

**September 10, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Township Supervisors was held Tuesday, September 10, 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 Strelac, Solicitor Dan Hudock, Chief of Police Michael Matronics, Engineer Ben Faas, and Finance Officer Bethany Caldwell.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public.

**COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Matson – No comment

Supervisor Ross – No comment

Supervisor Beaufort – No comment

Supervisor Verna – The Police Commission has asked the Board of Supervisors to share feedback on the proposed Code of Ethics.

Supervisor Resenic – No comment

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the minutes from the August 27, 2024 meeting. Motion carried, with Stephanie Verna abstaining due to her absence from said meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. The EADS Group, letter recommending Ramsey Road Bridge be closed until it can be repaired / replaced

**REPORTS:**

**MANAGER**

Mr. Strelac reported the Township is entitled to federal HUD money via the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). In the past the Township has given its CDBG allocation to the LTMA for water line projects (Trout Avenue, Deeds Road). Another eligible use of CDBG funds are bridge repairs in low-to-moderate income areas and the Township has one eligible tract, north by Wilpen. We need to know how much the project would cost for the grant, so he tasked the engineer for a quote to repair Ramsey Road Bridge. The inspection report came back worse than anticipated, with a recommendation the bridge be closed immediately. It is important to note that PennDOT mandates inspections every 2 years for bridges greater than 20 feet in length. Of the 24 bridges in the Township,

only 8 fall under that requirement, the other 16 do not have required inspections. That doesn't mean we're ignoring them, we've completed 3 bridge replacements in the last decade: Mill; Clifford Woods; and Zion Church roads. We've done work on this bridge – deck work and cold patch. Area residents to be notified of closure by letter and the general public via website and Facebook; motorists to use Robb Road as a detour.

Supervisor Matson asked how long will the bridge be closed and noted the repair/replacement should include a heavier weight limit to accommodate busses and fire trucks.

Mr. Faas explained the project's timeline will depend on the path chosen as there are several options, but the hydraulic study and DEP regulations will narrow down those options.

Supervisor Beaufort asked when the engineer will have a recommendation.

Mr. Faas replied their recommendation will be completed by end of month, after the hydraulic study is conducted.

**A motion** was made by Scott Matson and seconded by John Beaufort to close Ramsey Road Bridge. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **SOLICITOR**

Mr. Hudock reported work continues on code enforcement issues.

#### **POLICE**

Chief Matrunic reported they are gearing up for Fort Ligonier Days and asked for the Township's Public Works crew to help post notices and stake signs on Thursday, October 10, before the event as they have done in the past. Some of the bus routes were changed to minimize traffic through pedestrian areas.

#### **LIGONIER TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY**

Mr. Griffith thanked the Township for the HUD money that installed over 2 miles of new water line. They are finishing up the last phase of the Deeds Road project and the section of Route 259 that was closed should reopen Monday morning. A letter was sent to the residents along Gravel Hill to gauge their interest in municipal water and sewage expansion to their homes. This project would install a new tank and a pump.

Supervisor Resenic asked for a status update on the Act 537 Plan.

Mr. Griffith explained there are a few different issues. Every time they try to move the project forward, Inflow & Infiltration (I&I) testing is brought up. DEP will only support a Plan that taps into MAWC's existing treatment plant in the Ligonier Borough. They're going to make us spend the \$20M to build a new plant, on I&I testing of the sewage that's already being sent to their plant instead. The LTMA has found deficiencies in the Oakwood Hills system and they've been coordinating with the Township on the release of no-lien letters after the testing has been completed.

**TREASURER**

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

<b>Fund Balances (month end)</b>	<b>August</b>
General Fund	\$ 671,370
General Fund Reserves	\$ 1,308,245
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund	\$ 480,104
Capital Fund Reserves	\$ 56,447
Ligonier Beach Park Fund	\$ 122,213
Developer's Fund*	\$ 7,802
*Escrow	\$ 4,000
*Mill Creek Memorial Park	\$ 1,209
*Ligonier Trail	\$ 2,500
*Kids Corner grant	\$ 93
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$2,646,181</b>

**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**

**Kevin McVicker Plan 2:**

This request to split 2.18 acres from the farm on Wilpen Road has been reviewed and recommended by the Planning Commission.

