

7:00PM

August 9, 2017

South Pymatuning Township Regular Meeting

The Regular meeting of the South Pymatuning Board of Supervisors was held on August 9, 2017 at 7:00PM in the municipal building with Chairperson Michaelene Harris, Supervisors Brian Geisel and Rose Lyons in attendance.

The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2017 Regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

It was announced that a gatherings were held on July 24th, August 2 and August 8th, 2017 to interview candidates for the police dept. It was also announced a gathering was held on July 27th, 2017 with the union rep to discuss the appointed secretary position and the union township office worker position.

It was announced that Tri-County Industries has scheduled a bulk pickup for the week of September 11, 2017. Leaf pickup for the week of November 06 and December 04, 2017 and there will be a recycle event on Saturday September 23, 2017 from 10:00AM-1:00PM at Jefferson Twp. Fairgrounds.

The supervisors presented Officer Richard Christoff a certificate of Recognition for outstanding service for assisting Sharpsville police dept. on August 03, 2017.

Public Comments:

Kurt Toth asked if the ditch was scheduled for repairs at the intersection of Buckeye and Ivanhoe. Lyons told him it will be repaired in a couple weeks. He also asked when the resurfacing will be done at the intersection of Orangeville Rd and Buckeye Dr. Lyons said that was scheduled for August 21st, 2017. Toth asked if the big boom mower was being used and Lyons said yes Mr. Garver has been out on it.

Don Morrow asked if the supervisors plan on adopting a Brake Retarder Ordinance and if so they need to start preparing to get it in place for the budget. He said he gave it to the supervisors 2 years ago. He also said he was in Harrisburg and that South Pymatuning was the only community in the 7th district that can't get along. Harris said she has spoken with individuals from COG about grants and information is being sent. One is for roads and bridges and the other may be for vehicles.

Laurel Alexander wanted to clarify on the minutes from last month that when she said about the closing the police dept. She was referring to the previous solicitor that was representing the township and when Harris and Lyons went to talk to Sharpsville about taking over. Harris said Lyons did not go meet with them only her and the solicitor did. She asked if the supervisors had a year to date budget in front of them for the police dept. and if they were over budget. Harris said they are not over budget. Laurel said there was money in the budget to buy new vehicles 2 years ago. She said the residents were against buying new vehicles. She said the supervisors main job are the roads and supervisors should be walking them.

Ed Wilson asked how many cruisers the township has. Harris said 3 at the time. Ed said he knows there are issues with the budget but the supervisors need to come up with a schedule and budget to replace equipment and vehicles. Lyons said the road crew had funds budgeted for a new truck for the road crew

and the other 2 supervisors decided not to buy a new truck. Harris said she would like to see the supervisors sit down and discuss. Lyons said there was \$9000.00 budgeted for a new police vehicle and that the supervisors wasted money on repairing the 2014 Charger of approx \$5000-\$6000 which could have went to buying a new vehicle. Toth said it would be nice for the supervisors to work together. Harris said she would like the public to get involved.

