

**SCOTT TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES—MARCH 15, 2023**

The Scott Township Board of Supervisors met on the above date in the Municipal Building, 350 Tenny Street (Espy), Bloomsburg, PA. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. In attendance were Supervisors Kathleen A. Lynn, Paul R. Eyerly IV, Layne D. Kocher, William G. Hafner and Dennis N. Wildt. Solicitor Anthony J. McDonald from Marinos, McDonald & Knecht LLP, Police Chief Raymond J. Klingler, Maintenance Supervisor William D. Doty, and Secretary/Treasurer Brittany M. Bacon were also in attendance.

**REPORT OF THE AUDITING FIRM, BBD, LLP**

Stewart Morcom, CPA, attended to present the 2022 Audit Report. Mr. Morcom gave an overview of the financial statements. There was an unmodified opinion as in prior years. There were no significant variances or internal control issues found, and they had great cooperation throughout the audit. Mr. Morcom explained the large deficit of revenues vs. expenses of \$900,000 for 2022 with the following clarifications. The balance of the HMPG Grant, which was for the buyout of flood properties, was refunded to the federal government in the amount of \$548,499. Also, the new roof at the Township Office was funded with \$86,000 of ARP funds received in 2021 and the \$100,000 of park project costs were funded with Park Grant funds received in 2021. After considering these items, the remaining deficit was \$165,000. Mr. Eyerly asked the question if there was any way that the Township should be accruing expenses (such as unused personal time) related to employees due to retire. Mr. Morcom stated that the DCED reporting requirements have a standard cash basis for municipalities which the Township follows, with the exception of the accounting for the long-term debt liability. The Township would have the discretion to modify its accounting presentation to make that accrual, but it is not required. Mr. Kocher made the motion to approve the audit for 2022. Mr. Wildt seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None appearing.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Hafner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Wildt seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

**APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS**

The February Budget, Police, Roads, Secretary, Treasurer, Zoning, and the Barry Isett & Associates Report were presented for approval. Mr. Eyerly made a motion to approve the reports as presented and Mr. Kocher seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID**

The January 19 through February 15 General Fund bills to be paid were presented as check numbers 17718-17760 for \$86,304.85 In addition, Liquid Fuels Fund bills to be paid was presented as check numbers 1904-1906 for \$4,216.41 Mr. Kocher made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Mr. Hafner seconded, and the motion carried 4-0, with Mr. Eyerly abstaining due to conflict of interest regarding the Press Enterprise payment, check number 17740.

### **SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT**

The Nautilus Development Letter of Credit release request was presented. Ms. Bacon stated that Engineer Todd Pysher of Pysher & Associates, Inc., inspected the project and recommended releasing \$38,288.82. Mr. Eyerly made a motion to release \$38,288.82 of the financial security, with \$466,491.40 remaining. Mr. Wildt seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Regarding the park grant agenda item, Ms. Bacon asked The Board if they would consider opening the pickle balls courts once completed. Discussion ensued regarding concern over scheduling times for the courts. Ms. Bacon explained that we would address that if needed once the courts were open. The Board agreed to opening the courts once they were lined and the netting was installed.

Regarding the American Rescue Plan Funds and municipal building improvements, Ms. Bacon updated the board. Ms. Bacon brought up having the HVAC system in the Township building inspected due to ongoing issues. The Board agreed and directed Mr. Doty to reach out to the contractor to come out and give us a proposal.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Betsy Rubio from The Columbia County Housing Redevelopment Authority attended the meeting and inquired if the Township would be interested in working with the CCHRA for the property located at 20 Shawnee Rd. Ms. Rubio reviewed the images of the property provided by Barry Issett & Associates and determined that it would need to be demolished, due to it not being salvageable. She proposed working with Ms. Bacon and Mr. McDonald in obtaining conservatorship. Mr. Eyerly made the motion to approve The Redevelopment Authority obtain conservatorship of the property. Mr. Hafner seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0 with Ms. Lynn abstaining due to conflict of interest.

Regarding Act 172, Ken Carey, Chief of The Espy Fire Department and Darren Shaffer, Chief of Lightstreet Fire Department, discussed adopting and amending Act 172 to provide incentives for municipal volunteers of fire companies and nonprofit emergency medical services agencies that live within the Township. The Board tabled the discussion for a later date.

Regarding the EDCDI Grant, Todd Pysher of Pysher & Associates joined via telephone to discuss the details about how the Township can apply for funding. Mr. Eyerly made the motion to approve the EDCDI application. Mr. Kocher seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

The Board entered into an executive session at 7:36 p.m for pending litigation regarding Lion's Gate, and reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

Mr. Kocher made a motion to have J. Michael Wiley, Esquire, of the McCormick Law Firm to file a Motion of Entry of Judgement of Non-Pros Due To Inactivity for Lion's Gate. Mr. Eyerly seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Wildt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kocher seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "B Bacon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

Brittany M. Bacon  
Secretary/Treasurer