

Special Meeting  
July 17, 2014

The Shenango Township Board of Supervisors held a special meeting on July 17, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at the Shenango Township Municipal Building, with Supervisors Russell Riley, William Albertini and Albert Burick, III, present.

Present at the Meeting:

William Cheslock	Fred Kobbe
Barb Thompson	David Dean
Marsha Presnar	Susan Zikeli
Shirley Sallmen	Brandon Rishel
Dale Gould	Gina Colella
Tim Buck	Jerry Ferilla
Karen Esposito	Angela Eck
Lisa DeSantis	Patrick McCormick
Linda Turk	Jerry Graham
Randy Zikeli	David Durst

The meeting was opened with a salute to the flag.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss personnel issues, requests for proposal for audit services, regular agenda items and all other lawful business.

The meeting was called to order.

The reading of the minutes from the previous meeting were waived.

Public Comment:

William Cheslock, Old Princeton Road, asked if Mr. Tanner was bonded and requested that he not be fired immediately, innocent until proven guilty. Mr. Riley said he was relieved of his duties and put on administrative leave, without pay.

Fred Kobbe, Stewart Avenue, asked why Mr. Herman's stamp was not destroyed after he lost.

Barb Thompson, Boyd School Road, said she works for a bank and use of stamps is discouraged, and she wanted to know why the bank did not question it.

David Dean, Reno Lane, asked what prompted this. He read the definition of a supervisor and said they should be overseeing people under them. Mr. Riley said it was a pension audit that is done every three years. There was a meeting in February and the stamp for Mr. Riley was pulled and they went to a three-signature check.

Marsha Presnar, Circle Drive, said she works at a bank and wanted to know who was looking over these accounts, and wants to know if all banks were notified of the three-signature requirement. Mr. Riley said yes, they were notified. Mr. Burick said there will be a resolution later on this evening.

Susan Zikeli, Harmony Baptist Road, asked if this was discovered in the police pension fund audit, and if they will be looking at all of the accounts. Mr. Riley said no, it was the general fund. Mr. Riley and Mr. Burick said they will be looking at all accounts.

William Cheslock asked if they approve all payouts at each meeting. Mr. Riley and Mr. Burick answered yes.

Shirley Sallmen, Old Princeton Road, asked what the duties of a supervisor are. Three of you should have caught it sooner. Mr. Riley said there is a reason why, but we can't open it up. Minutes, expenses, fire tax, everything is laid out at the monthly meeting.

Brandon Rishel, Savannah Gardner Road, owner of ProTech Security, said there were only five residents at the last monthly meeting. Mr. Rishel said it took one-half million dollars to get people here.

Dale Gould, Woodview Drive, said he asked for the budget four years ago and was brushed aside. They also changed the time of the meetings. Mr. Riley said there were stamps before his time and he was not here when the meetings were changed to mornings. They were changed back to 6:00 p.m. when Mr. Riley came on.

Gina Colella asked why we can't change policy and procedure.

Tim Buck, Service Street, asked how much money you think you will get back. Mr. Riley said it is an ongoing investigation.

Susan Zikeli asked the amount of the bond. Mr. Riley said it is a \$400,000.00 bond.

Tim Buck said there needs to be two audits per year from an outside firm, not every three years.

Mr. Burick said Mr. Deno Delorenzo is the auditor, but it is the pension audit that is every three years.

Susan Zikeli said she is concerned for public works and wondered how payroll is going to be handled. Mr. Burick said the supervisors will send checks.

Barb Thompson asked if Mr. Delorenzo is also bonded through the township. Mr. Riley said he is bonded through his company.

Marsha Presnar asked why not go back on Mr. Herman.

Jerry Ferilla said the investigation should be handed over to an agency above the Lawrence County District Attorney. Mr. Riley said they will have to see how far the investigation will go.

Fred Kobbe said the only person you could see was Mr. Tanner and wanted to know how Mr. Tanner was put on a pedestal.

Karen Esposito, Old Butler Road, said she would make an appointment to see whoever it was she needed to see. She said she and her husband are developers and they would like to thank these gentlemen for making their developments so successful.

Solicitor Lou Perrotta explained that there was a contract in 1999 and that Mr. Tanner was reappointed on an annual basis. The contract did not allow speculative issues. There was not a contract by this current board of supervisors.

