**DECEMBER 2022 MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Muncy Township Supervisors met in the Muncy Township Fire Hall on December 14, 2022. Matthew Doyle, Heath Ohnmeiss, Gary Harmon, Mike Wiley, and Gwen Pidcoe was present. The meeting was called to order by Matthew Doyle at 7:30 p.m.

Matthew Doyle mentioned that we had an executive session before meeting to discuss so legal matters.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Heath Ohnmeiss motioned to accept the November minutes. Gary Harmon seconded the motion. Matthew Doyle agreed. Motion carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** The treasurer’s report for November 2022 motioned for approval by Gary Harmon. Heath Ohnmeiss seconded the motion. Matthew Doyle agreed. Motion carried.

**PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:**

Richard and Mary Pewterbaugh are sub-dividing off their parcel to parcel 41-353-169 owned by Josh and Amy Phillips .692 acres to be added to the veterinary parcel. Looks like they are squaring off the property lines. The planning commission has no issue or comments on this sub-division.

Donnie Reese also asked if the planning commission could meet with the supervisors sometime in the biggening of January.

Matthew Doyle stated that we will get you guys a date for a meeting.

Gary Harmon motioned to accept and approve the sub-division. Heath Ohnmeiss seconded the motion. Matthew Doyle agreed. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS**:

Thomas Schaech stated that he sent two emails in November on expenditures with the budget and has not heard anything back. Was the health insurance put out to bid. What was the quotes. Was there a cooperative agreement with other townships made? Were pay raises in the budget cost of living. We have some of the best employees in the township, but we still cannot afford a cost-of-living raise.

The person that attended the first budget meeting stated that a cost of taxes was not discussed. Was this done by an individual or the supervisors or a group? We have an obligation as a citizen and a right to ask we may not like the answer, but we can accept it. I have been labeled a troublemaker.

Gary Jones gave a copy of questions to supervisors to look at. There was a mathematical error on the budget that I received from the first work session. Do the employees contribute to their pension? Do they contribute to their health insurance. Why are there so many separate line items. SS and Medicare looks like it is grossing up the payroll. $50,000 so ss and Medicare is too high. Total wages for 2023 can be decreased with the numbers in the budget. With the tax increase the township will receive an extra $100,000. We could decrease our taxes by 56,800.

Ann smith questioned why the fuel expense was lessoned on the budget when we spent more than budget this year.

Matt Doyle thanks her for pointing that out we will look into it.

Ann Smith stated that did you take into effect the $45,000 interim tax Geisinger just paid me into the budget.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that you can not factor in money received until it is received. I had no knowledge of what Geisinger would pay or not because of them having their non-profit status.

John Iseley questioned how many budget reviews are there.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that there are two.

John Iseley stated that he did not know about the second one.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that both dates were mentioned in a meeting as well as advertised in the same ad.

John Iseley stated that the tax increase was not talked about in the first meeting.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that it was talked about it was the very first thing I stated when I gave everyone a copy of the budget that had the increase in it. We also talked about having to lay off employees if the increase was not done.

Jim Smith questioned if we considered the three new businesses at the mall.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that they were already part of the taxes this year.

Jim Smith stated that we needed to cut budget spending.

Matthew Doyle stated that we have been cutting the budget for several years. We just cannot cut anymore.

Jim Smith, have you applied for any grants.

Matthew Doyle stated that we have not.

Denise Artley When do you have the budget meetings and are they public.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that we have them in October and that they are open to the public.

**FIRE COMPANY:** Report on file.

Scott Oldweiler stated that we will be doing the heroes to helpers this Sunday.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Report on file.

Chris McKibben stated that the family we are helping this year has 8 kids. The mom works in the Township, and they live in Montgomery.

**ROAD MASTERS REPORT**: Report on File

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**PERMIT OFFICER REPORT:** 0 zoning permits 3 building permits.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CODE INSPECTIONS AGRREMENT FOR SONING ANS STORMWATER**: Gwen stated that this is agreement is like we have for our building permits with codes. Matthew Doyle motioned to sign the agreement to have Code Inspections handle our zoning and stormwater. Gary Harmon seconded the motion. Heath Ohnmeiss agreed. Motion carried.

**TAX LEVI RESOLUTION 2022-08** – Matthew Doyle stated that due to an error on our part we didn’t realize this had to be advertised three times and we only advertised once. We will table this until December 30,2022 at 7 pm where we will have a special meeting.

Gary Harmon motions to table this till the December 30 meeting at 7 pm. Heath Ohnmeiss seconded the motion. Matthew Doyle agreed. Motion carried.

