

MEETING WEDNESDAY 3-5-2025 6:00P.M.
Municipal Bldg. 306 Byron Street McGrann

In attendance: Supervisors Palmer, Southworth and Hecker, Chief Robbins and Secretary Davis

Citizens: Ricki Evans, J. Larry Rice, Pat Fabian, Cody Martin, Jason Metro, Erika Metro, Keith Kovac, David Faris, Michael Colligan and A.J. Panian from Leader Times.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Palmer at 6:00P.M. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes of 2/21/2025 regular meeting were distributed, motion to approve by Southworth, seconded by Hecker, no public comment heard, unanimous.

Hecker made a motion to advertise bids for road material to be opened April 2, 2025, seconded by Palmer, no public comment heard, unanimous.

Palmer said he started a project last year to identify areas that need street lights added. Him and Davis found areas that need lights added. We have identified 5 areas that need lights. The lights can be added because the street light budget will support it without any increase. Southworth made a motion to allow Palmer to schedule new lights with West Penn Power, Faris said there is street light charge on his taxes and ask if others will be added, Palmer told him he thinks everyone is already covered but we will be checking, seconded by Hecker, unanimous.

Palmer stated the sign in sheet was in question at the last meeting. Palmer stated we didn't have a public meeting policy so the solicitor created a policy. You will sign in for the safety of everyone in the meeting. Palmer made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-4 Public Meeting Rules, seconded by Hecker, no public comment heard, unanimous.

Police Business:

Police report was read by Chief Robbins. Hecker made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Southworth, Erika Metro ask if there is any update on radio encryption, Robbins talked to Pittman and was told to get the other Chiefs together and he will look at it. The person in the standoff was listening to the radio and knew what the police were doing. Robbins said there have been 5 incidents where the radios needed encrypted. Fabian said the County has submitted a grant for fire and police, unanimous. Robbins said the Game Commission and USDA are in the area about wasting disease, Panian will put the information in the paper so people will know.

EMC Report:

Rice said the ice on the river is gone. Last quarterly meeting was just a general meeting. There are only 2 approved shelters in the County. Palmer said to be a shelter there is an extensive check list and the fire department doesn't have a generator. Palmer added the need for a generator to the Hazard Mitigation Plan. KEMA Conference is in September and both Rice and Evans want to go. The registration opens in May for the 3-day conference in Altoona. Southworth made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Hecker, Martin said he gets used generators if that would work, Palmer told him generator size is based on the size of the building and to be a shelter it must support the entire building and have a service contract. Rice said they rarely loose power at the fire hall. Hecker said the switch gear is the expense. Palmer said DALCO has 3 generators on a trailer that can be rented, unanimous.

Fire Department Report:

Evans read there were 23 incidents in February. McAfoose appreciated the Supervisors letting the Critical Incident and Stress Management Team use the room to hold a meeting with the firemen that were the recovery team. All departments had a debriefing at Manor Fire Hall with their spouses so a spouse would know what to look for. Palmer said if you need the room again just let us know. Palmer said that is a tough incident to get through. Evans said the Critical Incident Team was superb. Palmer wonders why we don't have our own team. Fabian will investigate but said we do have County Chaplains. Palmer thanked all fire departments that responded for a good job. Hecker made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Southworth, no public comment heard, unanimous.

Other Business:

Hecker was approached by a resident about solicitors. Hecker said he works midnights and it is annoying. Hecker said he should have asked the person for a permit. Hecker would like to see all soliciting in the township banned, Palmer is not sure that is legal. Hecker said \$7.00 a day is too cheap. Palmer said we need to add more signs about permits. Hecker made a motion to have the solicitation ordinance investigated further, seconded by Southworth, Martin asked how far no trespassing signs go and does it work for solicitors, Robbins told him the law is vague but must be conspicuously posted, unanimous. Fabian said someone campaigning went into his mother's house to get a signature; he called Ford City and they said nobody was soliciting. Fabian suggests adding verbiage for campaigns. Faris asked how to raise the rate, Palmer told him to revise the ordinance. Panian asked what other areas charge, Palmer told him he doesn't know. Hecker doesn't think you can solicit in Ford Cliff.

Palmer asked Fabian, as Commissioner, if he had anything to discuss. Big changes because the Chief Administrator resigned so potentially, they may move the Assistant Chief to Chief. Fabian said he will be at a meeting 1 or 2 times this year.

Comments:

Michael Colligan – he is looking at the property between Battery Warehouse and Plaza Electric. There currently isn't any grass surface there and he is considering purchasing the property for a pole building but is worried about the stormwater plan. Palmer said we have had a lot of problems over the last 2 years so we revised our stormwater plan. He said water is currently running off. Southworth said a resident on Scout Camp is complaining that salt from Dollar General parking lot is coming on his property.

Larry Rice – landed a helicopter in the park and the geese are terrible, Palmer said he is out of ideas on how to get rid of them.

Palmer said he and Fabian have got their ears beat about the tax increase. The price of everything is going up. Supervisors should have been raising taxes a small amount for the last 15 years. He apologized for increase and will look at small increases every couple years.

Motion to pay the bills by Southworth, and give the secretary the authority to pay any bills until the next meeting, seconded by Hecker, no public comment heard, unanimous. Motion to adjourn by Southworth, seconded by Palmer, no public comment heard, unanimous.

Motion to adjourn by Southworth, seconded by Hecker, no public comment heard, unanimous.

Adjourned at 6:40P.M.

Jill A. Davis, Secretary