The Penn Township Board of Supervisors met this evening at 6:00 p.m. in the Penn Township Municipal Building, 157 East Airport Road, Butler, PA 16002 with the Chairman, Samuel M. Ward, presiding. Also, present were Supervisors, Douglas A. Roth and Wilbert J. Mowry, Jr., Township Manager, Linda D. Zerfoss, was absent, Land Use Administrator, Clinton A. Bonetti, and 10 Township residents and visitors.

Minutes - 1/9/24

Supervisor Ward made the motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion that there being no additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, they are approved as presented. The motion carried.

Correspondence

- PA DEP provided a Shadow Ridge Development Act 537 Planning Exemption.
- Penn Township Auditor minutes, dated January 3, 2024.Report.
- PA State Representative, Aaron Bernstine, announced a "Concealed Carry" seminar will be held on April 13, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Penn Township Municipal Building meeting room.
- PennDOT Moving Forward Newsletter.
- Peoples Natural Gas requested the Penn Township 2024 road paving plan.
- Armstrong New Rates.
- PSATS Trustees will provide insurance and pension products to townships.
- Core Environmental Services, Inc. municipality notice of submission of report for Act 2 cleanup.
- Shields Asphalt Paving notice of potential cost savings by allowing up to 15% recycled asphalt in paving mixes.
- Penn Energy Resources recently completed an assessment of their methane emissions and received an "A Grade" certification.
- Consolidated Communications advised that TV services will be discontinued.
- Penn Partners Development, LLC PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit for the Penn Partners Development.
- Letter to Butler County concerning Dodds Road Realignment and Streambank Stabilization concerning allowing equipment costs for the Dodds Road Realignment and Streambank Stabilization Project.
- UMH PA Mandell Trails LLC provided a notice of disposal for an abandoned manufactured home.

Seminars

• Pennsylvania 811 - Excavator Training held on April 11, 2024, from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Highfield Community Center in Butler, PA.

Supervisor Mowry made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion that all involved wishing to attend these seminars be authorized to do so. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Bonetti read the list of invoices paid since the last report was read on January 9, 202. ARPA Fund: \$0.00; Fire Tax Fund: \$8,424.00; Capital Savings Fund: \$150,000.00; Act 13 Fund: \$34,571.52; Township Fund: \$281,905.36; and State Fund: \$0.00.

Deposits into the various Township Funds totaled \$171,388.51. Balances were read as follows:

ARPA Fund: \$546,656.75; Fire Tax Fund: \$179,504.37; Capital Savings Fund: \$186,491.96; Act 13 Impact Fund: \$999,467.78; Township Fund: \$188,934.28, and State Fund: \$42,980.59.

Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented. The motion carried.

Zoning Department

Mr. Bonetti read the January 2024 Zoning report.

The Land Use Administrator and the Planning Commission are working on an updated Junk and Rubish Ordinance and a Zoning Ordinance Amendment covering several clarifications and new items.

The Supervisors discussed the Penn Township Junk Vehicle enforcement. Penn Township Police Officers have experienced issues with some residents and have been unable to successfully enforce this ordinance. Officers have raised the question, do some Junk Vehicle cases fall under the illegal "Junk Yard" category as described in PA Code Chapter 451? Supervisor Ward made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion that the Solicitor provides counsel for the Junk Vehicle enforcement under the illegal "Junk Yard" category as described in the PA Code Chapter 451. The motion carried.

Police Department

Mr. Bonetti read the Police 2023 Annual, the December 2023, and the January 2024 reports.

Police Department - Continued

The Evans City and Seven Fields Regional Police Commission has accepted the Penn Township offer of \$38,000.00 for their 2020 decommissioned police vehicle and included equipment. Penn Township will have new graphics installed before it is put in service.