**A motion** was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the Kevin McVicker Plan 2. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2024-R-15, LSA Grant revision to \$ request:**

Amends 2024-R-14, changing the grant request from \$203,509 to \$222,509 based on a revised quote from the vendor.

**A motion** was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve Resolution 2024-R-15, LSA Grant Revision. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2024-R-16, LSA Cat 4 Grant application submittal on behalf of SAMA:**

Authorizes the Township to apply for a pass-through grant of \$405,837 on behalf of SAMA. This grant project would build a new Learning Center and museum façade upgrade.

**A motion** was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve Resolution 2024-R-16, LSA Cat 4 grant application submittal on behalf of SAMA. Motion carried unanimously.

**TKL Agreement:**

TKL presented the Township with a new agreement, the last agreement was signed in 2015. Analysis revealed no substantial contract changes.

**A motion** was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by John Beaufort to approve the TKL Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no additional comments from the public.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Beaufort – Asked about Mr. McVicker’s small sewage treatment plant that – how many houses could it serve, maybe 5 houses? But not 25 houses. We can approve a plant for a house, but we cannot approve a plant for the entire township and we have sewage running out of the ground. DEP and the county are holding us hostage. There is no reason in the world that we can’t build another sewage treatment plant – we want to build a new one that’s up to date, out of the floodplain and DEP said no, we have to go to MAWC. It’s all political. We’re being held hostage.

Supervisor Verna – No comment

Supervisor Matson – No comment

Supervisor Ross – No comment

Supervisor Resenic – Agreed with Supervisor Beaufort, we really need sewage in this area – there is good property, people want to move here, we have internet, good water, but we’re held up by the sewage. We’ll keep plugging away, maybe we can find a way to make this happen.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**A motion** was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross to adjourn the meeting. All of Board was in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

**Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, PA**  
**Bill Payments for All Vendors**  
**September 9, 2024**

1:41 PM  
 09/10/2024

	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sep 9, 24	Health Reimbursement	Bill Pmt -Check	ACH	20.00
	A&H Equipment Company	Bill Pmt -Check	26389	3,750.00
	AA Septic Tank Service	Bill Pmt -Check	26390	187.50
	Aqua Filter Fresh	Bill Pmt -Check	26391	37.50
	D.D.T.A. Services Inc	Bill Pmt -Check	26392	196.00
	Daniel C. Hudock Attorney at Law	Bill Pmt -Check	26393	1,312.50
	Dumbauld's Tire Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	26394	384.00
	Fayette Parts Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	26395	195.17
	First Commonwealth Bank	Bill Pmt -Check	26396	647.38
	Good Year	Bill Pmt -Check	26397	0.00
	Laurel Valley Hardware Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	26398	269.88
	Ligonier Agway	Bill Pmt -Check	26399	89.99
	LVTech	Bill Pmt -Check	26400	1,719.31
	McInchok Sanitation	Bill Pmt -Check	26401	148.50
	MEIT	Bill Pmt -Check	26402	218.60
	MoTrim Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	26403	129.44
	Napotnik Welding Supplies	Bill Pmt -Check	26404	16.12
	Pennsylvania Municipal Service Co.	Bill Pmt -Check	26405	226.32
	Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	26406	49.92
	Pleasant Unity Supply	Bill Pmt -Check	26407	7,433.20
	Rolling Hills Industries, Inc	Bill Pmt -Check	26408	347.00
	Staples	Bill Pmt -Check	26409	136.46
	The EADS Group	Bill Pmt -Check	26410	406.91
	The Harrison Group Inc	Bill Pmt -Check	26411	180.00
	Tresco Paving Corp	Bill Pmt -Check	26412	3,184.20
	Tricia Levander	Bill Pmt -Check	26413	1,000.00
	UniFirst Corporation	Bill Pmt -Check	26414	154.32
	Valley Landscaping & Lawn Care	Bill Pmt -Check	26415	730.00
	West Penn Power 791	Bill Pmt -Check	26416	203.86
	Western Pennsylvania Teamsters and Employ	Bill Pmt -Check	26417	18,522.00
	Windber Stone LLC	Bill Pmt -Check	26418	1,276.67
	Judy Ridgway - v	Bill Pmt -Check	26419	33.98
	SWIF	Bill Pmt -Check	26420	1,033.00
Sep 9, 24				<u><u>44,239.73</u></u>

*OK*  
 9-10-24  
*SA*