

West Mead Township Board of Supervisors

Public Study Session Minutes

October 10, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Bovard and Shartle. Also present: Paul Martin, Penni Dallas, Janet Peters, Barry Porter, Brad Johnston, Terry Shaulis, Jim Pratt, Chief Brown, Alan Shaddinger and Jill Dunlap.

Executive Session was held on September 20, 2023 and another will also be held on October 10 2023 for Real Estate Matters.

Note: This is a public meeting of the Board of Supervisors for purposes of general discussion of administrative, regulatory enforcement; police and road department and personnel; building and grounds; budget and related matters and issues related thereto that may or may not require action. It is also used to review and comment on the public meeting agenda for the regular public meeting.

The Chairman noted the above items.

Public Comment:

None

Shartle moved, Bovard seconded to ratify Ennis Flint Trading, Inc. for the purchase of reflective materials to be used as police speed lines and handicap parking area symbols at various locations, as directed by the Roadmaster in the amount of \$1,825.50. Vote – All Approved.

Shartle moved, Bovard seconded to approve installation of LED street light and ancillary equipment by Penelec/First Energy on Leslie Road near the intersection with Dickson Road, estimated at not to exceed \$6,000.00 and authorize the appropriate officials sign the agreement and take any necessary action on behalf of West Mead Township. Discussion was had on various options and the pole that is going to be vacant due to the removal of the West Mead #2 Volunteer Fire Department fire siren. Vote – All Approved.

West Mead Township Tax Collector Janet Peters was present to provide an update on various tax collection services. Peters and Dunlap discussed potential options for acceptance of electronic and credit card payments for various taxes and other services. They also provided an update on the remaining delinquent street light bills as they have been working together this past year on collections. All outstanding bills have been sent to Sharp Collections to try and get as many paid as possible, prior to liens being placed on the remaining properties. Shartle questioned who would handle tax collections if Peters is unable to fulfill her duties. Peters indicated her daughter is listed as Deputy Tax Collector, as required by law and assists her as necessary.

West Mead Township Fire Department Chiefs and Representatives Terry Shaulis, Barry Porter, Brad Johnston and Jim Pratt were present to provide an update on their departments. Brad Johnston provided a handout detailing the specifications and information on the purchase of a Toyne Fire Truck for West Mead #1 Fire Company slated for delivery in the fall of 2025. He noted they worked on the specifications with West Mead #2 Fire Department and other local department representatives to order what would provide the best services for the residents. This truck offers options they have not had in the past. Barry Porter provided additional financial information and discussed the funding currently provided by the Township of \$88,000 per year total for both departments. This is the same amount as has been provided since 2001. He explained costs are increasing and sees the need for an increase in funding. Jim Pratt noted West Mead #2 Volunteer Fire Department has been participating in college recruitment events and are seeking ways to retain volunteer members. He discussed a recent Ordinance enacted by Vernon Township offering tax credits for volunteers. He will provide updated documents for consideration by the Supervisors. The Supervisors briefly discussed this legislation at the last meeting and will give further consideration to the matter. Shartle discussed fire services as well as emergency ambulance services and a call which he was on site at during a recent accident. Discussion was had to reach out to Eric Henry of Meadville Ambulance Services to have him attend a future meeting to update the Board on the status of current ambulance services in the Township.

The Board reviewed the items on the 7:00 meeting agenda.

Being no further business, Shartle moved, Bovard seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Dunlap
Secretary