

Ligonier Township Supervisors  
Regular Meeting  
April 23, 2019

The Ligonier Township Supervisors met in regular session at 4:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance opening the meeting. Present were Vice Chair, John Beaufort; Supervisor Paul Knupp; Secretary/Treasurer, Stephanie Verna, and Supervisor, D. Scott Matson. Chair, Wade Thomas was absent.

**Public Comment - None**

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Paul Knupp to approve the April 9, 2019 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Supervisor Comments – None**

**Deiss Halmi – ACT 537 Alternative Plan Review**

Steve Halmi stated the four options, three low-pressure systems and one gravity system they would all initially add either eight hundred fifteen or eight hundred twenty-seven (815 or 827) new equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) with either one hundred fifty-one or two hundred twenty-four (151 or 224) future equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) potentially being added in a later phase. The most cost-effective option of those discussed involves construction of a membrane bioreactor sewage treatment plant by Wilpen Road.

“We submitted a plan to Department of Environmental Protection informally last summer just to get their feedback.” “But it wasn’t a formal submission and it won’t be a formal submission until you pass an official resolution to adopt it and that’s the next step, to seek those public comments from the various agencies, give the public the opportunity to comment and formally adopt it by resolution.”

The plans have changed significantly from earlier plans proposing a gravity system feeding into the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County treatment plant just outside Ligonier Borough with costs expected to exceed twenty (\$20) million dollars. Conservative estimates for the costs for three low-pressure system options two, involve construction of a new Ligonier Township Municipal Authority treatment plant came in below the projected costs for a gravity system.

Without grant funding and factoring in money from tap-in fees or customers paying for the cost of individual grinder pumps, the three low-pressure options would carry a monthly cost of one hundred twenty-six dollars to one hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$126-\$138) per equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) for the new customers initially added through the sewer expansion. That monthly figure would include debt service for the construction costs as well as operation and maintenance costs. Assessing tap-in fees to new customers and having customers pay for their individual grinder pumps would lower the monthly cost; Ligonier Township Municipal Authority charged new customers tap-in fees of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) when the sewer system in the Laughlintown and Darlington areas were performed. The authority’s current sewer tap-in fee is eighteen hundred dollars (\$1,800) and Ligonier Township Municipal Authority Manager, Anthony “Griff” Griffith said the per-customer grinder pump cost is expected to be less than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) and the responsibility for maintaining, repairing, and replacing the grinder pumps would be Ligonier Township Municipal Authority’s. Customers would have the cost of electricity used for the pumps being between a dollar fifty to two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$1.50-\$2.25) per month. Griffith “Griff” stated one million dollars could be generated by the tap-in fees and go toward the project total cost. The monthly cost per equivalent dwelling units (EDU) could be lowered to seventy dollars (\$70) if the township is successful in securing it a grant.

- A motion was made by John Beaufort and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve sending the ACT 537 Alternative Plan to Ligonier Township Municipal Authority, Planning Commission, and County Planning for their review. Motion carried.

## Staff Report

**Public Work** – Dorothy with The Markosky Engineering Group reported that the Public Works committee and Director, Russ Morgan; Township Manager, Terry Carcella and her met and discussed the platform for training of the Asphalt Zipper. Firehall Road (five hundred and twenty feet) is the platform that would like to be used, as it is all relatively level and the condition is in need of repair, so they would add a three-inch binder after performing the reclaim.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Scott Matson to approve advertisement for bids of three-inch binder material for Firehall Road (2700 sq. yd.). Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Paul Knupp to place the 1995 Red Ford Dump Truck and the One Ton Roller on Municibid to sell. Motion carried.

**Manager's Report** - Terry reported on a proposed zoning ordinance amendment to the cellular and small wireless facilities called the DAS systems, the ordinance is needed to identify and regulate placement of the DAS systems in the township right-of-way.

The new Asphalt Zipper was displayed outside and the initial training is scheduled for the first week in May. Public Works has/is prepping roads for bid projects for sealing of our roads with Russell Standard set for this summer.

Recycling continues to be a challenge with residents placing contaminants in the bins. The Aluminum can container was permanently removed after the last meeting and a sign notifying of the collection removal was put in its place. He plans to install more signage along with video cameras to attempt to identify the abusing party.

**Solicitor Report** – Code Hearings from April 22, 2019 with District Justice, Theil for two nuisance complaints, one was resolved and the other was continued for thirty days to provide time for the township official to inspect the property since it has been worked on.

## Correspondence

1. Marlene Kough Letter – in support of Ligonier Beach and suggestions.
2. Westmoreland County Conservation Letter – May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
3. Ligonier Borough Mayor, Bellas Letter – DEP help in Route 30 corridor clean up.

Treasurer's Report-Stephanie Verna reported that the General Fund account balance is \$355,882.58 the Act 13 account balance is \$27,303.20, the Liquid Fuels account balance is \$1,317.34 the Developer's account balance is \$15,877.33, Liquid Fuels Investment Account is \$549,000.00, the Equipment Fund \$29,871.98, and the Capital Reserve CD's \$635,537.10 for a total of \$1,614,789.53 No action required.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Paul Knupp to approve payment of April 22, 2019 Bill Payment lists. Motion carried.

## **Executive Session**

The Supervisors went into executive at 5:46 PM returning at 6:04 PM. Solicitor, Michael Kornis stated that he was in attendance and items discussed were in compliance with Pennsylvania Sunshine Law and were of property matters.

