

**CHERRY TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Cherry Township Board of Supervisors was held on February 6, 2024 at the Township Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. Those present were Mr. William Smith, Mr. David Mishler, Mr. Gary Blausner, and Mrs. Carolyn Yeager. Two residents were in attendance. Mr. Smith called the meeting order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ryan Hanchoski, Fire Chief of the Slippery Rock Volunteer Fire Department, presented the annual report of responses by the Fire Department in 2023. He thanked the Board of Supervisors for the support received from Cherry Township. He noted the Fire Department's attempts to upgrade the fire trucks and indicated how expensive it is to repair and/or purchase equipment. They appreciate the fact that Cherry Township has enacted the fire tax, which helps support the Fire Department with these efforts.

The January Reorganization Minutes were reviewed. A discussion took place regarding the unreliability of Collin Fantaskey as the Township SEO. We really need to find someone who is more agreeable with regulations and who responds to the Township's requests and needs. Mr. Smith asked Mrs. Yeager to contact Gateway Engineers to see if they have anyone certified, since they probably have a hydraulics division of the business. They may possibly have someone, or know of someone. Mr. Mishler suggested that Mrs. Yeager contact any people listed as SEO's in surrounding Townships on the State website. It was decided to try Venango, Mercer, Lawrence, Clarion, and Armstrong counties. Mrs. Yeager will report at the March meeting.

Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the January 2024 Reorganization Minutes. Mr. Mishler seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried.

The minutes of the January regular meeting were reviewed. There were no additions or corrections. Mr. Mishler made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2024 meeting. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried.

The financial report as of February 6 was reviewed. Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the Financial Report. Mr. Mishler seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried.

Mr. Smith gave the Road Master's Report. There were six days of winter maintenance, which included the wind storm that dropped trees all over the Township. Wolford Road flooded two times, due to the beavers building the dams again. The pond on Chambers overflowed. It didn't wash the road out, but came close. Ditches and culverts were checked out to assure

water flow away from the road. Ditches were cleaned on Coaltown and Redbrush, and gravel patching was done before the freeze set in. We are going around patching again and spreading stone on soft spots on Chambers, Moniteau, Wolford, Coaltown, and Beaverdam. For the upcoming month, we will do winter maintenance according to weather, patch holes and work on ditches. Mr. Mishler made a motion to accept the Road Master's Report. Mr. Blauser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Smith gave the Equipment and Maintenance Report. The snow deflector on the Volvo plow was repaired. A marker on the Mack Truck was repaired, a headlight bulb was put in on the one-ton truck. The 4-wheel drive shift linkage fell off of the one-ton. No one in the area had one, so Bryan went to a junk yard and got one that he engineered to fit, so we have 4-wheel drive back on the truck. The back-hoe was serviced and cleaned up. The serpentine belt on the new Mack truck is shredding. The pulleys don't line up properly and that is ripping the belt apart. It is at Stephenson's for repairs, which will all be under warranty. There is also a coolant leak on the truck. Tri-County fixed it once, but it is still losing coolant, just a small leak, but it trips the service light. After Stephenson is done with the belt repairs, we will send it to Tri-County for the coolant repair. Mr. Mishler made a motion to accept the Equipment and Maintenance Report. Mr. Blauser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

No new information or update was received from Collin Fantaskey regarding the septic issues at 210 Pipestem Road. Mrs. Yeager will continue to make contact with him to see if he has anything to report on the issue.

After extensive correspondence between Attorney Gallagher, the County, and the Township, we have received a letter from Julie Graham, solicitor for the County, indicating that Diane Marburger is not permitted to collect taxes for Cherry Township and that we are to continue with Angel Puca as the tax collector until she resigns or until someone else replaces her during an election.

The Homison family has received the approval from DEP to install an IRSIS septic system on their property on Redbrush Road. The letter will be in the file, if any questions arise as to the Township's responsibilities in monitoring the system for proper installation and maintenance.

Mrs. Yeager contacted Chad Deitrich at the DCED in Harrisburg to check on the status of our SHARES Grant application for a new one-ton truck. Chad responded that the awards for the SHARES Grant have not been decided and he does not have a time-line for when the final choices will be made. He indicated that he will try to keep the Township updated if and when he knows anything further.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Yeager received a request from Iron Mountain to change the EMS Provider for the Underground Facility on Branchton Road. They would like the primary ambulance service for their facility to be changed to Superior Ambulance Service out of Grove City, PA. The secondary ambulance service will be Slippery Rock Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Team, out of Slippery Rock, PA. Mrs. Yeager was in contact with the Emergency Management , Butler County 911 Communications Center, and was directed to submit a signed letter from the Cherry Township Board of Supervisors to have this information entered into the system at the 911 center. Mr. Smith made a motion to submit the letter, indicating the changes requested by Iron Mountain. Mr. Blauser seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried. Mrs. Yeager had prepared a letter to the Communications Center, and the letter was signed. She will submit it to the County, as requested by Ron McClafferty.

Mrs. Yeager provided a letter she received from the Freedom Caucus, which was unclear to her what they were requesting. After a review of the letter, it was determined that the correspondence was informational only, letting people know what they are attempting to accomplish in Washington DC.

There were no Public Comments at this time.

Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and to sign checks to pay all bills. Mr. Mishler seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.