

**Gallagher Township Board of Supervisors
Regularly Scheduled Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2024 ~ 7:00PM**

The April 3, 2024, Public Meeting of the Gallagher Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Will Mann at 7:00 PM; followed by a moment of silence; and the Pledge of Allegiance.

In Attendance were Supervisors: Chairman, Will Mann; Vice Chairman, Brian Hoy; Supervisor, Bill McCoy; & Township Secretary/Treasurer, Shelly Davis, Loretta Coltrane, Tim Lester, Michelle Whitney, Warren Gottshall, Jacque Gottshall, Kenny Porter, Rusty Weaver, Jody Ritter, Harvey Palmiatory.

Chairman Mann, asked if anyone would be recording the meeting; meeting was recorded by Michelle Whitney & Brian Hoy

A Consent Agenda – The items included below are routine in nature and it is not anticipated that any will generate discussion or questions. The actual Consent Agenda with a brief description of which items are included below and distributed to the Board of public for review. The items are available to view at the sign-in table. At the request of a Board Member any single item or all items on the Consent Agenda can be discussed and voted on separately. In the event no items are "pulled", the Board should consider a motion for "approval" of the Consent Agenda items as shown on the agenda. **Meeting Minutes:** March 6, 2024 Regular Meeting, **Road Master Report** for the month of March 2024, **Treasurer Report** for the month of **March 2024** which includes all Liabilities, Payroll, all Invoices Paid, and Deposits made for all of the Township's Accounts, and the **March 2024 Correspondence** Motion to approve by Supervisor Hoy, seconded by Chairman Mann, MCU

Roadmaster Report

Vice Chairman and Roadmaster, Brian Hoy, provided the Roadmaster's Report for the month of March 2024.

Brian was out this week cleaning up trash & debris and finished delineators. There has been no snow since the last meeting. The road inspection was completed which includes the following:

Carrier Road

- Patch potholes after the road is graded, Brian Hoy to call Justin Bryerton on scheduling
- Blow out ditches

Queens Run Road

- One pipe to be cleared which is 90% clogged
- Blow out ditches
- The arrow sign has been replaced
- Speed Limit signs – post set, need to order 3 signs from Bradco, Brian Hoy to place order.
- Paul's Lane – Brian to follow-up with Susquehanna regarding busses

Hollow Road

- Benson to come look at the flow of ditches, may need reshaping, Will Mann to call on scheduling
- Scratch coat the next section of road
- Blow out ditches
- Delineators have been completed
- Denway Driveway – Wayne Harris Property.
- Vegetation Management – Brian Hoy called for estimate, we may not need to get bid because it may not be that expensive

Church Road

- Blow out ditches

SEO Report

Bradley Mahoney Property – Shea's development

Zoning & Land Use Permits Report

Permit #5045 issued for 315 Simon Lane on March 20, 2024, for a 16x18 out building.

School House Committee – Final Reports given to Chairman Mann by Loretta Coltrane. The weather has been too cold to spend much time there, however Loretta has found some old photographs at the library and is compiling information that we may want to use in future. More to report on at the next meeting.

Public Comment

Tim Lester questioned why we are not getting erosion plans for new projects which is because the Conservation District and the County work with the developer on all aspects, not the township.

Unless we, as the township, require a logging permit, we don't have any control. The owners of the property need to ensure that the logging companies leave everything correct when the work is complete, because it is not the township's responsibility even though it does affect our roads on occasion.

Old Business:

Exit Audit/ Annual Audit – Exit Audit/ Annual Audit for Township completed March 22, 2024. No issues to report, they reviewed invoices, tax filings and general accounting.

Tire Collection - Wednesday, May 15th 4pm – 7pm, Friday, May 17th 7am – 12pm. We will take the tires to the landfill that afternoon.

Clinton County Liquid Fuels Grant – Supervisor Hoy reported that we applied for \$15k, awaiting response.

New Business:

Supervisor Cell Phones – recommend we discontinue supervisor cell phone use & return to township. Phones were purchased August 3, 2022, at \$158 per phone in order to limit the Right to Know requests to just our township phones. However, Right To Know requests can also be done on personal phones so there is no need to continue the expense. The only calls that have been received on the township phone have been school closings to Supervisor Hoy. Motion by Supervisor McCoy to do away with all cell phones except the Secretary/Treasurer's phone, Seconded by Chairman Mann, MCU

Resolution 2021-01 authorized purchase of cell phones for Heather Renninger, Secretary/Treasurer at the time and William McCoy while holding the position of Chairman & Road Master. Heather purchased her phone when she left her position and technically Supervisor McCoy should have turned his phone in to the township the beginning of January 2024 according to the resolution since he no longer holds the position stated.

