

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
February 7, 2024

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 Vice-Chair Barry Krautter at 7:00pm, who led the audience with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adopt Agenda: Mr. Krautter made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Geisler seconded; motion carried.

Action on Minutes: Mr. Geisler made a motion to approve the minutes of the Organization Meeting on January 2, 2024. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried. Mr. Krautter made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 2, 2024. Mr. Geisler seconded; motion carried.

Announcement of Meetings: None.

In Attendance: Vice-Chairman: Barry Krautter, Supervisor: Edward Geisler, Secretary: Amanda Seagraves, Treasurer: Sandra Oziemblo, Solicitor: Jeffrey Treat. Chairperson: Justin Wittenbrader attended via phone.

Visitors: The board announced that visitors will have three (3) minutes each for comment. There will be no interruptions during the meeting or the person(s) will be asked to leave. Mr. Wallace, a constable from a neighboring township, is volunteering his attendance to ensure the safety of those present, and will escort out anyone who continually disrupts the meeting.

MaryLou & Glenn Reilly – Observing.

Mike Ullisny – Observing.

Lisa Delfem – Announced she was recording the meeting. Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company.

Marcia Folenta – Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company.

Debbie Gunnip – Observing.

Pete Mulcahy – Mr. Mulcahy would like an update on the Request for Action Form he submitted to the township regarding the resident who calls 911 every time her basement floods. He feels this is an abuse of emergency services and he requests the board of supervisors take action to have this stopped since emergency fire services are provided at the township level. Mr. Geisler asked if the fire company can bill the resident for each call they respond to. Mr. Mulcahy explained that they can do that for fire calls, but he does not believe they can do that for flooding calls. Mr. Treat recommended that Greene-Dreher Volunteer Fire Company write a letter to the resident requesting her to cease calling 911 each time her basement floods, and mention in the letter that it is on behalf of the Greene Township Board of Supervisors, as well as the fire company. If she does not cease the calls, then the township will send a letter, as well. All agreed.

Chris Davies – Mr. Davies approached the board to hand out printouts, while pointing his cell phone at the board. Mr. Treat asked him if he was recording and he said yes. Mr. Treat advised him it is a criminal act to record without announcing. Mr. Davies refused to stop recording and continued to pass out papers. He explained that the resolution the board adopted setting policy for notice of tree removal to property owners is not under the township's authority to adopt. He continued to hostilely reproach the board of illegal abuse of power. Mr. Treat advised that he will investigate the legality of the resolution. Mr. Davies would not cease reiterating his point. Again, Mr. Treat advised that the matter will be investigated.

Joe Johnson – Mr. Johnson said that he is from Kiley Associates and is here on behalf of the Wolff/Santelli Lot Improvement.

Kenneth Corey – Observing.

Sandra Wallachy – Observing.

Dakota Durroch – Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company.

Jerry Obert – Observing.

Solicitor: Mr. Treat said he requests an executive session at the end of the meeting.

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

- Road Report: Mr. Wittenbrader said the roadcrew has been working to repair washouts. Mr. Davies interrupted, asking about trees being cut on a private property. Mr. Krautter advised there will be no interruptions. Mr. Wittenbrader continued to explain that the roadcrew has been trying to keep ice off the roads and fill in potholes that are forming.
- SEO Report: Report received from Glen Martin.
- Code Enforcement Report: Report received from Bureau Veritas on behalf of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance.
- Unfinished Business:
- a. **PLVF Fire Tax Funds** – Mr. Krautter said that the township requested the attendance of the officers of Promised Land Volunteer Fire Company, along with proof of their separate account solely for the Fire Tax Funds. Ms. Folenta said the township does not have a right to require the fire department to have a separate account. Mr. Treat explained that since the fire department is funded through taxpayer dollars, the township does have a right to audit the funds and ensure they are being used in accordance with the Fire Tax Ordinance. Ms. Folenta asked why the supervisors did not pick up the certified letter she sent. The board explained that they were not aware of a letter. Ms. Folenta insisted she sent one requesting a special meeting with the chief and president of the fire department. Mrs. Oziemblo confirmed that a letter was not received. Mr. Krautter asked again for proof of the Fire Tax Funds account and Ms. Folenta advised she forgot it. Mr. Krautter made a motion to give the fire department ten (10) days to provide proof of the account in order to receive the funds. If they fail to provide proof, the remainder of the funds will be distributed to Greene-Dreher Volunteer Fire Company. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.
- New Business:
- a. **Update Signers on Bank Accounts** – Mr. Krautter made a motion to remove Gerald Obert and add Edward Geisler to all township bank accounts. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.
 - b. **Resolution 24-3 – Ambulance Tax** – Mr. Treat prepared Resolution 24-3 to levy tax to support ambulance, rescue and other emergency services serving the township. He will draft an ordinance for advertisement to discuss at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Krautter made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-3. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.
 - c. **Resolution 24-4 – Purchasing Policy** – The board began explaining the resolution when Mr. Davies interrupted asking questions. He was again advised by Mr. Krautter that there will be no interruptions during the meeting. Mrs. Seagraves explained that the resolution is updated from Resolution 23-10 to reflect the 2024 bidding thresholds. Mr. Geisler made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-4 Purchasing Policy. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.
 - d. **Purchase Trailer from General Funds** – Mr. Krautter made a motion to purchase the trailer from the general funds. His motion was interrupted by Mr. Davies who questioned the trailer's cost. It was again explained to him that there will be no interruptions during the meeting and if he continues to interject and disrupt the meeting, he will be asked to leave. Mr. Geisler explained that the trailer was approved to be purchased at the last meeting, and now the board is taking official action to pay for it with the general funds account. Mr. Krautter reiterated his motion. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.
 - e. **T-Bill** – Mrs. Oziemblo explained that the T-Bill has matured. Mr. Davies interrupted asking what a T-Bill is. Mrs. Oziemblo explained it is a Treasury Bill with the bank in which the township deposited money in order to make interest. Mr. Geisler asked how much the township made off the T-Bill and Mrs. Oziemblo said \$8,436.00. She recommends putting the funds from the T-Bill into the General Fund. Mr. Krautter made a motion to put the funds from the T-Bill in the township's General Fund account. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.
 - f. **Hire Constable to Attend Meetings** – Mrs. Seagraves explained there has been issues at previous meetings, and Mr. Davies interrupted, questioning the issues, at which point Mr. Krautter announced there was enough interruptions and asked Mr. Wallace to escort Mr. Davies out of the meeting. Mr.

