

**HICKORY TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY MEETING
May 6, 2019**

The regular monthly meeting of the Hickory Township Board of Supervisors held at the Hickory Township Municipal Building was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Kathleen Abranovich immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisors Present: Kathleen Abranovich - Chairperson
William Dean
Michael Hall

Staff Present: Jason Medure, Esquire – Solicitor
Randall Cook – Hickory Twp. Chief of Police
Lisa L. Schlemmer – Secretary/Treasurer

Other Attendees:

Lori Zulauf	Keith Hall	Denny Bevan
Brian Jackson	Cindy McConnell	Tom Houston
T.E. McConnell	Chris Fabian	Jenn Niles
Nancy Lowry	Dan Reiber	Kevin Patterson
Tom McCormick	Kevin P. Mahoney	Jon Sweet
Joseph Sager	Fred Buswell	Ben Buly
Karly Gennaro	Joe Sager	Rusty Cade
Justin Warren	Ron Bongivengo	John Rung
Ray Balcom	Judy Balcom	Rich Alley
Nicole Lipinski	Chris Lipinski	Wayne Patterson
Steve Caldararo	Robert Brunswick	

Motion made by Supervisor Abranovich and seconded by Supervisor Hall to accept the minutes from the April, 2019 regular meeting without correction. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report for the month of April was given. Motion made by Supervisor Dean, seconded by Supervisor Abranovich to pay current bills, payroll and all incoming regular bills. All in favor. Motion carried.

The April police report was offered by Chief Cook: 1 DUI arrest; 48 traffic stops; 2 warrant arrests; 2 disturbances; 2 burglar alarms; 22 property checks; 1 possession of narcotics arrest; 22 miscellaneous service calls

Building Permits – April

Applicant	Address	Proposed Improvement	Fee
Henry Sniezek, Jr.	423 McCaslin Road, NC	Machinery shed & barn addition	\$105.00

Public Comments: Cindy McConnell of LaClair Drive states that speeders are a safety hazard on her road and requests that a speed limit sign and a "Children at Play" sign be erected on LaClair Drive.

The majority of attendees at the meeting were present to express their comments, questions and concerns about the decision of the Board of Supervisors to terminate their current contract to provide school resource officers to the Laurel School District. Each attendee was personally offered an opportunity to voice their comments. Non-township residents were not given the floor pursuant to the Resolution #10 of 2018 concerning meeting protocol and procedure. There was a lot of misinformation, assumptions and hearsay which begged clarification. The general consensus amongst the attendees was that all interested parties entertain further discussion on the matter and that

regardless of the outcome that the children of Laurel School District be adequately protected. Chief Cook advised of his discussions with Superintendent Lenny Rich, his opinion on the matter, and earmarked employment issues that may arise. Solicitor Medure provided a broad historical overview of the actions undertaken by the township to date and also Laurel School District's offer and their stated position that they have multiple security options. Supervisor Abranovich restated that the township's position that responsibility for school security lies with the Laurel School District. The Board of Supervisors will take the public comments into consideration and may entertain further meetings with school administration.

Old Business: Supervisor Dean gave a report on the status of the dirt and gravel road grant applications.

Recycling: Hickory Twp. agreed to host a Special Drop-Off recycling for select materials on October 8, 2019. Details can be found on the Township bulletin board or on the Lawrence-Mercer County Recycling website.

New Business: Motion to adopt the amended Cell Tower Ordinance was made by Supervisor Dean, seconded by Supervisor Hall. All in favor. Ordinance adopted.

The Balcom, Rung & Reiber subdivision was reviewed. A motion to approve the Balcom, Rung & Reiber subdivision was made by Supervisor Abranovich, seconded by Supervisor Hall. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to adopt Resolution #13, 2019 approving McGonigle Ambulance Service as an emergency medical provider was made by Supervisor Abranovich, seconded by Supervisor Hall. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Lakewood-Neshannock Falls Road project has been approved by the Lawrence County Conservation District for 2019. All township engineers were requested to supply their quotes for services pertinent to this project for consideration at this meeting. Quotes were received from RThre3 Design, LLC and Kurtanich Engineers & Associates, Inc. RThre3 Design, LLC presented the lowest quote on the contract coming in at \$9,100.00. Motion was made by Supervisor Dean to award the engineering quote to R Thre3 Design, LLC, seconded by Supervisor Hall. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Abranovich made an announcement that the Board of Supervisors held an executive session to discuss personnel matters and concerns raised at the April budget review meeting. The following actions will be undertaken based on the outcome of said meeting:

1. Effective May 10th, the township will reduce hours by working a 4-day work week. The office and garage will be closed every Friday;
2. Supervisor Dean was appointed Roadmaster Foreman;
3. Supervisor Hall was appointed Roadmaster Associate;
4. Insurance coverage premiums are being reviewed and other.

There was a brief discussion between Jon Sweet and Supervisor Abranovich about the amount of hours worked by township roadmasters, specifically whether 32 hours per week was warranted.

A Motion was made by Supervisor Abranovich and seconded by Supervisor Hall to submit an application to the Lawrence County Liquid Fuels Aid Fund for assistance with various projects consisting of the following: base repair, drainage, leveling, paving/sealing of Justin Lane, Michael Lane, Sunview Drive and LaClair Drive; installation of a drainage culvert and patch paving subject thereto on Fairground Road; patch paving on Lakewood-Neshannock Falls Road culvert project.

Supervisor Hall gave a detailed report on his activities and duties throughout the month of April, inclusive of his trip to Hershey, PA for the annual PSATS convention, the events he attended at the convention as well as reported on various hot button topics discussed by township officials, state representatives and the like at various forums.

Lori Zulauf spoke on the topic of hiring Berkheimer to collect all per capita taxes. She opines that joining in an agreement with Laurel School District to have Berkheimer to collect per capita taxes would result in a savings to both the township and Laurel School District due to sharing postage, billing and collection costs. Motion was made by Supervisor Abranovich and seconded by Supervisor hall to pass approval to hire Berkheimer as per capita tax collection agency contingent upon final approval by Laurel School District to enter into a contract and the Hickory Township's review of terms and conditions of the contract proposed by Berkheimer.

A motion was made by Supervisor Hall, seconded by Supervisor Dean to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 PM. Motion carried.