



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
MARCH 4, 2024**

Chairman Al Geosits called the Meeting to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Supervisors Ronald J. Heintzelman and Dennis Klusaritz, Manager Randy Cope, Attorney Thomas Dinkelacker, Engineer Steve Gitch, Director of Operations Jeff Mouer, Director of Public Works Rick Holtzman, and Director of Finance/Treasurer Seth O'Neill

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the minutes of the Board of Supervisors' Meeting of February 5, 2024 and the minutes of the Capital Projects Working of February 27, 2024 were approved. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. There was an executive session held on March 4, 2024 to discuss real estate related agreements and three pending litigation matters.
2. A moment of silence was had

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the February Treasurer's report, and the register of checks #19013 – 19073 were approved as presented. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**PRESENTATIONS:** No Presentations

**OLD BUSINESS:** No Old Business

**DISCUSSION/UPDATES:** No discussions/updates.

**ORDINANCES:**

**ORDINANCE 2024-1**

**NUISANCE ORDINANCE**

Ordinance 2024-1 prohibits certain nuisances on private and public property; providing a penalty for the maintenance of a nuisance on private and public property after receipt of notice to abate or remove the same; repealing previous Township Ordinances inconsistent herewith; and specifically repealing Ordinance No. 1997-3, as codified in part II, Chapter 290 of the Township's Code of Ordinances, and Ordinance No. 2017-1, as codified in Part II, Chapter 146 of the Township's Code of Ordinances. Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board adopted Ordinance 2024-1. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**ORDINANCE 2024-2**

**ADOPTING THE IPMC CODE**

Ordinance 2024-2 adopts the 2024 International Property Maintenance Code; providing for the severability of parts of this ordinance deemed to be invalid; repealing previous Township Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent herewith; specifically repealing Ordinance No. 2019-3; and providing for an effective date. Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, Ordinance 2024-2 was adopted. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

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**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION 03-04-24**

**FUND BALANCE REVISION**

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board adopted Resolution 03-04-24 revising the Township's fund balance policy by adding two sentences that provide greater clarity to future users. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**RESOLUTION 03-04-24A**

**ENGAGE BOND COUNCIL**

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board tabled awarding the contract for bond council to Eckert Seamans. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**MOTIONS:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE BIDS**

**TOWNSHIP BUILDING RENOVATION**

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board authorized the Township Manager to issue bids for the Township Building Renovation. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes.

- Eugene Wolfgang, Fay Dr., Orefield, asked if the Lions Club Christmas tree would remain in front of the Municipal Building after the building renovation is completed.

**WAIVER OF SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

**VIEWS AT FELLS CREEK**

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board granted a waiver of the submission deadline for the Views at Fells Creek plan. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE**

**ELECTRICAL AGREEMENT**

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board authorized Township Manager to execute an Electrical Supply Agreement with Constellation New Energy, Inc., which is the Township's current electricity provider. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**AUTHORIZE EXPENSE**

**3917 BUCHANAN ST. DEMOLITION**

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board authorized expense for the demolition of 3917 Buchanan Street. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**NEW HIRE**

**DIRECTOR OF GRANTS, PRESERVATION AND TRAILS**

Upon motion by Ronald J. Heintzelman, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board approved the hiring of Mike Kukitz as the Director of Grants, Preservation, and Trails. Mr. Kukitz's first day is set for March 11, 2024. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

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**NEW HIRE**

**PUBLIC WORKS LABORER**

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board approved the hiring of Tyler Fatzinger as full time Public Works Laborer. Mr. Fatzinger's start date is tentatively set for March 18, 2024. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**APPOINTMENT**

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board appointed Sean Ziller as an alternate to the Planning Commission until 12/31/2024 to fill the unexpired of Rod Lowe. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**APPOINTMENT**

**ZONING HEARING BOARD**

Upon motion by Dennis Klusaritz, seconded by Al Geosits, the Board appointed Dan Fracas to the Zoning Hearing Board until 12/31/2024 to fill the unexpired term of Robert Banzhoff. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE RFP**

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN CONSULTANT**

Upon motion by Al Geosits, seconded by Dennis Klusaritz, the Board authorized the Township Manager to publicly solicit proposals for a Capital Improvement Plan Consultant, with the intent of solidifying a 5-10 capital improvement plan in the 2025 budget year. Roll call: Al Geosits - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Dennis Klusaritz - yes.

- Tom VanVreede, Church Dr., Coplay, inquired about the length of time the plan was being considered for.
- Eugene Wolfgang, Fay Dr., Orefield, are we going to look at all roads in the Township or just Township maintained.

**MANAGERS REPORT:**

- Important Dates:
  - Recreation Board – Monday, March 18 at 7 PM;
  - Planning Commission – Tuesday, March 26 at 7 PM;
  - Board of Supervisors – Monday, April at 7 PM;
- The Summer Playground registration is now open. There are two locations this year (Ironton and Schnecksville Elementary). Registration opened at 7 am this morning and 185 people registered by noon. We are currently hiring counselors for the program, so if you know anyone interested, please have them reach out to Courtney.
- There are several recreational programs being offered in the Township this year including Mighty Kicks, Intro to Fly Fishing, Pickleball Lessons, Junior First Responder Camp, and Birding Adventure. If you're interested in one of the programs, you must sign up through RecDesk on our website.
- The new timber guiderail at Johnsons Pond is going up and the entryway sign will be installed. Treatment of the pond vegetation will begin in the Spring.
- The Public Works team leader's office renovation is complete. The project was accomplished with in house public works employees. A new floor was installed and the walls were painted. The new layout will house Public Works managers and team leaders during the anticipated building renovations.

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*MANAGERS REPORT Cont'd....*

- The latest newsletter was released a bit early this year and residents should have received it in their mailboxes.
- The Township's 2023 audit was completed last week, and the final report is expected in May.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (Non Agenda Items):**

- Jim Steward, Park Ave, Neffs, spoke about the Junior First Responder Camp that will take place July 8 – 12. This camp is open to all North Whitehall Township youth between the ages of 10-15.
- Heather Skorinko, Clearview Rd., Coplay, expressed her concerns over the proposed Strawberry Acres AARC development.
- Tom, VanVreede, Church Dr., Coplay, expressed his concerns over the proposed Strawberry Acres AARC development.
- Kristi Wentling, NOVA, reported on the 2023 call responses, expenses, current fundraisers, staff, equipment needs, grants, for Northern Valley Ambulance Corp.

**ADJOURNMENT** Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Koenig, Secretary/Deputy Treasurer