

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS  
MEETING –Monday, December 20, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Washington Township was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Strausbaugh. Chairman Strausbaugh informed those present that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the fire service contract. Chairman Strausbaugh also read a statement released on December 18, 2021 titled "Washington Township remains responsive across the township" in reference to the fire service contract negotiations.

**PRESENT:** Supervisors Strausbaugh, McCleaf, Stine, McCracken, and DeDona were present. Also present were Township Manager Jeffrey Geesaman, Township Secretary/Treasurer Karen Hargrave, Zoning Officer Vernon Ashway, Assistant Secretary Sarah Ginn, Assistant Zoning Officer Chad Reichard, Chief Michael McGovern, Solicitor Zachary Mills and approximately 44 citizens.

**FROM THE FLOOR:** Harvey Sheets of 5350 Salem Church Road spoke on the problems he is having getting Comcast at his residence. He asked for clarification on the franchise fees that the township receives from Comcast. He also asked about the food processing residue issue that was spread on fields on Prices Church Road. The Township Zoning Officer stated he would investigate this matter. Terry Reiber of 11262 Gopher Drive North spoke on his concerns with public safety and the fire service contract. He felt this should have been taken care of before last week and that the township needs to do what's best for the citizens. Mike Bock of 31 Twin Hill Drive spoke about the Underwriters Lab studies that show how much faster homes burn than in previous years. He stated that time is crucial, and he felt the volunteers of the Waynesboro Fire Department are being punished because of these negotiations. Steve Bockmiller of 10537 Fish & Game Road stated that he wanted the township's side of this negotiation and a better open communication going forward on such matters. He asked what the township planned to do if they couldn't work out an agreement with the borough. John Ryan Beck of 13142 Iroquois Trail stated he was not there as a representative of the fire department but rather a taxpayer with concerns. He did not want to see Washington Township not running the closest fire departments. There have been 2 deaths in Washington Township house fires in the past few years and these changes would not help. He also stated that not running the closest fire departments will raise homeowner's insurance rates. He asked for clarification on where the fire and EMS tax money was being spent. Elaine Gladhill of 14547 Carrosmar Farm Road asked what is the Borough of Waynesboro responsible for? Why has the Borough's fire budget increased so drastically? Kris Martin of 11695 Terra Cotta Drive spoke on budget figures and how raising the amount paid to the Borough of Waynesboro to \$125,000.00 would not be a 21% increase as stated by the township in a news release. She asked what discussions have been taking place to maintain volunteers in the fire department? She encouraged the Board of Supervisors to look into the Carter Lane Investigation from Washington County, Maryland. Lori Depies of 810 Eastland Road asked the township to develop a different funding formula/matrix and be more objective with this fire service contract. Aaron Baginski of 122 Landis Avenue stated that he was disheartened that the township would put a price on public safety. He stated for the township to sign the contract and that the Board of Supervisors could be easily replaced. John Nogle of 13753 Crayton Road stated that the township should have a voice in this "45% investment" of the Borough's Fire Department

budget. Lori Frantz of 10471 Buchanan Trail East asked the township to work this out for everyone. Mutual aid departments that respond into the township and borough are not compensated. Amelia Brosius of 13224 Delaware Circle stated she is concerned for her 3 children and what will happen after December 31<sup>st</sup> if an agreement is not met? She asked the township to keep the public informed and to continue to open negotiations. Jan Gilliland of 349 Oller Avenue asked how much Relief Association monies were distributed in 2021 to Blue Ridge and Waynesboro Fire Departments. Stanley Rice of 13745 MarWay Lane stated that a planned growth pattern was needed. He thanked the fire departments for their necessary service and stated that the township should have a voice in this matter.

At this time there were no further public comments and the Township Manager read the proposal received from the Borough of Waynesboro at 5:04 p.m. The three-year agreement proposed would cost Washington Township \$150,000.00 in year 2022. The cost in year 2023 would be \$166,843.00. The cost in year 2024 would be \$185,380.00. The Board of Supervisors discussed the proposal as presented. On a Stine/McCleaf motion, the Board of Supervisors voted to accept the 3 year proposal from the Borough of Waynesboro for fire service in years 2022-2024 with the addition of mutual sharing of information between both parties and the township having input on decisions, vote was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** On a DeDona/McCleaf motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the agenda as presented with one addition (Borough of Waynesboro Fire Service Proposal discussion), vote was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 6, 2021, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** On a McCleaf/McCracken motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the meeting minutes from the December 6, 2021 regular meeting, vote was unanimous.

