

Patterson Township Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
April 13, 2023

The Patterson Township Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2023, 7:00 pm at Patterson Township Municipal Building, Beaver Falls. Following the call to order and Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed the following Commissioners were present; Commissioner Wagoner, Commissioner Inman, and Commissioner Kretschman; Commissioner Bartoe attended Via Phone - all commissioners were present.

Commissioner Wagoner requested a moment of silence for firefighter Mark Utnehmer.

Commissioner Wagoner read the letter of resignation received from Kathy Eckelberger; she advised that the entire letter will be placed on the Township website as requested. A motion was made by Commissioner Inman to accept the letter of resignation, seconded by Commissioner Kretschman; motion passes.

Commissioner Wagoner asked the Board if they would like to have nominations or would like to proceed with a motion to fill the vacancy. Commissioner Kretschman made a motion to appoint Joseph Kristian to fill the vacancy until the end of 2023; Resolution 2023-010. Commissioner Inman seconded. After a Roll call vote; Commissioner Bartoe abstained as he knew Mr. Kristian personally; three yah, motion passes. Commissioner Wagoner explained that the final 2 years of Kathy Eckelberger's term would need to be filled by someone running for the position on the ballot in November.

Commissioner Wagoner advised the Board that due to the change in board members, it would be a good time to rearrange committees to utilize expertise of new Commissioners. Commissioner Wagoner advised that she would like a motion to change committee assignments to the following:

Administration and Police - Paula J. Wagoner
COG; Finance; Fire; and Emergency Management – Ren Bartoe
Public Works and Recycling - Stephen Kretschman
Buildings & Grounds; and Zoning – Joseph Kristian
Township Park and Community Life – Donald Inman

A motion was made by Commissioner Bartoe to adopt Resolution 2023-011 to change committee assignments, seconded by Commissioner Kretschman; after a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

Public Hearing: None

Minutes: The minutes of the regular meeting held on March 9, 2023, and Work Session held on April 10, 2023 were presented for approval. A motion was made to accept the regular meeting held on March 9, 2023, and Work Session held on April 10, 2023 by Commissioner Inman, seconded by Commissioner Kretschmen; Motion passes.

Public Comment/Visitors: None

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for the General Fund, Sewer Fund and PLGIT accounts were presented by Secretary Christin Milnes. A motion was made by Commissioner Kretschman and seconded by Commissioner Inman accepting the reports as presented. After a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

Monthly Bills: The monthly bills for March/April were submitted for payment. Motion was made by Commissioner Bartoe and seconded by Commissioner Inman approving payment. After a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

Engineer's Report: *Larry Lennon Jr.*, presented his monthly report regarding the following items:

MS4 Program - Comments were received from PADEP. Comments have been addressed and Township is awaiting further comments at this time. Joint permit was received from Department of Army Corps of Engineers; awaiting response from DEP at this time. Grant received from County for \$110,000. The estimated project cost is \$155,000.00.

2023 Road Program - Larry Lennon advised the Board that the bids were opened on April 6, 2023 as per the advertisement. The Bid report was submitted to the Township on April 7, 2023. A motion will be needed to accept or reject the only bid received from Youngblood Paving in the amount of \$311,926.75. Larry Lennon advised that his office had spoke with DCED with regard to the remaining funds from the PA Small Sewer and Water grant and received approval to complete work on Lindsay Drive which is estimated at \$23,497 and the Recycling grant portion is approximately \$77,908.96; the total grant funded portion would be \$101,406.01 leaving a remainder of \$210,520.74 to be funded from the general fund and liquid fuels. Commissioner Wagoner asked if this bid is in line with what other municipalities are seeing; Larry Lennon advised that it is. Commissioner Wagoner also asked if other municipalities are also seeing a low number of bidders; Larry Lennon acknowledged that has been the case. A motion was made by Commissioner Inman to accept the Bid from Youngblood Paving in the amount of \$311,926.75 for the 2023 Road Program, seconded by Commissioner Kretschman; Motion passes.

PennDOT Multimodal Grant - Sidewalk improvements- Survey work has been completed, design is underway; HOP application and ADA compliance review will be submitted to PennDOT the first week of May.

