

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
December 6, 2023**

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Greene Township Board of Supervisors, held in the Municipal Building on Brink Hill Road, Greentown, PA, was called to order by Chair Justin Wittenbrader at 7:00pm, who led the audience with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Wittenbrader announced that this is the last meeting for supervisor, Gerald A. Obert. The township presented him with a service recognition certificate and an appreciation plaque for his many years of service to Greene Township.

Adopt Agenda: Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Obert seconded; motion carried.

Action on Minutes: Mr. Obert made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 1, 2023. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.

Announcement of Meetings:

- a. Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to set the time for the Organization Meeting for Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 4:00pm, with the regular January meeting to directly follow. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.
- b. Mr. Wittenbrader announced that the board of auditors will hold their Organization Meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 6:00pm.

In Attendance: Chairperson: Justin Wittenbrader, Supervisor: Gerald Obert, Supervisor: Barry Krautter, Secretary: Amanda Seagraves, Treasurer: Sandra Oziemblo, Solicitor: Jeffrey Treat.

Visitors: Edward Geisler – Observing.
Dakota Darroch – Promised Land Volunteer Fire Status
Kelly Prell - Promised Land Volunteer Fire Status
David Prell - Promised Land Volunteer Fire Status
Steve Nesco - Promised Land Volunteer Fire Status
Marcia Folenta - Promised Land Volunteer Fire Status
Lisa Delfer - Promised Land Volunteer Fire Status
Andrew Folenta - Promised Land Volunteer Fire Status
MaryLou Reilly – Observing.
Chris Davies – Mr. Davies stated that he appreciates the township did not use a wood chipper for the roadwork on Saw Mill Road. He asked for an update on the status of the township purchasing a wood chipper. Mr. Wittenbrader explained that 430.26 line item on the 2024 Budget will not be removed; however, the township is under no obligation to spend those allotted funds. Mr. Davies explained that he still feels a wood chipper is noisy, a public nuisance, and bad for the environment. He also does not feel the work done with the boom mower on Saw Mill Road and Lake Paupack Road was acceptable. He is also concerned with the fact the supervisors allowed Lighthouse Harbor Marina to erect a boat storage building in the township. The board advised that all township ordinances were complied with, therefore they cannot deny property owners to build just because another resident is unhappy.
Bob Davies – Mr. Davies agreed with Chris Davies in the fact that the work done with the boom mower made a mess and some of the trees did not need to be removed. He felt the work was excessive and unnecessary.

Solicitor: At 7:11pm, Mr. Treat called an executive session to discuss a letter received by the township from Attorney Spall in regards to Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company. The board of supervisors, Mr. Treat, and Auditor, Steve Nesco, attended the executive session and returned from at 7:26pm. Mr. Treat recommends the board allow him to send a response letter to Attorney Spall. Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to approve Mr. Treat to send a letter in response. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried. Mr. Treat also asked Mr. Obert if he was still a member of the Greene-Dreher Volunteer Fire Company. Mr. Obert advised that he retired from

the fire company approximately ten (10) years ago, and is currently not an active member. Mr. Nesco commented that the township auditors have been requesting Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company to place their awarded fire tax funds from the township into a separate account, per Ordinance #95 Fire Tax, Section 1.15, and detailed statements be remitted for auditing. Ms. Folenta said they do place the funds in a separate savings account. There was much discussion between the board and the officers of the fire company, which concluded in Mr. Treat advising that he will send the township a written recommendation on how to proceed with the issue.

Treasurer's Report: Report received from Sandra Oziemblo. Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to ratify the bills. Mr. Obert seconded; motion carried.

Road Report: Mr. Krautter said the roadcrew has been doing a lot of ditch work and grading roads.

SEO Report: Report received from Glen Martin.

Code Enforcement Report: Report received from Edward Geisler. Mr. Wittenbrader announced that Mr. Geisler has submitted a letter of resignation, effective December 31, 2023. Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to accept the letter of resignation. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

- a. **General Trailer Bid Opening** – Two (2) bids were received. Gross Excavating LLC bid \$1,500.00. Florent Barry bid \$1,200.00. Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to accept Gross Excavating LLC's bid of \$1,500.00, transfer the title, and ensure it is licensed and registered in Gross Excavating LLC's name before the equipment leaves the property. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.
- b. **Ordinance #101 Amending the Short-Term Rental Ordinance** – Mr. Treat explained that this ordinance amends Ordinance #99 Short-Term Rentals in that it allows for two (2) per bedroom, plus three (3) additional persons and creates less restrictive parking regulations, which was properly advertised in the Tri-County Independent on November 14, 2023. There was no public comment. Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to adopt Ordinance #101 Amending the Short-Term Rental Ordinance. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.

New Business:

- a. **Resolution 23-15 Notice of Tree Removal to Abutting Property Owners** – Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-15 which would set the policy for the township to provide written notice to property owners for removal of trees having a trunk diameter in excess of six inches from the road right-of-way on their property. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.
- b. **2024 Budget** – Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to adopt the 2024 Budget, which was properly advertised in the Tri-County Independent on November 7, 2023. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.
- c. **Donations** – Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to increase the donation to Tafton Fire & Ambulance to \$1,500.00, increase the donation to Newfoundland Ambulance to \$1,500.00, and to keep all the other donations the same as last year. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.
- d. **PLVF Status** – See solicitor.
- e. **Fire Tax Funds** – Ms. Folenta gave the board a printout from a website stating the Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company has a non-profit status. Mr. Krautter stated that proper paperwork for previously awarded fire tax funds was not provided from the fire company. Mr. Treat explained that Ordinance #95 Fire Tax clearly states that funds received from the fire tax must be deposited into a separate account with the sole purpose outlined in Section 1.15 of the ordinance. Mr. Darroch brought up the fact that no funds were awarded to Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company last year, therefore they cannot prepare an audit for the township. Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to table the disbursement of the Fire Tax

Funds until a meeting is held with the officers of Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company, the Greene Township Board of Auditors, and the Greene Township Board of Supervisors, as per Mr. Treat's recommendation. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.

f. Williams Lot Combination – Mr. Treat has no comment. Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to approve the Williams Lot Combination of Lot 24 and 23 which shall be henceforth known as Lot 24R located in Rinehimer Development. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.

g. Repository Lots – attached – Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to approve the repository lot list. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.

Adjournment: Mr. Wittenbrader made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 2, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Seagraves
Secretary/Alternate Treasurer