

**MINUTES FOR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2022**

The meeting of the Pine Grove Township Supervisors was held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. Supervisors present were Douglas Smith and Robert Nelson. Linda Farnsworth was attending the meeting via telephone conference. Others present were Greg Senyo, Jim Seder, Dave Saullo, Rich Barrett, Dave McJunkin and Julie Parmenter.

Douglas Smith opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag.

Douglas Smith read over the agenda and asked if there were any comments from visitors or residents.

Jim Seder questioned the maintenance of the sidewalk along Liberty Street from Cidermill Hill to Conewango. He has concerns that someone will get hurt walking on the roadway since the sidewalk is not shoveled. He offered to do the work if the Township were to purchase a snowblower. Linda advised that the sidewalk is the Township's responsibility but the problem being, we cannot put the snow from the bridge sidewalk into the roadway or into the creek. The Supervisor's advised the secretary to contact PennDOT to see what, if any, options we have to clear this sidewalk.

Jim Seder also inquired as to the status of the Big Four Road. He informed the board that an individual has been plowing the gravel portion of the road. The Supervisor's had been informed of this and have contacted the solicitor who advised that since we have it posted no winter maintenance there is nothing the Township can do and that we are not liable if anything happens.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2022, meeting by Linda Farnsworth. Bob Nelson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Linda Farnsworth made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report dated February 9, 2022. Bob Nelson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Bob Nelson made a motion to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$56,575.69 for the general fund, \$41,627.61 for the sewer fund, \$7,470.68 for the sewer II fund, \$3.00 for the state fund and \$18,808.71 for the water fund. Also, approval for payment of any utilities that may come due before the next regular scheduled meeting. The motion was seconded by Linda Farnsworth. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Dave reported that they have been plowing and sanding. They have also been working on the equipment.

Next was some deliberation on the possibility of replacing the 2019 F-550. Dave advised that this truck is not performing well with the snow plowing. Dave has done some research into fixing the problem and came up with an approximate cost of \$8,000. The Supervisor's noted that this truck is used all year long and it may be worth while to look into trading this in on a new truck.

The dates for the planning meetings were examined and it was decided to hold these meeting on the first and third Friday of each month. The meetings will start on March 4, 2022.

There was some dialogue on maintenance of the Township Office grounds. Rich Barrett mentioned that Zack Hoenes does pressure washing on buildings, we may want to contact him. Dave commented that the road crew may be able to take care of some of the mulching and trimming.

Next was some acknowledgement of the headway that is being made on some of the properties in the township that are in need of repair. A complaint has been received in the office recently of a property on Cottage Place that has been abandoned. The house is vacant and open with vermin in the area that are now spilling onto neighboring property. It was also indicated that the property on N. Main Street is now being moved on with legal action.

An inquiry from Mr. Todd Swanson was received regarding the release of pheasants on his property to train his dogs. Mr. Swanson advised that he had spoken with the Game Commission and they suggested he check with the Township to be sure there were no requirements for this. The Township does not have any stipulations relating to this and the Supervisors approved this.

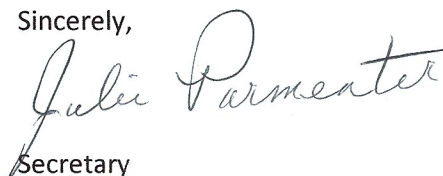
The Supervisors explained that they currently do not have a policy for Covid related sick time. The secretary has been in touch with the solicitor regarding this and a policy is being drawn up pertaining to this issue. They Supervisors noted that this would be retroactive to the beginning of 2022.

Next was the pay raises for the employees. After review the PSATS salary survey along with the cost of living it was determined to give the road crew and water secretary a 5% pay raise. Linda Farnsworth made a motion to increase pay rates for road crew and water secretary by 5%, retroactive to the first pay of 2022. Douglas Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Rich Barrett presented an updated Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for the Township to the Supervisors. He advised that in case we would need to apply for funding the Township needs to have a plan in place. The Supervisors can review this and take any necessary action at the next monthly meeting.

Bob Nelson made a motion for adjournment at 8:18 PM. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Parmenter". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name "Secretary".

Secretary