

Black Creek Township Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 8th, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Black Creek Township Supervisors, held on
Thursday, February 8th, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: Roll Call; Cheesman Present; Yacowatz Present; Feerrar Present.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: There is a 5-minute time limit. Please state your name and address. No comment given.

Minutes:

The chairman will ask if there are any additions or corrections to the January 2nd Reorganization meeting minutes and the January 11th, 2024 general meeting minutes.

A *motion* by Supervisor Yacowatz, seconded by Supervisor Cheesman, to approve the minutes of the January 2nd Reorganization meeting and of the January 11th, 2024 general meeting.

All in favor.

(Copies were available on the front table, for public review)

Supervisor Feerrar then announced for everyone to have a moment of silence in honor of Sandy Houseknecht, our former township tax collector, who passed away.

Financial Report: January 1st to January 31st	Interest Rates
Mid Penn General Fund:	\$67,163.83 1.00%
Fire Escrow Account:	\$75.05 1.00%
PLGIT Prime Savings:	\$103.86 PLGIT Yields
PLGIT Checking/Liquid Fuels:	\$177.34 Can Change
	<u>On A Daily Basis</u>
Total Checking/Savings:	\$67,163.83
PLGIT Alumni Assoc.:	\$5,149.77
Total:	<u>\$72,669.85</u>

A *motion* by Supervisor Cheesman, seconded by Supervisor Yacowatz, to approve the financial report.

All in favor.

Bills: Payment of bills, as presented.

A *motion* by Supervisor Cheesman, seconded by Supervisor Yacowatz, to approve the bills as presented and to pay any and all bills in all funds that become due before the next regular meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Cheesman, Yes; Yacowatz, Yes; Feerrar, Yes.

Correspondence: None.

Reports:

Zoning Report: No report.

Fire Company: Bobby reviewed the activity report.

Emergency Management: No report.

Roadmaster Report: Supervisor Cheesman reviewed the road master report.

Treasurer's Report & Budget Summary: Supervisor Feerrar reviewed the treasurer's report and budget summaries.

Old Business:

1. Adoption of Resolution No. 1 of 2024 to Amend Ordinance No. 1 of 1997 to increase Tax Collector Compensation

A motion by Supervisor Cheesman, seconded by Supervisor Feerrar, to approve the adoption of the resolution amending Ordinance No. 1 of 1997 to increase the Tax Collector compensation for real estate and duplicate bills from \$10.00 to \$20.00 each.
All in favor.

2. Re-Appointment of Township Tax Collector

A motion by Supervisor Feerrar, Seconded by Supervisor Cheesman, to re-appoint Gary Houseknecht as township tax collector.
All in favor.

New Business:

1. Planning Commission

A motion by Supervisor Feerrar, Seconded by Supervisor Cheesman to authorize our Solicitor to draft an ordinance to abolish the Planning Commission and create a Planning Committee.
All in favor.

2. Zoning Hearing Board

A motion by Supervisor Cheesman, Seconded by Supervisor Feerrar to authorize our Solicitor to reduce the number of the Zoning Hearing Board members from five members to three members.
All in favor.

***Review Public Comment** from last meeting.

Public Comment: There is a 5-minute time limit. Please state your name and address.

After public comment was announced and no comment was given by the public, Supervisor Chairman Yacowatz read off a list of observations made within the township garage and township vehicles by himself and the other Supervisors. The Supervisor Chairman started out by making it known that the special meeting held February 1st was submitted 48 hours prior to the meeting, however, the Standard Speaker did not publish it until the day of the meeting, which can be confirmed. He went onto mention that last year's budget for 2023 was \$483,000 over the projected spending for 2024. The previous administration did not donate to the Nuremburg-Weston Fire Company for the past 3 years and that this administration, now, will donate for 2023 and 2024, and continuing yearly after. He also made the point that three new supervisors entered the Township at the same time instead of having the two-year stagger. He went onto say that there was zero help or shared information from the previous administration during the transition. The Chairman explained about John Ross quitting via text message on a Sunday night without giving two weeks' notice, but still received two weeks paid vacation for 2024 and by doing this it left no garage workers. There was no third-party plowing contract confirmed by the previous administration, and the anti-skid/salt ratio was incorrect, making it ineffective on the roads. The Chairman further pointed out that in January's meeting they said that the garage appeared to be in order. However, upon further inspection they found a lack of tools needed to maintain vehicles and equipment in the garage, a lack of lubricating materials for equipment maintenance, empty oil drums scattered throughout the garage that were supposed to have different types of oils in them, all gas bottles in the garage were empty, including acetylene, oxygen and mig. mix. There was a total lack of personal safety equipment like hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, safety shields and respirators. No maintenance was done on the heavy equipment including the Dodge 5500 that was out of inspection, had bald tires, a non-working salt spreader, a hydraulic leak and no rear brakes. The Chairman went onto talk about the Western Star plow truck having had a hydraulic leak from a plug inside the controls that operate the spreader, and made it known that it's highly unusual for this to happen. He went onto say that the spreader was attached incorrectly with a pin put in upside down and that if not caught by the garage manager, Supervisor Cheesman, the spreader would have fallen off while in use. Chairman Yacowatz lastly mentioned that upon inspection of the pool building, there was a water leak discovered on the second floor due to a frozen pipe that busted due to no heat left on in the building and the water not being turned off by the previous administration.

Adjournment: A *motion* by Supervisor Yacowatz, seconded by Supervisor Cheesman, to adjourn the meeting at 6:24p.m. All in favor.