However, Supervisor McCoy uses the township phone as his personal phone and stated that he purchased the phone and has been paying the monthly bill. Supervisor Hoy stated that when the phones were upgraded in July of 2022 that he recalled Supervisor McCoy receiving a new township phone at that time and that it is the same model as the other township phones purchased. Supervisor McCoy stated that if you go through the bills you'll find the township never paid for my phone. Supervisor Hoy requested a copy of the bill showing that he is paying for the phone. Supervisor McCoy is willing to purchase the phone from the township if necessary.

Chairman Mann suggested we hold an Executive Session after the meeting to discuss further. Supervisor McCoy stated that the phone information was messed up due to his Homeland Security clearance for the township web page and that they requested his personal phone, cell phone and e-mail address and that was when it could have been added back on the township account. We will review phone bills to look at what lines are being paid by the township.

The only township phone going forward will be the Secretary/Treasurer phone for administrative purposes and secondary security issues on business accounts.

Pine Creek Township – sweeping/paving, - Supervisor Hoy spoke to John to get bid on sweeping and expects the estimated cost to be around \$2000. Motion presented by Supervisor Hoy, Seconded by Chairman Mann, MCU
Supervisor Hoy would like to get an estimate on additional ¾ mile paving on Hollow Road. The motion was presented by Supervisor Hoy, Seconded by Chairman Mann, MCU

Hollow Road Ditches / Queens Run Pipe - pipe is 90% clogged, several ditch lines need reshaping/grading totaling about ¾ mile. Benson bid of \$5720 which required one township employee to help haul materials with our truck. The motion to approve by Supervisor Hoy, Seconded by Chairman Mann, MCU
Supervisor McCoy agreed to have fire company blow out ditch prior to work being scheduled.

Hardee DB4060 mower & Diesel Skid Tank – Motion to clean equipment and accept bids through the June 4, 2024, meeting and sell for no less than \$5000, we originally paid \$8700. Motion presented by Supervisor Hoy, Seconded by Chairman Mann, MCU

Marking/Stripping paint – Motion to purchase paint, 2 cases of Orange \$80 each & 3 cans of blue line paint \$15 each by Supervisor Hoy, Seconded by Supervisor McCoy, MCU

RTK – Supervisor Mann suggested that before filing a Right-To-Know inquiry that most issues could be resolved with better communication and save the township money on a solicitor. Anyone can file a RTF inquiry, however it is better for everyone if we discuss the issue in question before getting a solicitor involved and costing the township money unnecessarily which opened several areas of discussion as follows:

Meeting Recordings –There are no rules stating that we have to “ask” who is recording the meeting. Resolution 2022-08 Section 2 states that anyone may record the meeting, (audio or video) and they must state their name and that they are recording before commencing. A suggestion was made that it be on the agenda going forward, which it already is.

It was also stated that during the February Meeting no one asked about anyone recording which was verified by both Supervisor McCoy and Jodi Ritter and that it was not correct on the minutes which state that it was asked.

Chairman Mann reiterated that the policy regarding how long we are required to keep the recorded minutes states the recording are to be kept no more than 30 days or until the minutes have been transcribed and should be deleted at that time. Anyone can request a copy of the recording which will be provided unless it has been transcribed and the recording deleted.

Chairman Mann stated that several hundred dollars in solicitor costs could have been avoided if Supervisor McCoy had spoken with himself and Supervisor Hoy prior to filing an appeal. The issues that were in question by Supervisor McCoy were as follows:

Supervisor McCoy had requested that the minutes be corrected to state that he was not consulted and was unaware that Solicitor Justin Hauser was requested to attend the February 7, 2024, meeting. Chairman Mann read from August 3, 2022, meeting minutes that stated that then Chairman McCoy made a motion that the solicitor was to attend all meetings going forward and it was seconded by then Supervisor Porter. No amendments have been made since and the Solicitor can attend any meetings with or without our invitation.

Supervisor McCoy wanted it stated that Supervisor Hoy had asked him to step down during the meeting because Supervisor McCoy was not available to sign checks in a timely manner.

Supervisor McCoy stated that he "doesn't know what is going on here half the time, anytime really...He receives no calls or email on when employees are working." and that he was unaware of the solicitor being requested at the February meeting. Kenny Porter stated that he did not recall knowing when employees were working when he was a supervisor, and that lack of communication has been an ongoing issue for years.