Wallace escorted Mr. Davies outside. Mr. Treat explained that the board has a responsibility to provide organized, safe meetings for the public to attend. The board explained that due to the consistent disruption, aggression, and hostile atmosphere some people have been demonstrating at the past several meetings, the board has a right to hire a constable to protect the citizens and officials in attendance. Mr. Krautter made a motion to hire a constable to attend meetings, at his/her fixed rate, to be set at the next meeting. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.

- g. **CPA for Audit** – At their January 3, 2024 Organization Meeting, the Greene Township Board of Auditors recommended the board of supervisors hire a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) to perform the annual audit in the future. Mrs. Seagraves explained that per the Second-Class Township Code, Section 917(b), the township is required to publish notice at least thirty (30) days before a vote is taken to appoint a CPA. At this point, there is not enough time to advertise, appoint, and complete the audit for 2024, as it is due April 1st. Mrs. Gunnip said maybe the board can appoint a CPA for the 2025 audit. The board of auditors will still perform the fire tax audit. The item will be added to the December 2024 agenda to be decided at the 2025 Organization Meeting.
- h. **Porreca Lot Combination** – There was discussion between the board and Mr. Treat regarding the comment from Pike County that Lot A should be combined to Lots 1 and 2. Mr. Geisler made a motion to approve the combination, as is, joining Lot A to and become an inseparable part of Lots 1 and 2, henceforth known as Lot AR in Hemlock Ridge subdivision. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; motion carried.
- i. **Wolff/Santelli Lot Improvement** – Mr. Johnson from Kiley Associates presented the original map to the board and explained what was amended in the updated map, based upon Pike County's comment letter. Mr. Krautter made a motion to approve the lot improvement, combining Lot A and Lot 01 to create Lot 01R. Mr. Geisler seconded; motion carried.
- j. **Caruso/Skyview Lake Lot Improvement** – Mr. Geisler made a motion to approve the lot improvement, combining Lot P1 with Lot 2301, henceforth known as Lot 2301R; and combining Lot P2 with Lot 2319, henceforth known as Lot 2319R in Skyview Lakes subdivision. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried.
- k. **Vacancies**
 - i. **Planning Commission** – Three (3) letters of interest were submitted to fill vacancies on the Planning Commission. Mr. Krautter made a motion to appoint Christopher Cykosky as Planning Commission Member and Edward Geisler as Alternate Planning Commission Member. Mr. Wittenbrader seconded; Mr. Geisler abstained from the vote due to the fact he would be voting on himself; motion carried.
 - ii. **Appeal Board** – One (1) letter of interest was submitted to fill the vacancy on the Appeal Board. Mr. Krautter made a motion to appoint Amanda Cortino to the Appeal Board. Mr. Geisler seconded; motion carried.
 - iii. **Auditor** – Two (2) letters of interests were submitted to fill the vacancy on the board of auditors. Mr. Krautter made a motion to appoint Kenneth Corey to the board of auditors. Mr. Geisler seconded; motion carried.

Adjournment:

Mr. Treat advised he will retract his request for executive session, as the matter was resolved during the meeting. Mr. Krautter announced that after the meeting is adjourned, everyone must vacate the premises immediately. Mr. Geisler made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Krautter seconded; motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Seagraves
Secretary/Alternate Treasurer