The Supervisors discussed replacing the graphics on this 2020 police vehicle with Penn Township graphics per the Ibis Tech proposal, dated February 8, 2024, in the amount of \$1,975 (\$1,500 for material, \$400 for labor, and \$75 for miscellaneous parts). Officer Korey Zarnick removed the original graphics, saving approximately \$1,000. Supervisor Mowry made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion to accept the Ibis Tech proposal, dated February 8, 2024, to replace the graphics on the 2020 police vehicle in the amount of \$1,970. The motion carried.

Penn Township ordered a new 2024 Dodge Durango police car from Diehl Automotive. This vehicle is expected to be delivered in early April 2024. The cost of this vehicle is approximately \$51,000. The IBIS Tech proposal for the additional equipment and graphics in the amount of \$18,257 was approved at the BOS December 12, 2023 meeting.

The Supervisors discussed placing the police vehicle that is being replaced by the new vehicles for sale on MuniciBID. Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion that the old police vehicle (Ford Expedition) that is being replaced by the new vehicles for sale on MuniciBID once the Township receives the 2024 Dodge Durango in April. The motion carried.

Road Department

The Supervisors discussed replacing the new guide rails on Mushrush Road that were damaged by a tractor-trailer recently. Supervisor Roth will direct Green Acres to replace the damaged guide rail. Penn Township will turn the replacement cost into the insurance company. The tractor-trailer was not identified.

The Supervisors discussed the purchase of a Moon Paver, a new tractor and boom mower, and hiring a new Public Works Department (PWD) employee. Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion to table action pending further discussion. The motion was approved.

Recycling Report

Mrs. Zerfoss has scheduled the Penn Township 2024 recycling event on September 7, 2024. Additional details will be provided as soon as they are available.

Parks and Recreation Department - Harcrest Park Phase II

The Penn Township Engineer, HRG, is developing the permit and construction documents with the close collaboration of the Penn Township Park Committee and the Butler County Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Supervisors discussed completing the Butler County grant application requesting \$10,000 for Phase II development stormwater piping materials. Supervisor Mowry made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion to complete the County of Butler Parks and Recreation/Development Program Community Grant application. The motion was approved. This application will be submitted in the immediate future.

The Supervisors discussed the County of Butler Parks and Recreation/Development Program Application, Resolution No. 556, requesting \$10,000 for Phase II development stormwater piping materials. The Penn Township "Local Share" is 25% or \$2,500. Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion to approve the County of Butler Parks and Recreation/Development Program Community Grant Program Resolution No. 556. The motion was approved.

Penn Township and HRG representatives met on January 10, 2024, to review the site grading and stormwater drainage plans.

The Park Committee met on January 24, 2024, to review the HRG progress on permits and construction drawings.

The Supervisors discussed having HRG provide cost proposals to prepare the following grant opportunities:

- DCNR An additional 25% or \$75,000 of the existing DCNR grant. Penn Township would be responsible for the \$75,000 "Local Match". Submit this application for February 20 or March 19, 2024.
- DCED A \$250,000 Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP) grant. This will be used to fund the Phase II development pavilion. Penn Township would be responsible for the 15% or \$37,500 "Local Match". Notification of an award will be made in late 2024 or early 2025. Submit this application in May 2024.
- DCNR a grant for the Western area, including additional roads, parking, the Adult Fitness area, and restrooms. Submit this application in April 2025.

Butler County Parks and Recreation Director, Lance Welliver, has advised that applying for the Butler County and DCED/GTRP grants will be viewed favorably by DCNR.

Supervisor Ward made the motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion to authorize HRG to prepare cost proposals for preparing the DCNR and DCED/GTRP grant applications. The motion was approved.

Parks and Recreation Department - Harcrest Park Phase II - Cont'd

Supervisor Roth discussed the Keystone Ridge Designs, Inc.'s current price proposal for the eight-foot-long Pullman bench, Plaque, and two Penn Township logos for a total of \$2,035. Supervisor Mowry made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion to update the park bench cost to \$2,035. Future bench costs will be updated to the current price. The motion was approved.