**NEW OFFICE FACILITY REVIEW/PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The Township Manager gave an update on the new office facility. The lower end of the estimate for the project is now between 1.9 and 4.7 million. The higher end of the estimate is now between 2.7 and 6.3 million. He anticipated to start bidding the project in early spring of 2022.

#### **REPORTS:**

- a. **Waynesboro EMS Report November 2021-** The Township Manager presented the November 2021 report from Waynesboro EMS. On a McCleaf/McCracken motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the November 2021 report from Waynesboro EMS, vote was unanimous.
- b. **Waynesboro Fire Department Report-** Chief Chris Deavers presented the November 2021 report from Waynesboro Fire Department. On a McCleaf/McCracken motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the November 2021 report from Waynesboro Fire Department, vote was unanimous.
- c. **Blue Ridge Fire & Rescue Report November 2021-** The Township Manager presented the November 2021 report from Blue Ridge Fire & Rescue. On a McCleaf/Stine motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the November 2021 report from Blue Ridge Fire & Rescue, vote was unanimous.
- d. **WTPD Report November 2021-** Chief McGovern presented the November 2021 report of the Washington Township Police Department. On a McCleaf/Stine

motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the November 2021 report from the Washington Township Police Department, vote was unanimous.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORTS:**

**a. Invoices** -The following invoices were presented for payment:

Highway Aid	\$110,002.64
General Fund	\$157,084.63
Cap Res- Cap Proj.	\$ 13,355.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 740.21
Total Invoices	\$281,182.48

On a McCleaf/McCracken motion, the Board of Supervisors approved payment of the invoices as presented, vote was unanimous.

**b. Recycling Financial Statement November 2021-** The Township Secretary presented the November 2021 Recycling Center Financial Statement. On a McCleaf/McCracken motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the November 2021 Recycling Center Financial Statement, vote was unanimous.

**c. Transfer Station Financial Report November 2021-** The Township Secretary presented the November 2021 transfer station financial report. On a McCleaf/Stine motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the November 2021 transfer station financial report, vote was unanimous.

**d. Treasurer's Report October 2021-** The Township Secretary presented the October 2021 Treasurer's Report. On a McCleaf/Stine motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the October 2021 Treasurer's Report, vote was unanimous.

**e. Treasurer's Report November 2021-** The Township Secretary presented the November 2021 Treasurer's Report. On a McCleaf/Stine motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the November 2021 Treasurer's Report, vote was unanimous.

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY:**

**a. Recycling Report November 2021-** The Assistant Township Secretary presented the November 2021 recycling report. On a McCracken/Stine motion, the Board of Supervisors approved the November 2021 recycling report, vote was unanimous.

**ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT:**

**a. Resolution # 754-** The Township Zoning Officer presented Resolution #754 which amended the 2009 Joint Comprehensive Plan of the Borough of Waynesboro and Washington Township. On a McCleaf/DeDona motion, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #754 as presented, vote was unanimous.

**b. Ordinance # 287-** The Township Zoning Officer presented Ordinance #287 which amended the Zoning Chapter of the Code of Washington Township. On a McCleaf/DeDona motion, the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance #287 as presented, vote was unanimous.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**a. Franklin County Commissioner's Office National Opioid Settlement-** The Township Manager presented a letter from Franklin County Commissioner's Office updating the status of the national opioid settlement.

**b. Earned Income Comparison Report December 2021-** The Township Manager presented the Earned Income Comparison Report for December 2021.

**c. LST Comparison Report December 2021-** The Township Manager presented the LST Comparison Report for December 2021.

**d. Breakfast Invitation from Senator Doug Mastriano-** The Township Manager presented an invitation from Senator Doug Mastriano for a meet and greet breakfast event on January 14, 2022.

**e. 2022 Proposed Budget Final Copy-** The Township Manager presented the final copy of the 2022 budget. One amendment was noted after the earlier discussion of the fire service agreement with the Borough of Waynesboro. The expense amount to the Borough of Waynesboro for the 2022 fire contract would be increased to \$150,000.00. On a McCleaf/DeDona motion, the Board of Supervisors adopted the 2022 budget with the fire service contract adjustment as noted, vote was unanimous.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT-** An update was given on the items he has been working on with our staff.

**MISCELLANEOUS-** Chief McGovern gave the Board of Supervisors an update on the police department candidates. Chief Deavers commended those who participated in the "Shop with a Cop" program and stated that the Waynesboro Fire Department would be escorting Santa through their first due area.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m. on a McCleaf/McCracken motion, vote was unanimous.

  
Karen S. Hargrave  
Township Secretary