*CFA - Statewide Local Share Account (LSA) Grant-*Township was awarded a grant in the amount of \$220,000.00 for a 1,700 SY Bituminous parking lot with ADA accessibility and storm water infrastructure on Ray Street. Commissioner Inman advised that the grant was to be for Struby Ave, not Ray Street; discussion was held and it was determined that the Township should wait for the actual agreement to be received and then the Township could request a change of scope for the grant. In the interim, LSSE will prepare probable costs for Struby Ave. for the Board to review before moving forward with a request to change the scope of the grant. Commissioner Inman made a motion to have LSSE prepare feasibility and cost estimates for the improvements at Struby Ave; motion was seconded

by Commissioner Kretschman with reservations as he was not on the Board when the grant was originally discussed. After a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

Grant Opportunities - the following grant opportunities were presented to the Board:

2023 Act 13 DCED Grant Opportunities: DCED opened their programs on February 1, 2023. Application will be due on May 31, 2023 for the following programs:

Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP): Rehabilitation and development of public indoor and/or outdoor park, recreation and conservation areas and facilities. Renovation and development of linear public facilities, such as bicycle, walking, equestrian, snowmobile, and nature trails; passive recreation areas; riparian forest buffers, etc. Maximum Grant Award of \$250,000.00 and 15% Local Match is required.

Watershed Restoration and Protection Program (WRPP): Watershed restoration/protection projects implementing runoff control or runoff reduction BMPs addressing urban or residential areas negatively impacting local or regional stream quality. Watershed projects that refurbish, restore, or create stream bank stabilization. Maximum Grant Award of \$300,000.00 and 15% Local Match is required.

Larry Lennon advised that resolutions would need to be passed at the May meeting to apply for the above grants.

** Commissioner Bartoe had to leave call at 7:32 pm.

Solicitor's Report: *Ken Fawcett provided the following report:*

a. Adoption of Standard Operating Procedure-Attorney Fawcett advised that the Standard Operating Procedure would be needed to lay out when LSSE would need to be notified and what the proper process is with regard to the Sanitary Sewer operations. A motion was made by Commissioner Inman to adopt the Standard Operating Procedure for Sewage Treatment Operations, seconded by Commissioner Kretschman; motion passes.

b. Zoning Officer – Attorney Fawcett advised that the Township had originally appointed Tom Albanese as the Zoning officer for the Township. At this time, Peggy Griffith from New Brighton is handling Zoning and would need to be formally appointed with Mr. Albanese. A motion was made to appoint Peggy Griffith as the Zoning Officer by Commissioner Kretschman and seconded by Commissioner Inman; motion passes.

Committee Reports:

Administration and Police – Commissioner Wagoner presented the following reports:

Police Report– Police Chief Stanislawski submitted his March 2023 report for review; no questions or comments presented.

Sale of Sick Days K. Girting - a motion was made by Commissioner Inman to approve the sell back of 10 unused sick days by Officer Girting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kretschman; motion passes.

AG Agreement: Commissioner Wagoner advised that the AG office is requesting an updated agreement be executed as they are working off of a new grant for reimbursement. Attorney Fawcett raised three questions regarding pension reimbursement, use of Township vehicles, and training time. Answers were provided to the questions raised. Attorney Fawcett advised that he had no objections to the Township signing the agreement as is. Chief Stanislawski expressed concern should the AG no longer provide vehicles. The Board agreed to address this should it become an issue. A motion was made by Commissioner Inman to accept the agreement and execute, seconded by Commissioner Kretschman. After a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

COG, Finance, Fire & Emergency Management – Commissioner Wagoner presented the following reports in Commissioner Bartoe’s absence:

Callout service - Callouts for the month of March 2023 - 24 Calls (10 fire/14 QRS), 95 Hours (69 Fire/26 QRS).

