

August 17, 2023

The Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors held their regular meeting at 7:30pm both in-person at the Municipal Building, 6272 Route 309, New Tripoli, PA 18066 and via Zoom. Present were Supervisors Jonathan Jakum, David Fink, and Steven Bachman, Administrator/Secretary-Treasurer Janice Meyers, Road Superintendent Kevin Huber, Township Solicitor Atty. Keith Strohl from Steckel and Stopp Law Offices, Chris Noll from Keystone Consulting Engineers, as Township Engineer, and new Zoning and Administrative Assistant, Katie Fabian. Absent: Dawn Didra, Zoning Officer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recording of Meeting: Susan Bryant from the Northwestern Press via Zoom. Blue Ridge Cable Channel 13 as a visual record.

Recognition of members of the press: Susan Bryant from the Northwestern Press via Zoom, Blue Ridge Cable Channel 13.

Public comment on agenda items: None.

Approve minutes of the July 20, 2023 regular monthly meeting: Motion by Jonathan Jakum, seconded by Steve Bachman to approve the minutes from the July 20, 2023 regular month meeting. Motion carried.

Executive Session: None.

Payment of bills: Motion by Jonathan Jakum, seconded by Steven Bachman to approve the payment of the bills General Fund Checks # eft4922 – eft4951 and 24547 – 24584 and No State Fund checks. Motion Carried.

#### Monthly Reports

Regional EMS Steering Committee Report: No report.

Fire Company: Jay Scheffler gave his report.

Emergency Management Coordinator Report: In Dawn Didra's absence, Jonathan Jakum facilitated a synopsis of EMC's monthly report.

Ambulance Service: Kristie Wentling, Executive Director of NOVA, gave her report.

Veterans Memorial Committee: Steve Bachman gave his report.

Farmland Preservation Board: No report.

Lynn-Heidelberg Historical Society: Steven Bachman gave his report.

Director of Office Operations: Jonathan Jakum gave his report.

Director of Parks and Recreation: Steven Bachman gave his report.

Road Superintendent: Keven Huber gave his report.

Township Administrator: Janice Meyers gave her report.

Zoning Officer: In Dawn Didra's absence, Jonathan Jakum facilitated a synopsis of the Zoning office monthly report.

Township Engineer: Chris Noll gave his report.

Environmental Advisory Council: Priscilla Brennan accompanied by David Fink gave monthly report. Potential to associate the EAC with investigating local tax options for Farmland Preservation and the community impacts.

Township Solicitor: No report.

Subdivision and Land Development: No Plans to review.

Unfinished Business:

Buckery Road Bridge Replacement: Funding is still pending; research continues to advance funding.

Driveway Ordinance Change: Awaiting finalization of licensed contractors.

Local Taxing Options for Farmland Preservation: David Fink and Steve Bachman evaluated tax percentages relating to the total amount of funds necessary to move forward with a proposal, tax information provided by Janice Meyers. Discussion followed for an evaluation of the amount of potential land and land owners to impact; Additional investigation is needed to differentiate local land requirements and coordinated benefit amounts for land conservation that is not otherwise available through the county or state. Janice Meyers to provide a copy of the current tax information as well as contact information for Donna Wright, liaison for the Lehigh Country Farmland Preservation Board to the EAC for educational and evaluation purposes.

New Business:

Changes to Employee Handbook: Janice Meyers completed proposed changes; the Board was previously provided copies. Motion by Steve Bachman to approve, seconded by David Fink, Motion Carried. Janice Meyers to provide final for release.

Resolution #2023-15 – Adopted updated workers compensation provider list. Motioned by David Fink, seconded by Steve Bachman. Motion carried.

Resolution #2023-16 – Adopted addition to Agricultural Security Area – Dogwood Drive – William and Cheryl Ash. Motioned by Steve Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum. Motion carried.

Resolution #2023-17 – The disposition of public records per the Pennsylvania Municipal Records Manual. Motioned by Jonathan Jakum, seconded by David Fink. Motion carried.

LCATO convention, Friday September 15, 2023: Convention to be attended by Board of Supervisors, Office Staff, Road Crew Staff, Tax Collector and Elected Auditors to foster outreach, gain experience and expertise. Motioned by Jonathan Jakum, seconded by David Fink. Motion approved.

Public Comment:

Jeffery Kistler inquired on the use of the water that the Gutter Rain Barrel collects after a deluge on the Heidelberg township building grounds. Options for additional landscape planting at the Heidelberg township building were discussed via Priscilla Brennan's expertise to dispose of the excess water. Jeffery Kistler drained the current barrel. Township Office staff to monitor and attempt to dispose in the interim.

Correspondence: None.

Adjournment:

Motion by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to adjourn the meeting at 8:19pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted as transcribed by Katie Fabian,

Janice M. Meyers  
Secretary to the Board of Supervisors