Supervisor McCoy stated "I'll tell you where my part in stemming from, I'm going to put this out there. I'm caught in the middle; I'm in a catch 22 right now. Because somebody filed with Ethics last year. I'm working with Ethics, I'm working with the Department of Labor and Industry, and Justin Houser know this. They are telling me things to do, and he (Justin Houser) told me to do it. Whoever did it just got the same letter I did, another 90-day extension on it; because they want me to do some things that I have been dragging my ass on. Because I don't want to do them, because I know why, it's going to cost the township money. The solicitor is going to get involved and I know where they want it to go. They want it to go to the Attorney General's office, and I'm dragging my feet for this township. I'm in a catch 22 and I can't say stuff, I'm screwed, I'm sitting here in the middle in a catch 22. All because somebody filed some paperwork, and they filed it against me. And what's going to happen here is, it's going to backfire, that's what's going to happen. It's the whole township now that they are looking at. And I'll tell you how far they are going back Loretta. They wanted to know why I covered the audit when it was late. (Brian asks when, Loretta and Bill answer 2017-2018) I was asked why I covered it. I'm in a spot, I don't like to be in this spot, but I didn't do it. So some of this stuff you're seeing that going on here, is I'm being instructed to do this, point blank. Because all of the minutes are accessible on the web-page and they know that. They got them. (Brian asked who?) Ethics, they got them. (Brian says only back a couple years) They got everything. So I'm trying to drag my feet here and it's not working. Because I have a personal relationship with Mary from Ethics. When I see 717 calls on my phone I hate to answer them. So everything I'm doing is I'm being coached and processed through the procedure that they want done, and Justin (Houser) told me to do it. Don't get my ass in trouble. So that's where I'm at, and you would do the same thing, it's not pleasant. That's where some of this is coming from."

Jody Ritter stated that she can understand why Supervisor McCoy feels that he doesn't know what is going on because she hears "We" all the time between Supervisor Hoy and Chairman Mann during discussion and questioned why Supervisor McCoy isn't involved. Supervisor Hoy stated that it is because the two of them are the township employees and are handling the day-to-day operations. Chairman Mann stated that he goes out of his way to include Supervisor McCoy in any & all discussions and that everything on this agenda has been discussed between the three of them.

Michelle Whitney recommended classes that are available on Right to Know and Office of Open Records which would be very helpful to clear up some of these areas. She also questioned why a solicitor was involved in Supervisor McCoy's inquiry and was informed that it was because of the materials in question and because Supervisor Hoy needed direction on the proper handling.

Supervisor McCoy stated that he was not the one costing the township money because of the RTK filing and that this situation started well over a year ago and that when he is requested to do something by the state, that "you do it" and that he was instructed to do so. Rusty Weaver stated that it was still Supervisor McCoy costing the township money regardless of who directed him.

Road Materials – Salt is acceptable by PENNDOT, DEP and Soil Conservation and nothing in the files regarding discontinuing use of salt found in the past 2 years of communications. Supervisor McCoy made the motion in February to purchase anti-skid mix. Chairman Mann suggests we amend that resolution to allow the purchase of all road materials (salt, magnesium chloride or anti-skid) necessary for public safety during the winter months by the Road Master, Seconded by Supervisor Hoy, MCU

Exterior Garage Light – motion to purchase new 60-watt LED with sensor light at cost of \$180 by Supervisor Hoy, Seconded by Supervisor McCoy, MCU

CCATO Convention June 6, 2024 – motion for all three supervisors and Jody Ritter to attend at cost of \$80 by Chairman Mann, Seconded by Supervisor Hoy, MCU

Shelly Davis will also be attending the convention which was paid for by Wayne Township already.

Mixed Fuel – motion to purchase up to 4 gallons from Jo's Equipment by Supervisor Hoy, Seconded by Supervisor McCoy, MCU

Fire Company Reimbursement for Workman's Comp – mail was dropped to wrong address for the fire company's workman's comp insurance, and they paid it. An audit was done on the account, and we need to reimburse the fire company for their payment. Motion presented to reimburse Fire Company for \$180 by Chairman Mann, Seconded by Supervisor Hoy, MCU

Adjourn:

With no additional business to discuss or public comments to be heard, Motion to adjourn by Supervisor Mann, Seconded by Chairman McCoy at 8:14 pm.
All voted in favor.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

Gallagher Township Supervisor Chairman
William Mann

Gallagher Township Secretary
Shelly Davis
