

June 11, 2024

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Township Supervisors was held Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building with Chairman Dan Resenic presiding.

Members Present: Dan Resenic, Erik Ross, Stephanie Verna, Scott Matson, and John Beaufort.

Others Present: Township Manager Michael Strelic, Solicitor Dan Hudock, Chief of Police Michael Matronics, and Finance Officer Bethany Caldwell.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Scott Gongaware – read a letter to the Board regarding Supervisor Ross’ summary harassment charges.

Terrell Funk – reported the Rec Board tabled the community volunteer clean up event.

COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Matson – No comment.

Supervisor Ross – No comment.

Supervisor Beaufort – No comment.

Supervisor Verna – No comment.

Supervisor Resenic – Commended Mrs. Jessica Golden on her grant writing efforts. She has requested funds from two local foundations for the rehab of the Ligonier Valley trail.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve the minutes from the May 28, 2024 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Audit of the former Magisterial District Judge (Denise Thiel)

REPORTS:

MANAGER

Mr. Strelic reported the Country Market is in compliance with both the maximum number of vendors and vendor spaces. The LVPD and market staff continue to work together making it a safer event; Chief Matronics said the pedestrian walkway was moved to allow for a better traffic flow. Mr. Strelic also reported that despite recent grant related improvements made to Claycomb Road, the road is unfortunately not holding up. Staff are actively researching why the

work is deteriorating and have consulted the Township’s engineer as well as Conservation District staff. Samples will be taken next week and sent out for testing.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Hudock reported he is working with staff on a few code complaints and will be filing them with the local magistrate.

POLICE

Chief Matrunic reported staff have met and are planning a National Night Out event – the fire departments, the game commission, EMS, and Loyalhanna Patrol will be participating. Public safety reminder: please do not to blow grass clippings into the road, it is very dangerous for motorcycles.

TREASURER

Supervisor Verna read the fund balances as of May 31, 2024:

Fund Balances (month end)	May
General Fund	\$ 1,026,685
General Fund Reserves	\$ 1,072,134
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund	\$ 473,807
Capital Fund Reserves	\$ 31,046
Ligonier Beach Park Fund	\$ 122,213
Developer's Fund*	\$ 8,927
*Escrow	\$ 5,125
*Mill Creek Memorial Park	\$ 1,209
*Ligonier Trail	\$ 2,500
*Kids Corner grant	\$ 93
Total Funds	\$ 2,734,812

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross to approve the bills payable as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

National Night Out, Tuesday, August 6:

The board’s consensus was to provide free bottled water for this event.

Ligonier Valley Trail Study Committee:

Mr. Strelac reported only one person has volunteered to join the study committee and asked the Supervisors to network with their contacts and solicit some interest.

NEW BUSINESS

Ligonier Beach Master Site Development Plan & Pool Feasibility Study:

Janelle Emory reported the FOLB reviewed the proposals and selected Mackin as the consultant to complete the study.

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Stephanie Verna to select Mackin as the consultant to complete the Ligonier Beach Master Site Development Plan & Pool Feasibility Study. Motion carried unanimously.

Ligonier Beach:

There was a brief discussion about addressing a potential safety issue before allowing a volunteer community cleanup event to be scheduled on the property.

A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by John Beaufort directing Public Works to place orange fencing (around the former footprint of the filter and pump houses), properly post the area with “No Trespassing” signs, and monitor the property, ensuring the fencing and signage are in place. Motion carried 4:1 with Supervisor Matson voting nay.

Resolution 2024-R-08, Transfer to General Fund Reserves:

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by John Beaufort to transfer \$200,000 out of the General Fund and into the PLGIT account. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2024-R-09, Fund Policy Amendment:

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson to approve 2024-R-09, amending the Township’s Fund Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2024-O-05, No Parking Zone Old Lincoln Highway West

A motion was made by Stephanie Veran and seconded by Erik Ross authorizing Mr. Strelac to advertise the possible adoption of ordinance 2024-O-05. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Supervisors went into executive session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss the union’s healthcare grievance and resumed their regular meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Healthcare Grievance:

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by John Beaufort directing Mr. Strelac to hire a third party to administer payment of the healthcare cost differences incurred by the union employees so that HIPPA regulations are not violated. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Janell Emery – suggested donation boxes be set up at the Ligonier Valley trail heads similar to other community trails.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Beaufort – Announced that the four Ligonier Valley fire companies are addressing donation request letters this week, this is their major fundraiser. The bluegrass festival is coming up at the end of the month. With respect to Mr. Gongaware’s letter, he agrees we have to live with the final ruling and that something did happen. He thinks an apology is a good idea and it’s too bad it didn’t happen sooner, but it would still be good to offer an apology.

