

Ligonier Township Supervisors
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 27, 2022

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

Also present were Manager, Michael Strelac; Solicitor, Dan Hudock; Engineer Ben Faas; Assistant Chief of Police Michael Matrunic, and Finance Officer, Bethany Caldwell.

Comments from the Public

1. Cindy Brown – said her family member was in a vehicle accident yesterday on White City Road. There is a row of trees blocking the line of sight. She asked if it was the Township’s responsibility to maintain the right-of-way.

Mr. Strelac responded that he went to White City Road this morning to look at the trees and had been researching the road’s right-of-way. After discussion with the Board it was determined that the crew will trim back the trees at the end of week, weather permitting.

Comments from the Supervisors

Supervisor Matson – No comment.

Supervisor Beaufort – No comment.

Supervisor Verna – Noted that the Public Works Crew was out plowing and treating the roads on Christmas Eve (Saturday), Christmas Day (Sunday) and their observed holiday too (Monday). She recognized and appreciated their service, working around the clock.

Supervisor Matson added that the crew did a nice job this year, an improvement over previous years.

Supervisor Ross – No comment.

Supervisor Resenic – No comment.

- A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2022 budget workshop. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by John Beaufort to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

Correspondence

1. Pledge letter for FOLB – received a pledge of \$1,000 to use towards the FOLB Ligonier Beach grant match money.
2. Letters of interest for boards and commissions – Mr. Strelie provided a packet that listed the various positions that were expiring at the end of year along with a list of people who were interested in serving. He asked the Board to review the candidates in preparation for the upcoming Organizational meeting where decisions will be made.

Manager Report

Mr. Strelie reported that updates to the broadband maps are due January 13. Updates are needed as to correct wrong information, the map seems to indicate there are 5-6 broadband providers in our area that provide high-speed internet. Supervisor Verna asked staff to put together simple instructions that can be posted on the Township's website and Facebook page. Also send an email with this information, including links to the board so they can push it out to their contacts.

Public Works Report

As previously noted, the crew were out all weekend – it was so cold the salt didn't work well. It is difficult to plow around cars parked in streets. If you see your neighbors parked on the street when the forecast calls for snow, please ask them to move. There were a lot of trees down due to the recent storm's high winds.

Engineer Report

Mr. Faas reported the H2O Grant Application (to replace private waterlines in the township) was submitted December 21. If we are not successful on this round of funding, MAWC is still very interested in pursuing these projects and would like to revisit our strategy (they could be the applicant instead of the Township). We still need to determine how match funding will be secured if successful. MAWC is open to the idea of adding a surcharge to these customers' bills. Supervisor Verna requested Mr. Faas coordinate a meeting to tie up loose ends.

Solicitor Report

Mr. Hudock reported the Coal Loaders Agreement under Old Business is complete – payment was received and there was an amendment to the performance bond. On December 19 there was an on-site meeting with DEP, LTMA, Loyalhanna Watershed and township staff to discuss the township's Act 537 Plan. It was a positive, productive meeting and we are waiting to hear back from the DEP. In 2003 the Township had a service agreement with the Ligonier Borough to treat some of its residents' sewage. Then in 2006 MAWC purchased the Borough's plant and took over the agreement. The 20-year agreement is ending soon and MAWC offered to extend the agreement for 6 months, but this needs Board approval. The extension does not change terms, it gives the Township time to explore options.

Staff Reports

Finance – a grant status report was handed out.

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

Old Business

1. Coal Loaders Agreement - insurance addendum
2. Water Line Replacement County amendment
3. Joy Haven sewage facility planning module - DEP required signatures

Mr. Strelic clarified that all three “Old Business” items were on the agenda because they needed signatures / sealed.

New Business

- A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by John Beaufort to approve the Township/LTMA service agreement extension with MAWC. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Stephanie Verna to give the Finance Officer a \$1/hour pay raise retroactive to anniversary date. Motion carried.

Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Comments from the Supervisors

Supervisor Matson – Would like to see Public Works get a brush box for the dump truck and employ more efficient work practices. Supervisor Ross said we are waiting on the new Public Works Director to determine if we should build one in-house or purchase one on the market.

Supervisor Beaufort – Said the road crew did a very good job over the weekend. The police & fire departments were busy too – attending to vehicle accidents, fires, etc. Remember the fire companies are made up of volunteers; they are not getting paid. The police, firefighters and public works are all doing a very good job.

Supervisor Verna – No comment.

Supervisor Ross – Said he spoke with Darlington’s Chief Rose and they had 14 calls in 3 days and responded to calls in Derry Township and Fayette County. That level of activity is in the realm of a fire company operated by paid staff. Please thank the volunteers and consider donating; their service is an asset.

Supervisor Resenic – Said the Board is in unanimous agreement when it comes to appreciating the firefighters and police officers. He thanked the Public Works crew for being out during negative five degree weather making sure there was enough salt and anti-skid on the road; he appreciates their hard work and efforts. He asked the Assistant Chief if he was able to give a status update of recent hit and run incident. While the assistant chief could not divulge names and details, he did say the vehicle had been located, a search warrant was served, an accident report is pending and charges will be filed.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Erik Ross to adjourn the meeting at 5:02 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

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

Vendor	Type	Num	Amount
Dec 27, 22			
Comcast	Bill Pmt -Check	ACH	184.89
AA Septic Tank Service	Bill Pmt -Check	25296	500.00
Andrews Sales & Service	Bill Pmt -Check	25297	22.00
Aqua Filter Fresh	Bill Pmt -Check	25298	20.85
Beaufort Services, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	25299	503.30
Fayette Parts Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	25300	38.78
Glassmere Fuel Service	Bill Pmt -Check	25301	6,446.49
Laurel Valley Hardware Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	25302	23.44
Level One	Bill Pmt -Check	25303	860.00
Mickey Corb	Bill Pmt -Check	25304	30.00
MoTrim Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	25305	1,080.61
Smith Propane & Oil	Bill Pmt -Check	25306	1,670.93
SWIF	Bill Pmt -Check	25307	1,081.00
TKL Code Inspection Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	25308	5,613.82
Travelers	Bill Pmt -Check	25309	1,225.00
UniFirst Corporation	Bill Pmt -Check	25310	237.61
Valley Landscaping & Lawn Care	Bill Pmt -Check	25311	506.00
Washington National Insurance Company	Bill Pmt -Check	25312	91.48
West Penn Power	Bill Pmt -Check	25313	124.05
Dec 27, 22			20,260.25

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