

PINE CREEK TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2023

The Pine Creek Township Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on December 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., with Supervisors John M. Reese, Dean L. Edwards, Jr., and Dave Winkleman, Jr., present

Also present: Joy K. Packard, Ken Packard, Kevin Ferrara, Greg Love, Jim Hess, Dustin Council, Pam Smith, Rhonda Davis Sweeney, Ben Sweeney, Matt Stover, Steve Bianchi, Heather Fowler, Taryn Saar, Brandon Coleman, Rick Macklem, Dennis Greenaway, and Solicitor Thom Rosamilia

Individuals recording the meeting: Kevin Ferrara, Brandon Coleman and Rick Macklem

Meeting Minutes

Chairman Edwards asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes from the November 1, 2023, monthly meeting or the special meeting of November 14, 2023; there being none, Supervisor Reese made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Supervisor Winkleman, MCU.

Amend Meeting Agenda

Chairman Edwards stated that the meeting agenda must be amended as to Item (2) under New Business, as to the Resolution setting the real estate tax rate, correcting the year from 2023 to 2024.

Supervisor Reese made a motion to amend the meeting agenda as indicated by Chairman Edwards; seconded by Supervisor Winkleman, MCU.

Financial Report & Invoices

Supervisor Reese made a motion to approve the financial reports and invoices as presented seconded by Chairman Edwards, MCU.

Public Participation

Rhonda Davis Sweeney

Resident Rhonda Davis Sweeney requested the Board of Supervisors consider changing the time for some of the meetings during the winter months to daytime.

Steve Bianchi

Resident Steve Bianchi said during the June 7, 2023, township meeting he submitted a petition from residents about the condition of the property on the Woolrich Mill property. He questioned how the individual can live at the property because there is no running water or septic on the property and why it is taking so long for the township to respond to his prior complaint.

The Board noted that the Code Officer and Zoning Officer did investigate the site but were not sure of the outcome of the investigation and will follow up on the complaint.

Dennis Greenaway

Resident Dennis Greenaway congratulated Dave Winkleman, Jr. for winning the election for Township Supervisor and thanked everyone for their support for him to participate in the World Crossbow Shooting Championships in India.

Recreation Committee:

Recreation Committee Member Taryn Saar reported on the Woolrich Wonderland event scheduled at Woolrich Park on December 9th at 6:00 pm. The Committee received \$450.00 in sponsorships for the event and permission to spend the additional funds.

Winkleman asked for clarification - \$450.00 whether it was in addition to the \$1,000 already approved and what funds would be spent on....arrows for the parking areas, plates, napkins, hot chocolate, etc.

Supervisor Winkleman made a motion to approve the additional \$450.00 for expenditures based on the monies received for sponsorships; seconded by Supervisor Reese, MCU.

Taryn also indicated that she and another member of the Committee will be attending a meeting pertaining to DCNR grants next week.

Old Business:

2024 Insurance Renewal

Supervisor Winkleman explained that during the November meeting Kilmer Insurance presented two proposals for 2024 insurance coverage through Selective and EMC Insurance companies. The Board tabled deciding on the proposals because a pollution rider was added and the Supervisors wanted to discuss whether that coverage was something that would be beneficial to the township, adding that the Board decided against adding the pollution rider.

According to Supervisor Winkleman, the difference between the two premiums is EMC's premium is \$54,030.00 and Selective's premium is \$59,461.00.

Supervisor Winkleman made a motion to accept the proposal for insurance coverage from EMC Insurance; seconded by Chairman Edwards, MCU.

New Business:

2024 Budget

Chairman Edwards presented the 2024 Budget for review and approval.

Resident Ken Packard asked about changes made to the 2024 Preliminary Budget, specifically the \$50,000.00 budgeted for Recreation and how those funds would be spent.

Chairman Edwards explained that it includes pickleball court, paving, line painting, maintenance and walking trail.

Mr. Packard also asked what the wage increase would be for employees and whether the increase would be the same for all employees. Chairman Edwards explained the Cost-of-Living

Increase was set at 3.7% but the Supervisors have not finalized wage increases for the employees.

Resident Joy Packard asked when the Supervisors would make a decision on wage increases for employees. Chairman Edwards explained that raises were discussed during the budget work session and the wage increases will be announced at the January Reorganization Meeting.

A discussion was held about the advertisement for adoption of the budget and whether the cost increase for health insurance coverage will be taken into account when determining wage increases.

Supervisor Winkleman noted that prior to becoming a township supervisor he was impressed that the township had a budget surplus of \$70,000.00 last year and the 2024 Budget has a surplus of \$76,000.00.

Chairman Edwards made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget as presented; seconded by Supervisor Winkleman, MCU.

Tax Levy Resolution 12.06.2023

Supervisor Winkleman made a motion to adopt Tax Levy Resolution 12.06.2023 setting the real estate tax rate for 2024 with no tax increase; seconded by Supervisor Reese, MCU.

Schedule Reorganization Meeting & January Monthly Meeting

Supervisor Reese made a motion to schedule the Reorganization meeting for January 2, 2024, at 10:00 am and the regular meeting to immediately follow the Reorganization meeting; seconded by Supervisor Winkleman, MCU.

Update Signatories on Township Accounts

Chairman Edwards made a motion to remove former Supervisor Kenneth Packard from all township bank accounts and approve adding Supervisor David Winkleman, Jr. to all township bank accounts; seconded by Supervisor Reese, the motion passed with Supervisors Reese and Edwards voting in favor of the motion and Supervisor Winkleman abstaining.

Right-To-Know Officer Report

Right-To-Know Officer Macklem provided the following report for November: Three Right-To-Know Requests from Joy Packard.

Roadmaster's Report

Roadmaster John Reese presented the Roadmaster's Report for November 2023, as follows:

Road Maintenance:

1. Paving on Penn Avenue, View Lane and Pine
2. Crack sealing
3. Checked drains
4. Cleaned up after storm damage; removed downed trees

5. Completed mowing along township roads
6. Leaf pick-up
7. Installed snow fence along Tiadaghton and Maryland Avenue

Vehicle Maintenance:

1. Serviced trucks in preparation for winter

Building Maintenance:

1. Cleaned out township shed for storage of summer equipment
2. Repaired building furnaces

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Edwards adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene S. Macklem, Secretary