Membership Application - a motion was made by Commissioner Kretschman to accept Collin Finch as a member of the Patterson Township Fire Department, seconded by Commissioner Inman; Motion Passes

Fund Transfers- Commissioner Wagoner advised that generally this time of year the Township does a transfer from Wesbanco to PLGIT to capitalize on the higher interest rate. Commissioner Wagoner requested a motion to make the following balance transfers; transfer \$200,000 from Wesbanco Sewer to PLGIT Sewer account and transfer \$400,000 from Wesbanco General to PLGIT General account. A motion was made by Commissioner Kretschman, seconded by Commissioner Inman. After a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

Public Works – Commissioner Inman presented the following report:

Public Works Activities update - Commissioner Inman advised the Board of the Public Works departments completed work for the month.

Brush and Grass Collection - Commissioner Inman advised that brush and grass collection will begin in May; a notice was sent out to all residents with the April sewer billing.

Buildings & Grounds and Zoning – Commissioner Kretschman presented the following report:

Commissioner Kretschman advised that New Brighton has advised that they do not propose any changes to the current agreement with regard to code enforcement and zoning, and they would like to continue with the current agreement.

Recreations and Community Life – Commissioner Wagoner presented the following report:

LSA Grant Award- \$ 220,000.00- this was discussed under the Engineers report.

Community Yard Sale June 3, 2023 - Commissioner Wagoner advised that Hank Crognale had reached out to find out if there was any interest in the Township having a Community yard sale in conjunction with Patterson Heights. She requested that this date be placed on the Township Website, and that the office staff make up posters to be displayed in the Township office as well as possibly advertise to provide a list of participating addresses for the residents to see on the website.

Code Enforcement – Report was received from New Brighton. No questions or comments at this time.

A motion was made to accept all committee reports as presented. Motion was made by Commissioner Inman and seconded by Commissioner Kretschman; motion passes.

Unfinished Business: None

Township Agencies:

Civil Service Commission - Commissioner Wagoner advised that a letter of resignation was received from Randy Eckelberger. A motion was made by Commissioner Kretschman to accept the letter of resignation, seconded by Commissioner Inman; motion passes.

Commissioner Wagoner advised that there is now a vacancy within the regular members and requested a motion to appoint Joel Heect as an active member. A motion was made to appoint Joel Heect from alternate to active member to fill vacancy by Commissioner Kretschman, seconded by Commissioner Iman; Motion Passes

Communications:

1. Letters- Beaver County- Court ordered Reassessment values.
2. Letter- Allegheny County and Western PA Association of Township Commissioners (AC&WPATC)- Networking meeting Saturday April 29, 2023- Greentree, PA.
3. Email- LSSE- Regulatory and Permitting Seminar- May 10, 2023.

New/Miscellaneous Business:

Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors – 2023 dues - \$250.00 - Motion to remit payment. A motion was made by Commissioner Inman to remit payment in the amount of \$250.00 to the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors for 2023 dues, seconded by Commissioner Kretschman. After a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

Hawke, McKeon & Sniscak, LLP – A motion was made by Commissioner Inman to remit payment in the amount of \$1,266.03 to the Hawke, Mckeon & Sniscak, LLP for PUC Legal matter. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kretschman. After a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

MG Soft Net– A motion was made by Commissioner Kretschman to approve the quote in the amount of \$1,510-\$1,680 for a new computer for C. Milnes, as well as a quote in the amount of \$2,360-2,530 for a new computer for D. Stanislawski as they both are over 8 years old. Motion seconded by Commissioner Inman. After a Roll call vote; Pass unanimously.

Public Comment -

Chris Joliffe – Mr. Joliffe asked the Board if it was an option to collect brush and grass sooner than the date in May. Commissioner Inman advised that it had already been advertised, however he could take his brush to the Public Works garage and request that they hold until the start date of Township Collection.

Mr. Joliffe also asked if the Township was aware of any gas line replacement plans for Darlington Road to include repaving. He was advised that the Township has not been notified of any such plans.

Executive Session: held from 8:05 -8:23 for legal matter

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, motion was made by Commissioner Inman to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Kretschman. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Christin Lyn Milnes

Copy: Kenneth G. Fawcett, Esq.
Larry Lennon, Jr., P.E.
Board of Commissioners