

West Mead Township Board of Supervisors

Public Study Session Minutes

August 10, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Bovard, Jordan and Shartle. Also present: Bud Moody, Linda Moody, Keith Abbott, Mary Anne Janos, Penni Dallas, John Freburg, Tim McKinnis, Sandy McKinnis, Randy Detzel, Terri Detzel, Michele Hunter, Tim Hunter, Ed DeVore, Michael Leonard, Chief Brown, Alan Shaddinger, Mike Crowley and Jill Dunlap.

Note: The Secretary has investigated various financial institutions and Erie Bank has been chosen to set up a separate bank account and fund account for the American Rescue Plan Act funding. Signature cards and information by all Supervisors and the Secretary/Treasurer will be updated.

Note: PA Act 65 of 2021 regarding Posting Meeting Agendas for all local government boards and commissions has been enacted and will become effective on August 29, 2021.

The Chairman noted the above items.

Mandatory Township Garbage Service was discussed as various residents were in attendance to voice their opposition. Randy Detzel indicated he did not want to be told who to use as a hauler as he wanted it to be his choice. Keith Abbott questioned why the Township was looking into this service and discussed leaf composting. Shartle noted we have been looking into the issue for at least five years when we purchased a leaf vacuum machine and they said grant funds would have been available if there was mandatory garbage service. Jordan provided additional reasons including the potential cost savings for residents, less wear and tear on the roads by multiple garbage trucks, population size and the possible discontinuation of Clean Up Day. Bud Moody discussed the Recycling Program and MASA takeovers and the effects over the years. Tim Hunter felt there is a lack of communication from the Township to its residents. Bovard noted the various discussions and meetings that have been held over the years. Dunlap stated Brenda Schmidt and Michele Nestor anticipate having contract language put together at the end of August for consideration at the September Supervisors Meeting. She also noted various garbage information and the June meeting presentation are available on the Township website at www.westmead.org. Ed Devore was not in favor of mandated garbage service and felt this could create a monopoly. Tim McKinnis also discussed monopoly effects and believes one hauler would cost more money down the road. Penni Dallas questioned if it could be contracted on a yearly basis. Randy Detzel recommended this issue be put on the ballot and many in the audience agreed. John Freburg indicated he preferred the freedom of choice. Bovard stated no decisions have been made at this time and the option to do nothing is still on the table. This issue will be further considered at upcoming meetings and updates will be posted on the website, paper and sent by email when we have additional information.

The Board did not review the items on the 7:00 meeting agenda.

Being no further business, Jordan moved, Shartle seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Dunlap
Secretary