

Regular Monthly Meeting
December 11, 2014

The regular meeting of the Shenango Township Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, December 11, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at the Shenango Township Municipal Building, with Supervisors Russell Riley, William Albertini and Albert Burick, III, present.

Present at the Meeting:

Shirley Sallmen	Dee Hosler
Barbara Thompson	Ron and Carol Doak
Joshua Lamancusa	Helen Morgan
Anthony Morgan	Harry and Debbie Grafton

The meeting was opened with a salute to the flag.

The minutes were read and approved from the Special Meeting of December 2, 2014.

District Attorney Joshua Lamancusa gave a summary and answered questions regarding the investigation into the missing money from Shenango Township.

Superintendent William Phillips gave the monthly police report, followed by a summary of the things he has accomplished during his tenure of employment with the Shenango Township Police Department, ending with a statement that he is being fired effective January 4, 2015.

Public Comment:

Shirley Sallmen, Old Princeton Road, remarked that they are eliminating Mr. Phillips because of money but yet they are purchasing a new police car. Mr. Riley said the money for the police car and Mr. Phillips' wages do not come from the same budget.

Solicitor Lou Perrotta explained that the final vote will not be until the reorganization meeting on January 5, 2015.

Shirley Sallmen asked what happened with the money from the sale of the sewers. Mr. Perrotta said there were advertised public meetings for the sewer sale and everything was discussed with the public present. Mrs. Sallmen also said Mr. Burick acting as supervisor and secretary-treasurer is a conflict of interest. Mr. Burick said it is allowable under the Second Class Township Code.

Helen Morgan, Brookshire Drive, said she is opposed to letting Mr. Phillips go and explained how the police department handle three robberies in her neighborhood. Mr. Riley said Mr. Phillips is still employed and is has not been fired and the final vote will be on January 5, 2015, at the reorganization meeting. Mr. Burick said the budget is just a proposed budget at this time.

Carol Doak, Gardner Center Road, asked who would replace Mr. Phillips. Mr. Riley said everything is done at the reorganization meeting.

Roberta Filer, Savannah Road, asked what the size of the police department is. Mr. Phillips said there are seven full-time officers and two part-time officers. Mrs. Filer asked if there was ever an analysis done on the police department. Mr. Phillips said there is something online and our department is a little below average regarding the number of officers. Mr. Phillips said Shenango Township Police Department is comparable to Neshannock, Union and Ellwood. Mrs. Filer said maybe cut some of the force. Anthony Morgan, Meadowcroft Drive, said no, do not cut, we are not immune to crime.

Tim Buck, Service Street, said you have to consider what Mr. Phillips has brought to the table, and feels he has done a great job.

William Cheslock, Old Princeton Road, said if you recoup some of the stolen money, you could possibly use that to keep Mr. Phillips here. Mr. Riley said no one wants to see anyone go.

Debbie Grafton, Melody Lane Extension, asked why they picked Mr. Phillips' position to cut. Mr. Riley said Mr. Phillips was only looking to stay one more year.

Barb Thompson, Boyd School Road, said the paper said we are the top recycler and wanted to know how much money the township received from the recycling. Mr. Burick said last year's money was about \$6,000.00.

Mrs. Grafton asked what about all the kids that the township hires in the summer.

Mr. Riley commended Mr. Phillips for his last five years with the township and for everything he said at tonight's meeting.

Brandon Rishel, Savannah-Gardner Road, at some point a career must come to an end and it is best to go out on top and wants Mr. Phillips to think long and hard and why not let the guys that you feel you have trained to well step up and take over. Mr. Rishel said there has not been a tax increase in 14 years and we are not progressing. Mr. Phillips said the object of his last year was for the department and may stay on a couple months to train his successor.

Tom Irwin, Harmony Baptist Road, questioned whether business owners would need know if and when there is no longer a superintendent with regard to their insurance rates. Mr. Burick said there would always be someone in charge.

Mr. Cheslock asked if there would be additional money for the new person. Mr. Riley said that would all be looked at on January 5.

Mrs. Morgan asked how they could get street lights on Brookshire Drive. Mr. Perrotta said there is a process and it would involve an ordinance. Mr. Albertini said they could possible get guide rails at the entrance to Brookshire.

Mr. Buck presented pictures to the supervisors of My Favorite Place and Mulligan's Restaurant because Mulligan's was cited because of the condition of the property but not My Favorite Place. Mr. Riley said Mike Lynch, Code Enforcement Officer, served papers on My Favorite Place. Mr. Burick said they now have 30 days to respond. Mr. Riley said he spoke with Bill Harding, the owner of My Favorite Place.

Motion by Mr. Albertini second by Mr. Burick to approve payment of the General Fund Expenses of \$50,769.68. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Albertini second by Mr. Burick to approve payment of the Payroll Expenses of \$47,207.42. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Albertini second by Mr. Burick to approve payment of the Fire Tax Fund Expenses of \$2,205.03. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Albertini second by Mr. Riley to authorize advertisement of an Ordinance to expand the Shenango Township Planning Commission from three members to five members. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Albertini second by Mr. Riley to authorize advertisement of an amendment to Ordinance #1 of 2001, Keystone Rock Properties, Robert G. Yokel. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Albertini second by Mr. Riley to send a proposed amendment to Ordinance #1 of 2001, creation of Multi-purpose Recreation zoning district to Lawrence County Planning Commission for review and comments. Motion carried.

Mr. Cheslock asked if the budget will be published in the New Castle News. Mr. Riley said it will be on display at the Shenango Township Municipal Building. Mr. Burick explained the cost to put it in the paper would be approximately \$700. Mr. Rishel asked if it is online. Mr. Burick said it is not. Mr. Riley said that would be a good idea.

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