies. Instead of uniforms we can order safety, reflective T-shirts with Township Logo. Motion to order T-shirts and Hoodies for Roadcrew made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor, motion carried.
* 2023 Clean-Up Update- The schedule was posted on the website, in the paper and in the Post Office. Payments can be made in person or in the drop off box.

**New Business:**

* New Sewer Authority Inspector- A letter was sent by the Sewer Authority informing they have hired a new inspector. They have asked the Township to inform Brior Environmental to cease and desist on issuing sewer permits and inspections on behalf of the Sewer Authority. Motion to accept the Sewer Authority decision and send a letter to Brior Environmental informing them of the Sewer Authority’s decision made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. Jon Dettery abstained; motion carried.
* Bi-annual fire tax distribution to fire company- Kyle Mummey states there is $29,075.96 in the Fire Fund. We don’t want to empty it completely. The money is used for fuel, insurance, utilities, vehicle maintenance and etc. Motion to distribute a check in the amount of $27,000.00 from Fire Tax Fund to SOVFC made by Jon Dettery, seconded by Jill Careyva. All in favor, motion carried.
* Executive Session – Personnel and Litigation Matters: Motion to enter into executive session made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. All in favor motion carried.

**Executive Session started at 6:52pm ended at 7:55pm**

* Dettery Order - Court ordered reimbursement of legal fees be paid to Jon Dettery in the amount of $4,750.00. Motion to pay Jon Dettery the Court ordered reimbursement of legal fees if there are no appeals filed in the time allowed of 4 days from the meeting date; made by Jill Careyva, seconded by Kyle Mummey. Jon Dettery abstained; motion carried.

**Public Participation:**

**Jill Careyva**- asked what is happening with the Brandonville Playground? There are buses parked by it. Kyle Mummey stated the property was sold and he cannot speak on behalf of the new owners. There was a discussion about moving the playground equipment to the pumpy once the area was developed, but it was just a discussion. The township owns the equipment that is on the playground. The equipment is over 20 years old.

**Jackie Houser**- In the treasurer’s report under the Zoning Fund it shows “Split” what was that for? Kyle Mummey states Liza is not here but usually “Split” it’s a split deposit means it was divided into two funds. Also, the other comment is the Knecht Janitorial service, we have that now? Jill Careyva states they have been working for us for a year. They come up and clean the building and bathrooms twice a month.

**Bob Gabardi**- On the Noise, I have got two calls on Saturday about the shooting at Cogan Ranch. I don’t know who was there as the gates were locked. I stopped by the Pumpy Station and you can hear the shooting there. I went over to 4th St in Oneida and you can hear from there. I went into the Cove where the logging is and you can hear it there for about 3 to 4 hours. Kyle Mummey states they were denied. They can appeal, but in 5 days from today the Noise Ordinance will be in effect.

**Pam Hartz**- The Noise Ordinance that will be in effect 5 days from now; what if people go out now that its coyote season is open and shoot coyotes at night. What happens when hunting seasons comes in, and everyone is shooting; how are you going to stop Cogan from shooting on his own property when you have open season and everyone will be shooting. Who will determine what is a nuisance and what is not? The Noise Ordinance is worded in a way that if the noise is a nuisance than it will be enforced by the Police and the Code Enforcement.

I am asking the supervisors how do you feel paying the Police Chief while he is going to the magistrate for hearings for Mahanoy City? Kyle Mummey gets the police schedule and he can say he is professional and avoiding conflict like that. Pam states he is in the newspaper constantly making arrest in Mahanoy City and not making any criminal stops or citations here. Rick Grabosky states he likes TJ and appreciates the work he does but it can look as if he is double dipping. Kyle Mummey states every officer must punch on the time clock. Pam states yes but does he punch out to go to the Magistrate, no he does not.

**Amy Austra**- I don’t know if everyone is aware about the school bus incident in Oneida. It’s a safety concern for the children and myself. This alleged person has been cited by the school district multiple times as this is not the first incident with the school bus. It’s not appropriate behavior of an adult to hold a school bus hostage. Kyle Mummey, states unfortunately we had no officers on that day and it took PSP about 30 minutes to show.

**Kyle Mummey**- A week or two ago one of our residents noticed our American Flag and Pennsylvania Flag at the building here were torn and she reached out to Dane Watro’s office and he brought up new flags for us and we would like to thank that resident and Dane for their service.

**Motion to Adjourn and Time:** Motion to adjourn made by Jill Careyva at 8:13pm

**Members of Public in Attendance (please see attached sign-in sheet):** Kris Pasupuleti, Raymond Trojan, Jackie Houser, Rick Graboski, Wendy Danchision, Bob Gabardi, Jillian Datchko, Amy Austra, Pam Hartz, Marcus Danchision, and Mary Stitzer.