Supervisor Roth discussed the park's donated tree program. Several donated trees that died were replaced in the past at the Township's expense. The Park Committee has recommended that this program be discontinued. Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion to discontinue the park-donated tree program. Donated trees may still be planted. However, the Township will not replace these trees if they die. The motion was approved.

The next Park Committee meeting will be held on April 24, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building meeting room.

Minutes of all meetings are posted on the Penn Township website www.penntownship.org, under "Documents" in the "2023 Park Minutes" folder as soon as they have been approved by the Park Committee.

Public Relations

Scout Troop/Pack 53 update:

Scout Troop 53 attended the Klondike Derby at Camp Bucoco on February 9 through 11, 2024.

Scout Troop 53 is working on their new Charter, a Troop calendar of events, leadership planning, and a new trailer fundraising.

South Butler Community Library update:

The Penn Township South Butler Community Library representative, Lori Stearns, reported the following:

A Gospel PBS Movie Screening and Discussion was held on February 9, 2024.

Lyla in the Loop's new PBS kids show and STEM activities were held on February 10, 2024.

Threads of Freedom, an Underground Railroad and Quilting Journey was presented by a local quilter, Ethel Hayden, who explained the hidden messages in "crazy quilts" and showed the secret codes, sponsored by the Saxonburg Greater Federation of Women's Clubs on February 12, 2024.

The Jane Austen-era movie "Persuasion" will be shown on February 23, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

The Knit and Crochet Group meets on Mondays.

South Butler Community Library update - Continued

The Infant/toddler and Preschool Storytimes are presented on various dates.

The Pre-K Playtime is full this time but watch for more!

The Evening Game Night, Chess Club for teens, and Monthly book club for adult events continue.

Monthly "office hours" for Rep Marci Mustello's staff to help with PArelated matters (Penn DOT issues, property tax/rent rebates, state forms, etc.) are available with no appointment required.

If you are attending the Winterfest in Saxonburg on February 24, 2024, stop in the library to warm up and get a complimentary hot drink.

The Mini Golf INSIDE the library is on March 16, 2024, and a Free Teen night will be held on March 15, 2024.

Congratulations to library director, Michelle Lesniak, who was invited to speak virtually to a national group of librarians following her funding award of a large grant from the Network of the National Libraries of Medicine to improve the library space. She has subsequently been invited to speak in person, with travel costs covered by the National Libraries of Medicine, at the Public Library Association Conference in Ohio in April.

Butler Library update:

No update.

ARLE Grant - Route 8 at Airport Road Traffic Light Replacement update:

A Pennsylvania Automated Red-Light Enforcement (ARLE) grant was awarded to replace the existing traffic lights, add left turning lanes on North and South bound Route 8, add pedestrian crossings, add additional signage, and add area lighting.

Penn Township has submitted a Butler County Use Fee grant application for up to \$50,000 to help fund this project. A notice of award, if any, should be made in the next few months.

ARLE Grant - Route 8 at Airport Road Traffic Light Replacement update:

PennBID completed the bid process on December 19, 2023.

The results are as follows:

Trans Associates estimate......\$511,239.00

Trans Associates reviewed these bids and recommended approval to M and B Services, L.L.C. in the amount of \$496,162.88.

The project schedule is as follows:

Project bids due - December 19, 2023

Review bids and approve, low bid & agreement paperwork - January 9, 2024 Signed contract and Notice to Proceed - February 2, 2024 Preconstruction Conference - February 22, 2024 Construction - 10 months - Anticipated completion in late Summer.

The Preconstruction Conference will establish Contract procedures and confirm the proposed locations of the traffic signal poles.

Brightspeed and other communications companies are preparing to move existing wiring to the existing First Energy poles at the Southeast corner of the intersection. Two communications poles will be removed. In addition, the existing power pole and traffic light controller will be moved to the Northwest corner of the intersection. This will improve the area in front of the Audubon Society facility.

Minutes of the meetings with PennDOT and preliminary drawings are posted on the Penn Township website $\underline{\text{www.penntownship.org}}$, under "Documents" in the "Route 8 and Airport Road" folder.

Meridian Road Closure and Renfrew Bridge update:

Penn Township representatives met with PennDOT District 10 representatives on January 3, 2024.

The Meridian Road repair has received funding and will be completed in April and May 2024. PennDOT and Penn Township representatives will update the emergency plan in the immediate future.

The Renfrew bridge replacement has been rescheduled for late 2025 with completion in 2026.

Additional Route 8 paving resurfacing will be two to three years in the future.

Meridian Road Closure and Renfrew Bridge update - Continued

Minutes of the meetings are posted on the Penn Township website www.penntownship.org, under "Documents" in the "Meridian Road Update" folder.

Penn Township Community Day update:

The Board of Supervisors and Penn's Men group will choose a date for the 2024 Community Day event early in 2024.

The 2023 event was attended by approximately 500 people.

The Penn's Men group provided a barbequed chicken lunch.

Local businesses and residents provided donations, and raffle baskets and displayed local services.

BSA Troop 53 and the Girl Scouts of America, South Butler Service Group had displays and activities.

Master of Ceremonies, Ron Muhlenkamp, kept the event on track with humor and local stories.

Volunteers are welcome to join the Committee and participate in the 2024 event.

Penn Township Impact Fee Committee Update:

Mr. Bonetti stated that the Traffic Impact Fee Committee and Gannett Fleming representative, Keith Johnson, are working on the Impact Fee ordinance revisions and met on October 9, 2023, to review the Impact Fee update draft. The purpose of the Land Use Assumptions report is to describe the existing land uses and to reflect the projected changes in land uses, densities of residential development, intensities of nonresidential development, and population growth rates which may affect the level of traffic within the designated area or areas over ten years.

Penn Township Comprehensive Plan Update:

The Comprehensive Plan Update Committee met on February 7, 2024. HRG reviewed a PowerPoint presentation detailing an updated draft of Goals and Objectives.

HRG closed the reopened survey on February 9, 2024, and will provide a summary of the updated results in the immediate future.

HRG will provide "Transformation Sketches" for the following:

• Trail Map - A map that shows potential locations and routes to make connections to/from Penn Valley Athletic Club, the Airport, Harcrest Park, Succop Nature Park, and the Municipal Building Property. Maybe

Penn Township Comprehensive Plan Update - Continued

- include a call out with a sketch, such as a bench, some trees, and a sidewalk along Airport Road.
- Welcome Signage Incorporate the Penn Township Ashlar pattern stone from the Municipal Building as recognition of the three Penn Township Stone Mason families.
- Acreage around the Municipal Building Sketch out public amenities and uses.

The Supervisors discussed a committee member's recommendation for using the Penn Township Municipal property to hold a Farmer's Market on Saturdays during the Summer for local produce, crafts, artwork, baked goods, and more. Supervisor Ward made the motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion to authorize HRG to incorporate this idea in one of the "Transformation Sketches" that they will be preparing for the Comprehensive Plan Update. The motion was approved.

Penn Township submitted the Pennsylvania Municipal Assistance Program (MAP) grant application requesting up to fifty percent of the Comprehensive Plan Update cost. A notice of award, if any, should be made in the next few months.

The next committee meeting will be on May 1, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building meeting room.

Butler County Municipal Outreach Meeting update:

The Butler County Municipal Outreach meeting on February 6, 2024, discussion included:

- Commissioner Kim Geyer and Commission Kevin Boozel provided an update on issues that they are working on for Butler County.
- Dr. David Rottinghaus, Independence Health System, President of Physician and Provider Network provided a Community Health Update.
- Butler County Tax Collector Committee representative, Mary Papik, provided an overview of their oversight role and responsibilities for earned income, business privilege, per capita, and local services tax collection. Linda Zerfoss has been appointed as Penn Township representative and Erma Mowry has been appointed as the alternate representative to this committee. Each municipality and school district have representatives.
- Berkheimer Tax Innovations, representative, William Leonard, discussed the earned income, business privilege, per capita, and local services tax processing, and taxpayer relations. A local Berkheimer office is located on Duffy Road. The taxpayers may contact Berkheimer by the means listed on the tax notice. Berkheimer distributes approximately \$70,000,000 directly to Butler County municipalities and school districts.

Butler County Municipal Outreach Meeting update - continued. The next meeting will be on March 12, 2024. Videos of the Municipal Outreach Meetings may be viewed at the Butler County website.

Municipal Water Authority of Adams Township (MWAAT) Update:

The MWAAT contractor for the waterline extension along Route 8 between Airport Road and Larchwood Drive. Some paving restoration remains incomplete.

PennDOT, MWAAT, and Penn Township representatives meet on October 12, 2023, to review the soil erosion and paving issues that remain incomplete. A plan is being developed to complete the restoration in the Spring of 2024.

Larchwood Drive residents are still interested in the MWAAT water service and are looking for grant funding.

Other older developments face the same high-cost issue for new water service. When their housing plans were developed, individual wells and water treatment facilities were installed that provided limited water quantity and quality. Now they are faced with abandoning these systems and the high cost of water service.

New housing plans will utilize the MWAAT water system, and this cost and other infrastructure costs will be included in their property cost.

MWAAT has access to low-interest financing through the Butler County Infrastructure Bank.

CDBG funds.

Penn Township will use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to demolish an abandoned and unsafe property at the intersection of Old Plank and Mushrush Roads.

The Butler County Housing and Redevelopment Authority has grant funding available to homeowners for Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation projects. Eligibility is also income-based and other grant guidelines. If you or someone you know has a home renovation project and meets the grant eligibility requirements, please contact the Butler County Housing and Redevelopment Authority representatives, Ricky Houk or Martha Brown.

Butler County Tax Collection Committee

No report. The committee will meet again in March 2024.

Southwest Butler Stormwater Planning Committee

Penn Township's project is the Dodds Road Realignment and Streambank Stabilization Project.

A contract for the Dodds Road realignment was awarded to CRS Contracting, LLC, from Cabot.

A contract for the Streambank Stabilization which includes erosion control and aquatic habitat improvements in Thorn Creek has been awarded to Phil Hay and Sons Excavating.

Project schedule:

Southwest Butler Stormwater Planning Committee - continued.

The Southwest Butler Stormwater Planning Committee will meet on March 6, 2024 at the Jackson Township Municipal Building.

Minutes of the meetings are posted on the Penn Township website www.penntownship.org, under "Documents" in the "Stormwater Remediation Project at Dodds and Rockdale Roads" folder.

Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania

Refer to the Audubon Society website for their schedule of Summer events. http://aswp.org/events

PennBID

PennBID handled the bidding for the traffic light replacement at the intersection of Route 8 and Airport Road. Four very competitive bids will be received on December 19, 2023.

Penn's Men

Penn's Men will have a Chicken BBQ benefit for the daughter of a Country Kitchen employee who has a medical condition. The BBQ will be held at the Glade Run Presbyterian Church at 1091 Pittsburgh Road (Route 8) in Valencia on Saturday, April 27, 2024. The Country Kitchen will hold a Spaghetti Fund Raiser at their facility on April 6, 2024.

Former Penn Township Supervisor and lifetime resident Don Callen will turn 95 on February 19, 2024. We congratulate Don on his continuing service to the community.

Penn's Men - Continued

Former Scout Leader, Ray Hoffman, passed away on February 6, 2024. We are thankful for Ray's Scouting contributions.

Old Business

The Supervisors discussed hiring the selected candidate for Administrative Assistant. Public Partners and Manager Zerfoss are currently reviewing candidates for this position.

