

MINUTES
RICHLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
November 20, 2023

The Richland Township Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Monday, November 20, 2023 at the Richland Township Municipal Building, 322 Schoolhouse Road, Johnstown, PA 15904 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Bob Heffelfinger, Chairman

Gary A. Paul

Jeffrey D. Wingard -via Teams

Brian H. Lehman

Keith W. Saylor

Bryan J. Beppler, Executive Director

Kimberly D. Stayrook, Administrative Assistant

Forrest B. Fordham III, Solicitor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Heffelfinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES – November 6, 2023

- Mr. Wingard moved to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2023 meeting as distributed, seconded by Mr. Paul. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVE AGENDA - ANY CHANGES TO WRITTEN AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS - *The Public has the right and the opportunity to comment on any agenda item. There were no comments.*

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Windber Area Authority – Sixty Day Notice of Water Rate Increase

A letter was received from Windber Area Authority stating that they are providing a sixty-day notice of water rate increases. The increase provides for graduated increases according to monthly consumption, etc. Rate Increases are anywhere from \$3.65 to \$.75 per month per bill.

Letter from PA Department of Community & Economic Development – Two Boundary-Related Topics

A letter was received from the PA Department of Community & Economic Development informing the Board that there has been a boundary change and a reporting process amendment through Act 41 of 2022. Specifically, the new amendment establishes a new process by which municipal officials from adjoining municipal corporations can make an agreement by ordinance to adjust a municipal boundary or settle a dispute where an existing boundary is unclear. There is a list of agencies and departments that are now required to be notified when a change takes place. In addition, it clarifies and establishes the rights and responsibilities of municipalities after a change of boundary occurs. The Governor's Center for Local Government Services is always available to provide technical assistance whenever considering a boundary change.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Payment of the Bills

- Mr. Saylor moved to approve the general fund bills totaling \$293,375.09, seconded by Mr. Lehman. All in favor.

Mr. Saylor noted several items that increased the total amount of bills paid at tonight's meeting.

There were not Out of Meeting Checks and No Checks from Other Funds

Presentation of 2024 Budgets

Mr. Heffelfinger read the following Proposed 2024 Budgets that are being presented tonight:

GENERAL FUND

Revenue -	\$8,301,610.00
Expenditure -	<u>\$8,252,605.60</u>
Balance	\$ 49,004.40

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FUND

Revenue	\$417,426.46
Expenditure	<u>\$130,498.76</u>
Balance	\$286,927.70

CONTINGENCY FUND

Revenue	\$ 144,271.73
Expenditure	\$ <u>0.00</u>
Balance	\$ 144,271.73

Investments :

1st Summit Public Funds Account #1 \$1,203,962.40

1st Summit Public Funds Account #2

Revenue	\$ 62,235.97	
Expenditures	<u>\$ 62,235.97</u>	(Luray Ave Park Grant \$50,000/municipal bldg. \$12,235.97)
Balance	\$ 0	

STATE LIQUID FUELS FUND

Revenue	\$ 592,499.42
Expenditure	<u>\$ 440,000.00</u>
Balance	\$ 152,499.42

Mr. Heffelfinger noted that the Budget Proposed Adoption date is December 18, 2023.

There is no tax increase proposed and millage is as noted:

**Millage – 9 mills General Fund
.5 mills Capital Equipment Fund**

- Mr. Lehman moved to authorize presentation of the proposed 2024 Budgets as stated, seconded by Mr. Paul. All in favor.

Hiring Full Time Police Officer – Joshua Vranich, effective date 12/4/2023

A memo was received from Chief Michael Burgan, requesting that the Board authorize hiring Joshua Vranich as a full time Police Officer, effective December 4, 2023, at a rate of \$20.35 per hour. He would be given a Conditional Offer of Employment, with a probationary period included. As part of the hiring, Mr. Vranich would be required to pass a physical examination, a psychological exam (waived, certified), and a MPOETC Certification to include Act 57 Clearance (completed).

- Mr. Saylor moved to hire Joshua Vranich as a Full Time Richland Police Officer, at the rate of \$20.35 per hour, effective December 4, 2023, with the stipulation that he passes all of the department standards, seconded by Mr. Wingard. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marsha Strushensky, Mya Drive asked for an update on the status of the Asphalt Plant proposed in the Township.

Attorney Fordham provided an update on the Asphalt Plant legal case.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly D. Staybrook

Administrative Assistant