

**Ligonier Township Supervisors
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2020**

The Supervisors of Ligonier Township met in a regular remote online session at 4:30 PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice Chair Paul Knupp took roll call. Present were Chair, John Beaufort; Vice Chair Paul Knupp; Supervisor, D. Scott Matson; and Supervisor, Dan Weimer. Absent was Secretary/Treasurer Stephanie Verna.

Public Comment “A” – None

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Dan Weimer to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Supervisors Comment – None

Manager’s Report

Comparing current Year-to-Date finances to last Year-to-Date finances shows less than a 9% difference. The Township has collected 80% of its Real Estate tax and 44% of its Earned Income tax. Anticipate the Amusement Tax will be greatly impacted since Idlewild will be honoring passes that were sold last year for the next two years.

Public Works Report

Supervisor Knupp asked about the breaks on the loader.

Ligonier Valley Police Department Report

Chairman Beaufort reported that the two new vehicles are in service.

Solicitor’s Report

Mr. Korn’s office is closely monitoring the state’s announcements, as there is a good chance Westmoreland County may be moving into the green status, should know this Friday. The Planning Commission will meet this Thursday via zoom to resume work on the Zoning Ordinance updates – need a workshop to get the Oil & Gas ordinance ready for a hearing this summer. Might be able to meet in person for the next Supervisors Meeting in June.

Zoning Officer Report

Mr. Nieuwsma reported the Township needs to work on its definitions - Nicely Road needs clarified, Mountain Avenue needs reclassified as residential (currently agriculture), the Country Market has resumed and the term “Market” needs to be defined as this has enforcement consequences, other definitions needed – “Wedding Venue” and “Renewable Energy.”

Will present an amended Fee Schedule to include 2 fees that are missing from the list at the next meeting.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Nieusma reported that construction on Hillside Avenue has been ordered to cease until proper water/sewage permits are obtained.

Correspondence

1. 2018 Liquid Fuels Audit Report – Clean
Supervisor Knupp asked when the 2019 Audit would take place – January
2. Letter to Governor Wolf – lobby letter from multiple agencies urging the state to allocate emergency funding to the municipalities
3. Newsletter discussion – the Newsletter is at the printer. We have asked that if people want to keep receiving the newsletter, they return an enclosed post card. It costs \$1750 per quarter or \$7000 a year to publish the Newsletter. Additionally we have a website, a Facebook page, and the Savvy citizen app as tools to reach our residents, so we're trying to reduce costs.

Engineers Report

Mr. Faas reviewed the Hutch Lane storm water issue and contacted Morris-Knolls (the engineer at the time) and they can't locate records. Forwarded information to Solicitor for review. Supervisor Knupp asked Supervisor Beaufort to get in touch with Grover Binkey to see if he has information.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Carcella reported in Supervisor Verna's absence:

General Fund Account	\$443,351
Liquid Fuels Account	398,613
Act 13 Account	15,054
Ligonier Beach Account	429
Developers Account	1,352
Equipment Fund	12,117
Capital Reserves	677,559

Total Funds Balance: \$1,548,475

Supervisor Knupp asked about the change in the Developer's Account balance – an invoice was paid and the Charlotte-Hi Acre Drives Home Owners Association made a deposit to replenish funds.

At this point, Supervisor Matson left the meeting. There was a brief discussion about Chairman Beaufort abstaining from the vote to approve a bill paid out of the Developer's Account. With only three supervisors present and one abstaining, item was tabled for the next meeting to ensure quorum is met.

- A motion was made by Dan Weimer and seconded by Paul Knupp to approve the bills as presented for May from the General Fund. Motion carried.

New Business

1. A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Dan Weimer to approve Resolution 10-2020, extending the Township's Emergency Declaration indefinitely (following the State's guidelines). Motion carried.

Supervisor Comments

Supervisor Knupp – Stay safe!

Supervisor Beaufort – Has talked to some realtors and learned that since real estate has opened back up for business it's been busy. Asked about the upcoming Election Day, Mr. Carcella responded that staff is working on preparations.

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Dan Weimer to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer