

Ligonier Township Supervisors
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2022

The Supervisors of Ligonier Township met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. Present were Chair, Dan Resenic; Secretary/Treasurer, Stephanie Verna; Supervisor, D. Scott Matson; and Supervisor, Erik Ross. Vice Chair, John Beaufort was absent.

Also present were Manager, Michael Strelac; Solicitor, Dan Hudock; Engineer Ben Faas; Chief of Police John Berger, Zoning / Code Enforcement Officer, Scott Hogan; and Finance Officer, Bethany Caldwell.

Comments from the Public

1. Susan Crouse – asked for a status update on the inter-municipal agreement between the Laurel Mountain Borough and the Township for the purpose of applying for grants to replace problematic private waterlines. There are approximately 3 township households that could benefit from these upgrades.

Supervisor Resenic asked how much it would cost the Township in engineering and attorney fees to form this agreement. He understands their situation but there is a cost to using the Ligonier Township staff to assist with this project. Supervisor Ross stated its MAWC's water and Mr. Hudock added MAWC would need to apply for the grant. After a brief discussion, Susan was asked to schedule a meeting with MAWC and staff.

Comments from the Supervisors

Supervisor Matson – no comment

Supervisor Ross – last week he announced the Fire Departments in our region were awarded a grant to upgrade radios. Our Emergency Management Services Coordinator, John Beaufort asked him to share that both the Ligonier Township and Borough Public Works departments will benefit from the grant since they are often called upon to assist the first responders.

Supervisor Verna – missed the last meeting and wanted to acknowledge the service of the two Rec Board members that stepped down – Larry Shew and Bob Gangaware. They served on the board a long time and did a lot of good work for our community.

- A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2022 meeting. Supervisor Verna abstained from the vote as she was not present at the last meeting. Motion carried.

Correspondence

1. Gerard Rendine, submitted a letter of interest in serving on the LTMA Board
2. Westmoreland County "Municipal Infrastructure Priorities Survey"
3. LTMA 2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Manager Report

Westmoreland County will not be covering the cost of moving the water line under the Ligonier Beach restaurant, which leaves the demolition project with a \$28,000 shortfall. Broadband seems to be moving forward, the township submitted a letter of support for a Southwest PA Commission grant, and is participating in the County's planning. Claycomb road is wrapping up, the Conservation District will be out to inspect the project this week. We were finally able to sweep up the chips from the summer road projects now that it has rained. Equipment maintenance continues, including getting the Mack truck back after 8 months in the shop. There has been interest in the Zipper, but no official offers.

Ligonier Valley Police

Seventeen new firearms were provided to the department at no cost to the taxpayers thanks to a generous donation. Chief Berger thanked the Darlington Fire Department, Station 42 for assisting on a physical rescue last week at Idlewild Park.

Engineer Report

Mr. Faas reported he has been working with Mr. Hudock on items for the Coal Loaders agreement. He attended the DCNR's kick-off meeting for the Trail Study grant and he will be meeting with staff next week to discuss other grant opportunities.

Solicitor Report

Mr. Hudock said he sent the Myers School Road agreement to Coal Loaders. He has been working with the township's Zoning / Code Enforcement Officer and is drafting a letter related to property maintenance code enforcement to be sent to the Sleasmans.

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

Old Business

1. Myers School Road – tabled, pending a response from Coal Loaders

New Business

- A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the Act 57 Compliance Resolution. (This resolution is mandated by the State and waives late fees for tax payers who are late through no fault of their own due to timing issues between closing on a property and tax collection bills going out.) Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross to advertise the Township is adopting a Recreation Board residency requirement ordinance. Motion carried.

- A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Stephanie Verna to advertise the Township is adopting a Planning Commission residency requirement ordinance. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross to send the Zoning Hearing Board ordinance to the Planning Commission for revision(s) related to the residency requirements. Motion carried.

Note: this will require advertising and a public hearing.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross directing the Planning Commission to remove duplicative language regarding the Planning Commission found in SALDO. Motion carried.

Note: this will require advertising and a public hearing.

There was a discussion about the Planning Commission's work on updating the Township's zoning ordinance. Supervisors were asked for any priorities they would like the Planning Commission to address. Supervisors asked what the Planning Commission was currently focusing on, which includes billboards, tiny houses, marijuana dispensaries, and cleaning up definitions that are defined but not used. No motion was made.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross to approve the special event permit for the 6th Annual Ligonier Witches Bike Brigade Fundraiser. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross approving the updated/revised Special Events permit application. Motion carried.

Executive Session

The Supervisors went into executive session at 5:03 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and resumed their regular meeting at 5:16 p.m.

- A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson approving a job offer to Michael Gray, for the Public Works Director / Operator position with a \$57k annual salary (overtime ineligible) plus benefits, pending successful completion of relevant background checks. Motion carried.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Comments from the Supervisors

Supervisor Matson – Hopes that Mr. Gray can implement process improvements for more efficient work practices. For example, the crew member the follows behind the brush hog should have a chain saw with him to clean up any vegetation that is missed and also work to clear out the debris that ends up in the ditches.

Supervisor Verna – No comment

Supervisor Ross – Looking forward to the new Public Works Director/Operator coming on board.

Supervisor Resenic – Asked the Public Works Committee to meet with the new director and explain their concerns and discuss priorities (after he's had a chance to get orientated).

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, PA
Bill Payments for All Vendors
September 27, 2022

Vendor	Type	Num	Amount
Sep 27, 22			
Comcast	Bill Pmt -Check	ACH	184.89
AA Septic Tank Service	Bill Pmt -Check	25126	250.00
Bullskin Stone & Lime, LLC	Bill Pmt -Check	25127	1,102.83
Derry Stone and Lime	Bill Pmt -Check	25128	6,168.49
Fayette Parts Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	25129	527.73
Good Year	Bill Pmt -Check	25130	543.22
Groff Tractor and Equipment	Bill Pmt -Check	25131	392.25
Hampton Office Products	Bill Pmt -Check	25132	25.18
Judy Ridgway - v	Bill Pmt -Check	25133	31.48
Laurel Valley Hardware Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	25134	20.40
Laurel Valley Motors	Bill Pmt -Check	25135	64.36
Lehigh Hanson Heidelberg Cement Group	Bill Pmt -Check	25136	4,793.17
Ligonier Giant Eagle	Bill Pmt -Check	25137	42.99
Ligonier Township Municipal Authority	Bill Pmt -Check	25138	87.60
Royal Oak Retriever, LLC	Bill Pmt -Check	25139	60.00
SWIF	Bill Pmt -Check	25140	1,048.00
U.S. Municipal	Bill Pmt -Check	25141	175.22
UniFirst Corporation	Bill Pmt -Check	25142	210.84
Washington National Insurance Company	Bill Pmt -Check	25143	91.48
West Penn Power	Bill Pmt -Check	25144	766.31
Ligonier Township Municipal Authority	Bill Pmt -Check	25145	356.34
Sep 27, 22			16,942.78

GM
9-27-22
GM