

The Board's Minutes of the East Donegal Township Board of Supervisors
Held on November 2, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of East Donegal Township was held on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the East Donegal Township Municipal Building, 190 Rock Point Road, Marietta, PA 17547.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kingsboro.

Supervisor Esbensshade led with a Prayer and Pledge to the Flag.

Roll call of Supervisors: Present were Chairman Scott A. Kingsboro, Vice-Chairman Allen D. Esbensshade and Supervisor Michael L. Brubaker. Township Manager Jeffrey Butler was also present.

Supervisor Kingsboro opened the meeting for public comment on items not on the meeting's agenda.

Mr. Ed Strickler, 1172 Long Lane, noted that the volume of traffic on Long Lane has decreased since the traffic detour has ended. He thanked the Board for the placement of two speed radar signs on Long Lane.

Ms. Allison Smolinski, 2129 Maytown Road, stated that individuals flying powered parachutes are taking off from the Donegal Springs Airpark. She believes this is a violation of FAA regulations.

The Board approved the minutes for the October 5, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors and the October 17, 2023 work session of the Board of Supervisors by a motion made by Mr. Brubaker and seconded by Mr. Esbensshade. Discussion: None. Vote: Mr. Brubaker: yes, Mr. Esbensshade; yes, and Mr. Kingsboro; yes. Motion passed.

Old Business.

Resolution 2023-14, Creating an East Donegal Township Municipal Authority Assets Fund.

A motion was made by Mr. Esbensshade, and seconded by Mr. Brubaker, to adopt Resolution 2023-14 authorizing the creation of an East Donegal Township Municipal Authority Assets Fund to be funded by monies received with the termination of the East Donegal Township Municipal Authority and future payments made by the Columbia Water Company for purchase of the Authority's water system.

Mr. Butler explained that funds transferred from the termination of the Municipal Authority, along with payments from the sale of the water system will be placed in the newly created fund account. Vote: Mr. Brubaker; yes, Mr. Esbensshade, yes; and Mr. Kingsboro, yes. Motion passed.

New Business.

2024 Township General Fund Budget.

Mr. Butler presented the highlights of the proposed 2024 General Fund Budget. The proposed budget does not anticipate an increase in the Township's current tax rate. As a result, the tax rate would remain 3.1165 mills.

The proposed budget projects revenue to be \$5,775,400.00 and expenditures to be \$6,065,000.00. The difference of \$289,600.00 to balance the budget will come from existing General Fund reserves.

Mr. Butler stated that approximately 35% of the budget's projected revenue is from real estate taxes. Other significant sources of revenue include earned income taxes, real estate transfer taxes and local services taxes. Combined these sources account for slightly less than 65% of the revenue anticipated in the proposed budget. All of these are collected by outside agencies on behalf of the Township.

Interfund transfers and awards received from grants total an additional \$1,051,850 in revenue.

Over 45% of the anticipated total expenditures are within the Public Safety category. Police service expenditures are expected to be \$2,158,080.00. An additional \$469,345.00 is budgeted for Fire and \$25,885.00 is budgeted for Emergency Management and Ambulance.

Mr. Butler highlighted the public works projects proposed for 2023. Projects include improvement to various alleys in Maytown, participation in the relocation of Coffee Goss Road in cooperation with the developer of the Bridle Path Section 3 residential development, repair of the Long Land bridge and various stormwater management projects. In addition, it's proposed that a new road bank mower be purchased in 2024.

Park projects include improvements to the Chickies Creek Day Use Area pavilion, installation of a fitness court at Fuhrman Park and repairs to a Fuhrman Park pavilion. Recreation programming includes Township participation with GEARS as a municipal partner. A new zero-turn mower is proposed for park maintenance.

The 2024 budget does include the creation of a new Assistant Manager position. It's anticipated that the part-time season public works position will be continues in 2024. The budget includes a proposed 3% wage increase for Township employees.

Mr. Butler indicated that 12.27% of total real estate taxes paid by Township property owners goes to the Township. An additional 11.46% goes to Lancaster County, while the remaining 76.27% is collected by the Donegal School District.

Mr. Butler briefly discussed roadway projects to be funded through the Township's Highway Aid Fund. These include the widening and paving of Donegal Springs Road, between Mansion Lane and Landis Road, and oil and chip treatment of

Stackstown Road and various streets in the Longwood Square development.

Mr. Butler discussed cost increases associated with the Township's trash/recycling program. Contracted hauler costs and the Lancaster County tipping fee for trash have increased. The contracted hauler fee has increased 3% and trash tipping fees have increased 13%. As a result, the budget prepared for the Trash and Recycling Fund proposes a \$10.00 increase in the annual fee for the service.

