

# PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

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## **Minutes of the December 4, 2023 Meeting**

The regular monthly meeting of the Plymouth Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairman James Murphy. Supervisors, Joseph Yudichak, and Thomas Kachurak, and Secretary/Treasurer, Steven Grzyski, were also present. Solicitor, Eugene Kelley, was absent.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:** There was no public comment on agenda items. Prior to the approval of the minutes, bill list, treasurer's report and department accounts, Mr. Murphy read a letter from Walter Griffith, Luzerne County Controller, regarding his recent 2022 audit of Real Estate Collection by Leonard Bartosiewicz, Plymouth Township Tax Collector. The audit revealed no findings and Mr. Griffith commended Mr. Bartosiewicz on his very thorough records and cooperation throughout the audit process.

**November Meeting Minutes:** Since the minutes were posted for inspection prior to the meeting, *it was moved by Mr. Yudichak, seconded by Mr. Kachurak, to dispense with the reading and to accept the minutes as presented from the meeting on November 6, 2023. Motion passed 3-0.*

**Bill List:** Since it was posted for inspection prior to the meeting, *it was moved by Mr. Yudichak, seconded by Mr. Kachurak, to dispense with the reading of the bill list and to accept it as presented. Motion passed 3-0.*

**Treasurer's Report:** Since it was posted for inspection prior to the meeting, *it was moved by Mr. Yudichak, seconded by Mr. Kachurak, to dispense with the reading of the treasurer's report and accept it as presented. Motion passed 3-0.*

**Code Enforcement Officer:** No formal report submitted but Mr. Grzyski stated that magistrate hearings were held in November for non-traffic citations dealing property maintenance violations.

**Zoning Officer:** No formal report, however; Mr. Grzyski noted that one (1) zoning permit was issued in November for a total of \$50.00 payable to the township.

**Fire Companies:** Mr. Mark Boncal, City of Nanticoke Fire Chief, informed the Supervisors that the required paperwork was submitted for a new hydrant at the intersection of West Main Street and Mooney Road. Mr. Boncal related that there was a fire call at the end of Mooney Road and he had concerns that the area was at the limits of the available hose on the fire apparatus to serve the houses based on where the hydrants are currently located. Mr. Boncal further discussed the results of the city of Nanticoke's Fire Insurance Rating test, which was recently conducted by the

Insurance Services Office (ISO). Mr. Boncal said the ISO rating for Nanticoke (and the West Nanticoke section of Plymouth Township covered by the Nanticoke Fire Department) is 4.0. Scores are between 1 and 10, with 1 being the best and 10 being the worst. The Fire Insurance Rating test is conducted every five years to assess the quality of the equipment and training of a fire department. Finally, Mr. Boncal said that annual Santa visit in the West Nanticoke area will be held on December 23<sup>rd</sup> starting at approximately 12:30pm.

**Road Department:** Vince Wysowski, road master, reported that the road department cleaned up the parking lot and prepared the municipal building for Election Day; took 25 discarded tires to Hanover Township for disposal from an approved hauler from the maintenance yard that had accumulated over the spring/summer months from various areas of the township; filled the salt shed with two truckloads of salt in preparation for winter storms; graded Atherton Road and filled in existing holes with modified stone; graded Redmond Road and installed drainage pipe to eliminate water runoff; cut and trimmed trees and shrubs on West Poplar Street that were obstructing the sidewalks; prepared the municipal building in anticipation of the holidays; filled potholes in various sections of the township and worked on equipment that will be used for winter snow removal.

**Lower South Valley COG:** Mr. Wysowski stated that the Lower South Valley COG has completed paving for the season and will start again in spring 2024.

**Storm Water Awareness:** Mr. Wysowski stated that the road department collected leaves on West Nanticoke Heights, Avondale Hill and Tilbury Terrace to prevent drains from clogging.

**Sewer Collection:** Mr. Grzymiski: total sewer fees collected 1/1/23 – 11/30/23: \$40,485.13. It was detailed that this represents an increase of \$19.53 (+0.1%) from the same point last year.

**Engineer's Report:** No report.

**Solicitor's Report:** Mr. Kelley was absent, no report.

**Old Business:** No old business was brought before the Board.

**New Business:** 2024 Budget – Prior to adoption, Mr. Murphy solicited comments from the audience regarding the 2024 budget; upon receiving none, *it was moved by Mr. Yudichak, seconded by Mr. Kachurak*, to pass the 2024 budget as presented. *Motion passed 3-0.*

2024 Tax Ordinance – *On the motion made by Mr. Yudichak, seconded by Mr. Kachurak*, the Board of Supervisors adopted **Ordinance 1 of 2023**, which is the 2024 tax ordinance, as advertised. *Motion passed 3-0.*

Tax Certification Ordinance – *On the motion made by Mr. Yudichak, seconded by Mr. Kachurak*, the Board of Supervisors adopted **Ordinance 2 of 2023**, which is an ordinance providing for and establishing a fee to be charged by the tax collector for tax certifications, duplicate bills and copies of other information. *Motion passed 3-0.*

2024 Meeting Dates – The meeting dates and times will remain the same in 2024 as in 2023, the first Monday at 6:00 PM, with the exception of the January and September meetings which will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 and Tuesday, September 3, 2024 respectively because of the New Year’s Day holiday and the Labor Day holiday.

**Public Comment:** Jackie Januszewicz, West Mountain Road, requested Mr. Wysowski look at the road where it intersects with her driveway following the recent paving project and inquired about the zoning regulations regarding farm animals in a residential area.

Leonard Bartosiewicz complimented Mr. Murphy on contacting the garbage hauler serving West Mountain Road after a recent delay in trash pickup.

Renee Zuba, West Main Street, informed the supervisors that new residents were parking in front of a fire hydrant possibly impeding fire response.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Board, *it was moved by Mr. Yudichak, seconded by Mr. Kachurak*, to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 P.M. Motion passed 3-0.