Chuck Vranich asked how many police vehicles were in operation, Geisel said only one. Vranich said the vehicles are not taken care of. He said he advised the township about a 2011 vehicle with 19,000 miles on it and knew the township would be down to one vehicle and the supervisors did nothing. He said he did a RTK on the vehicle maintenance and that the maintenance was not being done. He said the police dept. runs the vehicles that are unsafe because of lack of maintenance. He said the tires were only rotated 2 times within 45,000 miles. He asked who's at fault. Harris said she spoke with Del Moore and he said he does not rotate the tires on a regular basis if they don't show wear n tear. Harris said if he is our police maintenance garage why wouldn't he rotate the tires. Lyons said it's the same as if you take your own vehicle in for maintenance the garage only does what you ask them to do. Vranich said the police tires have been bad since the middle of May and no one told them to stop driving the vehicle except Lyons but no one supported her. He said there could have been an accident and the township would have been liable. Sump said every shift the vehicle should be checked over. Toth said have a checklist in place and sign off. Harris said there is a check list in place but she has not seen it. Ed Wilson said send the vehicles to COG. He told Harris to make the decision now if they were going to send the vehicles to COG. Harris said they will be taken the next time they need serviced. Lyons said she gave the supervisors all the information in December of 2016 and they just had to call to get a contract in place and never did. Harris said she would call tomorrow. Vranich asked what the procedure was when supervisors make a purchase. Geisel said it has to be discussed with all 3 supervisors. He asked why Lyons was not made aware of the cost to repair the 2014 Charger. He asked about the new hires and if all 3 supervisors knew about hiring. Lyons said the solicitor advised the supervisors that decisions have to be made at a public meeting and that is why she did not attend the meeting that Geisel and Harris had. He asked what the cost is to the township to hire new officers. Lyons asked why the township is paying for psych evaluations and physicals for new officers now. Lyons asked how long they would be required to ride with an officer for training. She said the supervisors should have an estimate of what the cost was going to be. Lyons said the supervisors should have budget for the hiring of the new officers and waited until next year to hire since it was not put in this year's budget and that they will not be able to patrol on their own until at least November. Vranich reminded Harris that she ran for office and the people supported her and she needs to step up or step down. Harris said she tried to talk to Lyons but said she is not in favor of hiring. Lyons said she is in favor of building a police roster, but the concern is the budget and that the supervisors are saying it will avoid overtime. Lyons said the township should have paid the overtime to reduce the cost and budget for next year to hire. Harris was addressed as to why she didn't approach Lyons and resolve the issues. Harris said she tried to speak to Lyons and Lyons is very standoff. Lyons said Harris never came in to resolve any issues. She told Harris she informs them and they never respond to her. She said she has every right to be upset with the supervisors since it is taxpayer's money being spent. Toth said he is hoping for the best for the township and that the supervisors will work together. He said he knows Lyons has the township at heart. He asked that the supervisors look forward and gather their thoughts and work on new equipment. He said nothing is in place and asked that it be put in place. Chuck said Harris did not respond back to his phone call.

Gary Hall asked why all this about the police is just now being discussed and why she is the only one who knows about what's going on.. Lyons said the budget should have been discussed at the workshop meeting and it was not. She told Mr. Hall maybe it's because she is the one paying attention.

Dennis Sump asked if they could have an agreement between the supervisors to work together. Toth said he knows Lyons has the township at heart. Lyons said she is tired of asking the supervisors. She said per the auditors the supervisors were to come in and review the bank statements, deposit tickets. She said she keeps talking and asking the supervisors and handles everything at the township. Lyons said they have done nothing to date. She said the bottom line is that supervisors are not working with her at all.

Ed Wilson said he has been coming to the meetings for the past 8 years and sometimes he questions Harris's force fullness. He said Lyons needs to get rid of the attitude and said when working at the township only those duties are to be done. He said he is serving Lyons notice that he will not tolerate the attitude. Wilson said he will be in everyone's face until it's resolved. He said he does know what Lyons problem is and that he is not happy with what's going on. He told the supervisors to get up and do something. He said Harris needs to use the gavel, and will not tolerated Lyons attitude. He said Geisel seems to have a renewed interest since the new board and he thanks him. He said he was at the meeting they had with Harris along with Dennis Sump. He said if he hears anymore in public between the supervisors he is going to attack them. He said work it out at workshops or on supervisors own time. He said meetings are for the taxpayers. Vranich said do your job and there will be no attitude. Wilson and Vranich had disagreement between each other and said Vranich is fueling the fire. Toth said we just want to move forward.

Police and fire reports were read.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to pay the bills in the amount of \$57,091.55 and payroll total \$32,323.34. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to hire Wyatt Helmbreck as a part time police officer pending results of his psychological, physical examinations along with criminal history and driving results. Motion passed with Lyons opposing.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to hire Michael Federowicz as a part time police officer pending results of his psychological, physical examinations along with criminal history and driving results. Motion passed with Lyons opposing.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to hire Julie McGlasson as a part time police officer pending results of his psychological, physical examinations along with criminal history and driving results. Motion passed with Lyons opposing.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to advertise to sell the 2014 Dodge Charger. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to accept sealed bids from August 31st, 2017 through September 11, 2017 for the Dodge Charger and to award the highest bidder at the September 13th, 2017 Regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Rose Lyons directing the sergeant or his designee commencing September 1, 2017 to deliver to the township secretary no later than the business day before the regular supervisors meeting a report outlining police activity for the prior

month. The list shall list each activity, date, hour but not minute, general location, nature of the activity and officer involved. No names should be neither disclosed, nor any specific charges filed, nor any investigative information. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Michaelene Harris and seconded by Brian Geisel to adjourn the meeting at 8:15PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Rose Lyons
Secretary