Penn Township completed the contract agreement with M and B Services LLC for the new traffic light at Route 8 and Airport Road.

At the Organization meeting on January 2, 2024, the Supervisors appointed Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter, and Graham, LLP attorneys Matt Marshall and Anthony Cosgrove as the Penn Township Solicitor and Charlton Law attorney Brian Farrington as the Penn Township Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor.

Penn Township completed the Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter, and Graham LLP agreement for the Township Solicitor.

The advertisement for the diesel fuel and gasoline purchase was placed in the Butler Eagle.

New Business

The Supervisors discussed the additional services following the Public Partners Program letter, dated January 15, 2024, including the Public Works Department and other non-uniformed employee manual updates, a phone and internet policy, and other undetermined, specific tasks as authorized by the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Ward made the motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion to approve additional services following the Public Partners Program letter, dated January 15, 2024, including the Public Works Department and other non-uniformed employee manual updates and other undetermined, specific tasks as authorized by the Board of Supervisors. The motion was approved.

The Supervisors discussed the Bartlett Tree Experts proposal to maintain the trees at the 157 Airport Road property. Supervisor Mowry made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion to the Bartlett Tree Experts proposal to maintain the trees at the 157 Airport Road property for a cost of \$3,882.50. The motion carried.

The Supervisors discussed the PennDOT Act 14 Notification for the Bridge on Meridian Road in Renfrew.

The Supervisors discussed the list of unpaid County, School, and Township property taxes.

New Business - Continued

The Supervisors discussed the Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, and Flom LLP letter concerning a bankruptcy notification.

The Supervisors discussed the Majestic Lawn Care proposal to mow the Renfrew Park property. Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion to approve the Majestic Lawn Care proposal to mow the Renfrew Park property for a cost of \$132.00 per mowing. The motion was approved.

The Supervisors discussed authorizing the procurement of additional furniture and equipment including the following:

- Storage cart(s) for the Meeting Room folding tables and chairs.
- Replace the lock on the Fireproof 4-drawer file cabinet containing the Minute books.

Supervisor Ward made the motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion to approve the procurement of additional furniture and equipment as listed above. The motion was approved.

The Supervisors discussed investigating the purchase of the following:

- Camera for the meeting room TV screen to facilitate Zoom meetings.
- Sound system for Community Day events.

Supervisor Mowry made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion to investigate the equipment as listed above. The motion was approved.

The Supervisors discussed retaining HRG for the replacement of stormwater piping and catch basins on Old Plank Road. Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion to request that HRG provide a proposal for engineering services for the replacement of four areas of stormwater piping and catch basins on Old Plank Road. The motion was approved.

Act 537 - Saxonburg Authority

Supervisor Roth stated that the Authority discussed new housing developments, including Shadow Ridge in Penn Township.

The next SAA meeting will be held on February 20, 2024.

Audience Participation

Penn Township resident, Curtis Loeffler, discussed a stormwater issue emanating from the Butler Country Club, crossing Fairway Lane, and then flooding his property located at 217 Fairway Lane. The Supervisors stated that Penn Township is not permitted to work outside of the Fairway Lane Right-of-Way. Mr. Loeffler agreed to provide a copy of the engineering reports that he has obtained concerning this issue, for the Supervisors information.

Audience Participation - Continued

Penn Township resident, Shawn Kozar, advised that he has purchased the former McCormick property at the intersection of Brownsdale and Meridian Roads. Mr. Kozar intends to develop this property and will work with the Penn Township Land Use Administrator, Clinton Bonetti, and the Pittsburgh-Butler Airport Manager, to coordinate development requirements.

Executive Session - none.

Adjournment

Supervisor Ward made a motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50 p.m.

The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on March 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Penn Township Municipal Building meeting room.

Approved:	Respectfully Submitted:
Samuel M. Ward	Clinton A. Bonetti
Chairman	Land Use Administrator
Board of Supervisors	Penn Township