A motion was made by Mr. Brubaker, and seconded by Mr. Esbenshade, to authorize the Township Manager to advertise the proposed 2024 General Fund Budget as available for public inspection and place the adoption of the 2024 General Fund Budget on the agenda for approval at the December 7, 2023 meeting.

Vote: Mr. Brubaker; yes, Mr. Esbenshade, yes; and Mr. Kingsboro, yes. Motion passed.

Advertise Intention to Appoint CPA to Complete 2023 Audit.

A motion was made by Mr. Esbenshade, and seconded by Mr. Brubaker, to authorize the Township Manager to advertise the Township Board of Supervisors' intention to appoint a Certified Public Accountant to complete the audit of the Township financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Discussion: None. Vote: Mr. Brubaker; yes, Mr. Esbenshade, yes; and Mr. Kingsboro, yes. Motion passed.

Marietta Donegal Joint Authority Rate Increase for Sewage Treatment

A motion was made by Mr. Brubaker, and seconded by Mr. Esbenshade, to consent to the increase of \$2.00 per EDU, per quarter, for sewage treatment, as proposed by the Marietta Donegal Joint Authority.

It was noted that should Marietta Borough not consent to the increase, the proposal would not be implemented. Vote: Mr. Brubaker; yes, Mr. Esbenshade, yes; and Mr. Kingsboro, yes. Motion passed.

Affirmation of Membership - Municipal Emergency Services Authority of Lancaster County

A motion was made by Mr. Esbenshade, and seconded by Mr. Brubaker, to re-affirm the participation of East Donegal Township as a member municipality of the Municipal Emergency Services Authority of Lancaster County ("MESA") following the completion of the Fee Services Hearing by MESA on September 28, 2023 and the expiration of the 45-day objection period on Monday, November 13, 2023.

Discussion: None. Vote: Mr. Brubaker; yes, Mr. Esbenshade, yes; and Mr. Kingsboro abstained due his position with Northwest Emergency Medical Services, Inc. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Brubaker and seconded by Mr. Esbenshade to approve the

Treasurer's Reports for the Township and approve the payment of Township bills.
Discussion: none. Vote: Mr. Brubaker: yes, Mr. Esbenshade; yes, and Mr. Kingsboro; yes.
Motion carried.

FUND	AMOUNT	CHECK #'s
General Fund	\$589,072.41	52908-52941
Trash and Recycling Fund	\$ 64,503.95	2151-2157
Subdivision Escrow Fund	\$ 4,346.70	615
TOTAL	\$657,923.06	

Mr. Kingsboro acknowledged the Board's receipt of the Balance Sheets for the period ending September 30, 2023, for all Township Funds.

Mr. Butler highlighted a letter received from a resident concerned about the safety of the Coffee Goss Road/Fuhrman Road intersection. It was noted that Stop Ahead signs have been placed on Coffee Goss Road. Public Works crew will be adding stop bars on Coffee Goss Road along with flashing beacons on top of the Stop signs.

Copies of the October 2023 Zoning/Building Report were provided to the Board. For the month, a total of 15 permits were issued (6 Zoning Permits, 1 UCC Permits, and 8 combination Zoning/UCC Permits). The total value of construction authorized equaled \$1,259,460.00. Permit fees collected totaled \$5,142.50. There were 17 zoning inspections and 41 UCC inspections conducted in the month.

The Board received copies of the October 2023 Township Roadmaster report.

The Board received copies of the October 2023 report from the Milanof-Schock Library

For September 2023, Northwest EMS responded to 67 calls in East Donegal Township. To date, NWEMS has responded to a total of 538 calls in East Donegal Township.

For September 2023, Fire Department Mount Joy responded to 6 first due calls in East Donegal Township.

For September 2023, Maytown East Donegal Township Fire Department responded to 37 fire incidents and 26 QRS incidents.

The Board received copies of the East Donegal Sewer Authority September 19, 2023 meeting minutes.

The Board received copies of the East Donegal Township Planning Commission September 14, 2023 meeting minutes.

The Board received copies of the East Donegal Township Planning Commission October 26, 2023 meeting minutes.

The Board received copies of the Marietta-Donnegal Joint Authority September 26, 2023 meeting minutes.

The Board received copies of the Susquehanna Regional Police Commission meeting minutes for October 3, 2023.

The Board received copies of the October 2023 NewsBulletin published by the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors.

Liaison Assignment Reports

Administration/Personnel - None

Finance - None

Parks and Recreation-None.

Planning and Development - None

Public Safety – Mr. Kingsboro asked Deputy Chief Houseal to give an update on the new rescue unit. Chief Houseal also highlighted some of the challenges firefighting is facing with the increase in electric vehicles and residential charging stations.

Public Works – None.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Brubaker and seconded by Mr. Kingsboro to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey L. Butler, Township Secretary