**ADOPT 2023 BUDGET:** Matthew Doyle stated that this will also be tabled to December 30, 2022, at 7 pm.

Gary Harmon motioned to table this till the December 30 meeting at 7 pm. Heath Ohnmeiss seconded the motion. Matthew Doyle agreed. Motion carried.

**RE-ORG MEETING**- January 3, 2023, at 7:30. Planning Commission at 7 pm. Auditors meeting January 4 at 10 am.

**SEO CONTRACT:** Gwen Pidcoe stated that our current sewage enforcement officer is retiring at the end of this year. I talked to Jami Nolan, and he agreed to take our township on as a client.

Heath Ohnmeiss motioned to sign the contract for the SEO. Gary Harmon seconded the motion. Matthew Doyle agreed. Motion carried.

**SAFETY COMMITTEE**:

* **SAFETY MINUTES**: Heath Ohnmeiss motioned to accept the safety minutes for November. Gary Harmon seconded the motion. Matthew Doyle agreed. Motion carried.

**REVIEW MONTHLY BILLS:** Gary Harmon motioned to pay monthly bills. Heath Ohnmeiss seconded the motion. Matthew Doyle agreed. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NO COMMENT:**

Thomas Schaech stated that Geisinger has been here almost two years have you done anything with them about making a yearly donation. They wont just send you money out of the goodness of their heart.

Matthew Doyle stated that we have had several conversations with Geisinger on this subject.

Larry Fry questioned when the repairs would be made to Pond Road on the wonderful work that HRI did.

Matthew Doyle stated that the repairs will be made this Spring we did get PENNDOT involved.

Ann Smith questioned what the township was doing about Act 57. Are we doing the resolution.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that she didn’t think the Township would need to do one but would check into it further.

Denise Artley stated do we get money from the mall.

Gwen Pidcoe stated I believe around $42,000

Chris McKibben stated that about 2-3 years ago the supervisors we had made an agreement with the employees that we would receive the cost of living pay raise because we have all capped out on regular increases. This year the COLA is \*% or higher and we are only getting a 2% increase. So, we are not getting what we agreed upon. We don’t like it, but we understand. The pension the Township receives insurance money which covers most of the cost for the police as well as the non-uniform employees. The first budget meeting it was most definitely brought up about the tax increase, that was the very first thing Gwen said. The employees do not contribute to the pension or health insurance. WE have never paid. When I first started supervisors that were working less than 20 hours a quarter were receiving free health care on the townships dime. I believe this is where this came about.

Paula Miller stated that the employees maybe should start to contribute.

Ann Smith asked how much was the health insurance?

Gwen Pidcoe stated that it is around $8200 a month.

Denise Artley stated that because there are only 4 employees it is going to be high.

Sun-Gazette- The increase is it because of fuel, health care, wages, and other expenses?

Matthew Doyle stated that yes to all that you mentioned.

Jim Smith said to look into grants or cut costs

Heath Ohnmeiss asked Jim what should we cut first Fire, Police, Road?

Genie Wines stated that the Fire company was already cut on what we receive from the township.

Scott Oldweiler stated that we got a grant writer. They are expenses with this but maybe you can look into our grant writer.

Nick Palmatier stated that fire co already took a cut. Also grants take along time so it is not a right now solution. It could take a year or so to know if you even received a grant.

Paula Miller who was the only person to help with writing grants for the Township

Matthew Doyle stated Thomas Schaech.

Gary Jones stated what is Act 13 used for. You can dip into that to help cover costs. I think you should hold off on the increase. I will be happy to help, I just didn’t know what all was involved. I can help with the budget. Maybe have Rick Lowe do the audit and the budget.

Genie Wines how much the tax increase will affect residents.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that it is $50.00 on every $100,000 of the assessed value not the real value of your home/property.

Genie Wines so mine is less than $50.00 I am happy with that.

Paula Miller stated that the increase will affect more than you think.

John Iseley- maybe form a committee of residents to come up with solutions.

Thomas Schaech, we heard that you had a meeting with the county to discuss the mall. Is this true.

Matthew Doyle stated that the only workshop we had with the county was to discuss the changes with the zoning ordinances and how we will work together in the future. We have seen nothing on paperwork since a year ago with the first meeting. The mall has not sold yet it keeps getting pushed. It was to be October, then December and now February. So, you know as much as we do.

Thomas Schaech stated the county funding this project is setting a very dangerous president. You know they are using money from overseas to fund this project right.

Matthew Doyle the first we heard about the county was giving the developer a loan was in the paper the same as you.

**ADJOURN:** Matthew Doyle motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:21 p.m. Heath Ohnmeiss seconded the motion. Gary Harmon agreed. Motion carried.