

Howe Township
April 3, 2025

The Howe Township Board of Supervisors met in regular session at the Hope Eternal UM Church at 2 Burd Rd, Newport at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 3, 2025. Present: Chairman Dale Beaver, Vice Chairman Charles Burd, Secretary/Treasurer Nancy Cangioli, Larry Moyer, Christine Campbell, Kathleen Campbell, Luke Roman-Perry County Times, Solicitor Dave Jones by phone.

Chairman Beaver called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance. Secretary Cangioli called the roll. All Supervisors were present.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of March 6, 2025 as presented; Burd/ Beaver. Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills as presented; Beaver/Burd. Motion carried.

GENERAL GOOD AND WELFARE

None was offered

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Zoning Hearing Board and Planning Commission vacancies need to be filled. Openings are posted on the website. 91 Acker Road-Non-traffic citation by Code Enforcement Officer Jim Emery (CK COG) the resident was found guilty, the fine was reduced from \$300 to \$150 and has 2 months to find the funds to repair the vehicles before another citation can be issued, update pending. The RACP extension letter was submitted to the Office of the Budget on January 23, 2025, final approval has not yet been received.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made to accept Steve Smith's resignation from the Board of Supervisors effective April 3, 2025; Beaver/Burd with regret. Motion carried.

Chairman Beaver will attend the Perry County EMS Advisory Board meeting April 22, 2025 at the Perry County Courthouse at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made to ratify the renewal of the CD that matured on March 27, 2025 for 6 months at 4.04% APY at Pennian Bank with a current balance of \$117,254.03; Beaver/Burd. Motion carried.

A motion was made to set the annual Spring cleanup day at the Rt. 34 park and ride on Saturday, May 17, 2025 from 8:00 a.m. until Noon or until the dumpsters are full.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Supervisor Burd reviewed the March 17, 2025 minutes with the Board. The approved signed contract by the Authority for the revised Services Agreement was received.

JUNIATA SEWAGE REPORT

Supervisor Burd reported their next meeting will be on April 23, 2025

SOLICITOR

Stock and Leader were acquired by Saxton and Stump. A motion was made to accept conditionally the approved move of David A. Jones, our Solicitor, to the new firm as per the Letter of Engagement that will be received effective immediately so he can continue to serve the township; Beaver/Burd. Motion carried.

EPREMA REPORT

There was a meeting on March 24, 2025. Supervisor Burd did not attend due to the Planning Commission meeting the same day. The next meeting will be held in May.

ZONING REPORT

CK COG permits for March-None were issued.

PLANNING COMMISSION

There was a joint meeting March 24, 2025 with HRG, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors to work on the re-write of the SALDO. Matt Attig from HRG provided the meeting minutes.

ROAD MASTER REPORT

Advertisement for tar and chipping bids for Mountain Rd, Church Rd and ½ of Acker Rd will be placed. The fender modifications and rooftop strobe light were installed on the new 2024 dump truck by Stephenson Equipment that were previously ordered and paid for. Reaction Graffix was contacted to place decals on the new truck. Road Master Beaver reported Penn Dot took away Liquid Fuels funding of \$800 or \$900 for the speed humps on Church Rd that they said were not properly installed to their specifications. He read for the record his response, that was sent by email to Radosna Vesnic at PSATS regarding the LTAP Evaluation: I have completed the LTAP Evaluation to the best of my ability. I shared the January 9, 2024 LTAP report with the Board of Supervisors at our latest regular meeting on February 1. The tone of the feedback received from the Supervisors was unwavering. That meaning, if necessary, the Township is willing to accept the penalty of losing Liquid Fuels Funding for Church Road in lieu of the unreasonable, not cost-effective recommendations to comply with Penn Dot standards as outlined in the LTAP Report. Howe Township has implemented a traffic calming method which is very effective, carefully installed and not abusive to the motoring public, was within the financial means of the Township, and, most importantly, has met with positive responses from the residents, two churches and other property owners on Church Road. Howe Township is sorry it has come to this, but our Township feels we are being punished for doing the right thing. To be the best of my understanding, there has been no alternative affordable traffic calming solution that has been offered to us. His response to the LTAP Evaluation sent to Pat Wright: The Installation of traffic calming devices (2 speed humps, 3" high) was a last resort for the Township to slow traffic on Church Road. We had the PSP patrol for a short period of time, which worked temporarily, but the PSP does not have the resources to continuously patrol the road. After we already had Pedestrian Crossing signs in place, we added additional signage and that did not work either. The installation of the speed humps, then, was the only way we could get traffic to slow down there. Remember, we have 2 churches there with congregations that meet continuously throughout the year. In addition, there are about 3 residences and a real estate office. All have been pleased with the results. Prior to the installation of the speed humps, I visited the Newport Fire Company and the Newport Ambulance League to discuss the installation and to see if there were concerns. They both thanked me for visiting but they told me there would not be a problem for first responders. In Howe Township our number one priority is for the safety and wellbeing of our residents. In our judgement the installation of the traffic humps on Church Road was the right thing to do. Rick Levan indicated to me that if we do not remove the existing speed humps, we will lose approximately \$896 (annualized) from our Liquid Fuel funding. To me this seems like a very harsh penalty to Howe Township for doing the right thing for the safety of our residents. Supervisor Burd stated he stands by the Board's decision and it's a shame we are being punished; he has not heard one complaint, and we did the right thing.

OPEN FORUM

Luke Roman inquired who asked for feedback from PSATS on the LTAP Evaluation.

Chairman Beaver adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Cangioli
Secretary