## **Old Business**

Ligonier Township Facebook Page – Bethany reported the statics and benefits of the township having a Facebook page. (See attached)

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Paul Knupp to approve the creation of a township Facebook page. Motion carried.

## **New Business**

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve Resolution #20-2019 DCED PA Unit Debt Act For Loan at a term of five-years at a two percent rate paid back from General Fund for the Asphalt Zipper. Twenty-five thousand to be paid from each of ACT 13 Fund and Equipment Fund the balance of thirty thousand three hundred and thirty-five to be paid from General Fund Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve Westmoreland County Conservation District Agreement Renewal for a five-year term. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Scott Matson to approve sending DAS Mini Cell Ordinance Amendment to Planning Commission and County Planning for review. Motion carried.

Resolution #21-2019 Myers School Road Closure for Coal Loaders was tabled to next meeting for the amendment of sealing and chipping and to up the five hundred dollar daily penalty to five thousand dollars.

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Paul Knupp to accept Municibid Stone Chipper Bid of \$1,200.00. Motion carried.

## **Public Comment – None**

## **Supervisors Comment**

**John Beaufort** – stated the Volunteer Fire Departments would like and ordinance to be able to bill insurance companies for wrecks.

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Stephanie Verna to advertise for the ordinance. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Stephanie Verna to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Shadron  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

# Township Facebook Page

## “Ligonier Unpolished” Public Facebook Page

This page is for anyone to post anything about Ligonier. Keep it clean and don't be mean. Advertising is permitted by merchants, nonprofits and other organizations who are physically located in the Ligonier Valley School District.

Group Type: Neighbors

Created: November 7, 2014



- There are 10,915 members on Ligonier Unpolished Facebook page.
- Staff monitor this page as Township business / issues are discussed.
- Information from the Township website has been posted on this FB page.

## PSATS Poll

In March, we asked this question on the PSATS discussion forum: “Wondering if other townships have a Facebook Page and if so, what are your thoughts?”

7 Responses:

German Township, Fayette County  
Harris Township, Centre County  
East Rockhill Township, Bucks County  
Dingman Township, Pike County  
North Manheim Township, Schuylkill County  
Lower Milford Township, Lehigh County  
Whitemarsh Township, Northampton County



Benefits:

- Educational
- Improves transparency
- Increases engagement (attach pictures, videos, files, etc.)
- Disseminate emergency information (road conditions, floods, etc.)
- Coordinate with other organizations
- Free account, potentially decrease call volume

Concerns:

- There is a potential for the page to become a vehicle for negativity.
- IT Security

One way communication

- Turn off “Comments”
- Turn off “Send Message”

Work with LV Tech

PennPRIME cyber insurance policy review pending



11:15 AM  
04/22/19

Ligonier Township-Liquid Fuels  
Bill Payments for All Vendors  
April 22, 2019

---

Vendor	Type	Num	Date	Amount
Apr 22, 19				
Lehigh Hanson Heidelberg Cement Group	Bill Pmt -Check	1255	04/22/2019	719.78
Ligonier Construction Co.	Bill Pmt -Check	1256	04/22/2019	11,075.00
RoadSafe Traffic Systems, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	1257	04/22/2019	685.10
Apr 22, 19				<u>12,479.88</u>

SD  
OK  
4-23-19

**Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, PA**  
**Bill Payments for All Vendors**  
 April 22, 2019

Vendor	Type	Num	Date	Amount
<b>Apr 22, 19</b>				
AA Septic Tank Service	Bill Pmt -Check	22654	04/22/2019	237.50
AFLAC	Bill Pmt -Check	22655	04/22/2019	114.82
Allied Seals, Inc	Bill Pmt -Check	22656	04/22/2019	60.66
Chemung Supply Corporation	Bill Pmt -Check	22657	04/22/2019	528.00
Export Fuel Co. Inc	Bill Pmt -Check	22658	04/22/2019	3,091.45
Greensburg Minuteman Press	Bill Pmt -Check	22659	04/22/2019	85.00
Laurel Valley Hardware Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	22660	04/22/2019	8.87
Lehigh Hanson Heidelberg Cement Group	Bill Pmt -Check	22661	04/22/2019	1,394.67
Ligonier Valley Police Department	Bill Pmt -Check	22662	04/22/2019	50.00
Luther P. Miller	Bill Pmt -Check	22663	04/22/2019	616.71
Maiello, Brungo & Maiello, LLP	Bill Pmt -Check	22664	04/22/2019	5,368.75
Royal Oak Retriever, LLC	Bill Pmt -Check	22665	04/22/2019	16.50
Standard Insurance Company	Bill Pmt -Check	22666	04/22/2019	771.46
The Markosky Engineering Group, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	22667	04/22/2019	1,532.50
Total Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	22668	04/22/2019	60.28
Travelers	Bill Pmt -Check	22669	04/22/2019	412.00
Tri Star	Bill Pmt -Check	22670	04/22/2019	569.93
U.S. Municipal	Bill Pmt -Check	22671	04/22/2019	45.28
UniFirst Corporation	Bill Pmt -Check	22672	04/22/2019	41.75
Wessel & Company	Bill Pmt -Check	22673	04/22/2019	11,500.00
West Penn Power	Bill Pmt -Check	22674	04/22/2019	798.16
Westmoreland Cleanways and Recycling	Bill Pmt -Check	22675	04/22/2019	600.00
<b>Apr 22, 19</b>				<b>27,904.29</b>

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 OK  
 4-23-19