Supervisor Verna – Commented on the Country Market event and was pleased to see improvements being made. She noted it is an important asset to the community. As one of the founding members of the Regional Police Commission, she explained the spirit and intent of forming a regional department was to better serve the community and provide more career opportunities for the officers. She said the more she learns what all the officers have to do, the more she is aware of how fortunate we are, to have dedicated officers. It is unfortunate there is some animosity between some members on the board and our police department. To move forward, we all have to work together, but she would like to have it addressed, formally as a board. Our motivation is to serve the community as a whole and to lift up the organizations that also serve.

Supervisor Matson – Said he watched the incident video five times and saw nothing. He noted that some people in the community think Mr. Ross should apologize and some people think Officer Hakel should apologize. Everybody has their own opinion, it’s a free country.

Supervisor Ross – No comment.

Supervisor Resenic – Said the incident between Officer Hakel and Supervisor Ross was unfortunate and he deferred to Judge McCormick’s ruling. He thinks the best way to move forward is to have Mr. Ross and Officer Hakel get together with a neutral individual to discuss and shake hands. He doesn’t think asking either one to apologize is going to heal anything; they are grown adults and a handshake will do a lot more good.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson to adjourn the meeting. All of the Board was in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, PA
Bill Payments for All Vendors
June 10, 2024

Vendor	Num	Date	Amount
Jun 10, 24			
Total Service, Inc.	ACH	06/10/2024	187.92
Comcast	ACH	06/10/2024	552.10
AA Septic Tank Service	26211	06/10/2024	375.00
Apex Companies LLC	26212	06/10/2024	940.00
CASE Power & Equipment	26213	06/10/2024	732.00
Daniel C. Hudock Attorney at Law	26214	06/10/2024	787.50
Derry Stone and Lime	26215	06/10/2024	416.49
Fayette Parts Service, Inc.	26216	06/10/2024	92.60
First Commonwealth Bank	26217	06/10/2024	1,309.30
Glassmere Fuel Service	26218	06/10/2024	2,596.52
Hope Neiderhiser - V	26219	06/10/2024	35.00
Kimball Midwest	26220	06/10/2024	315.00
Lance Griffith	26221	06/10/2024	65.96
Laurel Valley Hardware Inc.	26222	06/10/2024	5.23
LVTech	26223	06/10/2024	1,719.31
McInchok Sanitation	26224	06/10/2024	148.50
Monarch Products Co Inc	26225	06/10/2024	10,724.80
Napotnik Welding Supplies	26226	06/10/2024	16.12
PennPrime	26227	06/10/2024	2,449.00
Pennsylvania Municipal Service Co.	26228	06/10/2024	9.90
Pleasant Unity Supply	26229	06/10/2024	744.25
Rolling Hills Industries, Inc	26230	06/10/2024	422.00
Royal Oak Retriever, LLC	26231	06/10/2024	60.00
Sorice Law, LLC	26232	06/10/2024	217.50
SWIF	26233	06/10/2024	1,033.00
The EADS Group	26234	06/10/2024	1,095.13
The Latrobe Bulletin	26235	06/10/2024	244.40
Tricia Levander	26236	06/10/2024	1,000.00
UAW LOCAL 204	26237	06/10/2024	358.08
UniFirst Corporation	26238	06/10/2024	522.42
Valley Landscaping & Lawn Care	26239	06/10/2024	606.00
Washington National Insurance Company	26240	06/10/2024	165.36
West Penn Power 791	26241	06/10/2024	201.98
Western Pennsylvania Teamsters and Employ	26242	06/10/2024	18,522.00
PennPrime	26243	06/10/2024	14,887.00
Jun 10, 24			63,557.37

OK
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