Karen Esposito questioned Mr. Tanner working from home. Mr. Perrotta said we do not know what work he did at home. Mr. Riley said Mr. Tanner was allowed to work at home and he kept track of his time, and said there are things we cannot talk about. Shirley Sallmen asked why he did not just work the 40 hours at the township building.

Mr. Riley explained nothing was touched out of the sewer fund. Mr. Burick explained that it was a misstatement in the newspaper about it coming from the sewer fund, it was actually the general fund.

Angela Eck, Savannah Gardner Road, asked Mr. Albertini why he is not answering questions.

William Cheslock said a road master is not an easy job and Mr. Albertini is the only person out there you see and he has saved the township money by shopping cheaper prices.

David Dean said there needs to be an audit of every fund. He said Mr. Albertini is the most visible supervisor in the township. Mr. Riley said, right, Mr. Burick and I are part-time supervisors.

(The Board of Supervisors moved to executive session at 7:45 p.m.)

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to ratify administrative leave of Brian Tanner, effective July 14 through July 17. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to terminate Brian Tanner as secretary-treasurer of Shenango Township. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to appoint Albert Burick, III, as secretary-treasurer of Shenango Township on an interim basis. Wages to be set by Shenango Township Board of Auditors. Motion affirmed by Mr. Riley and Mr. Albertini, with Mr. Burick abstaining.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to appoint Denise Allwine as an assistant secretary of Shenango Township on an interim basis. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to appoint Mary Gay as an assistant treasurer of Shenango Township on an interim basis. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to terminate Deno Delorenzo as the auditor for Shenango Township and consultant. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to engage Philip Weiner as the auditor for Shenango Township upon acceptance of appointment and negotiating of a contract. Motion carried.

No ordinances or subdivisions.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to adopt Resolution #4 of 2014, Approval Special Victims Task Force Agreement. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to adopt Resolution #5 of 2014, Approval Lawrence County Emergency Operations Plan. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to adopt Resolution #6 of 2014, Bank Authorization. Motion carried.

Mr. Riley said Mr. Herman has been on contact with officers and is helping.

Public Comment:

Lisa DeSantis said she objected to the appointment of Albert Burick to Brian Tanner's job and wants an impartial person to be appointed. Mr. Riley said we have to do something quickly.

Shirley Sallmen said no one here is in charge of anything and you need all new people.

Tim Buck inquired as to whether applications were being taken for the position, and said it needs to be posted in the paper. Mr. Riley said it will take time and we need to get this going.

Marsha Presnar said it would be a conflict of interest. Mr. Perrotta said it is permitted under the Second Class Township Code and we are following it because we need to act immediately. Appointments are on an interim basis. Marsha Presnar asked if an interim supervisor will be appointed. Mr. Perrotta said there is no such thing.

There was a discussion as to whether the money that was involved was from federal or state grants.

David Dean asked if these were new positions created. Mr. Riley said just a job title. Susan Zikeli asked if there would be additional hours or pay. Mr. Riley said the supervisors would have to sit down with the auditors.

Patrick McCormick asked if there was a time frame.

Mr. Perrotta said every January the secretary-treasurer is appointed.

Angela Eck asked if the public would know when positions were appointed permanently. Mr. Riley responded affirmatively.

Fred Kobbe asked if the three or four bank accounts of Mr. Tanner and Mr. Delorenzo were frozen or seized. Mr. Burick said they were personal accounts. Mr. Riley said all the accounts with regard to the township are frozen and the District Attorney handles all of that with the township.

Linda Turk, Baldwin Road, asked why Mr. Albertini has not said anything. Mr. Albertini said he feels terrible that it has happened, and he did not know anything.

Jerry Graham asked if there could be a legal issue down the road if they terminated Mr. Tanner and he was found not guilty. Mr. Riley said we will have to deal with that down the road.

Marsha Presnar asked what the pay for the position will be. Mr. Perrotta said the pay will be set by the Shenango Township Board of Auditors.

Randy Zikeli, Harmony Baptist Road, said the Board of Auditors is written in on the ballot. Susan Zikeli asked who the auditors are. Mr. Riley said the auditors are Mike Miloser, Eva Herman and Larry Krummert.

Lisa DeSantis asked if Mr. Burick would be paid for two positions.

Mr. Perrotta said he is not paid as a supervisor.

David Durst said about \$3,000.00.

Motion by Mr. Riley second by Mr. Albertini to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.