**FEBRUARY 2024 MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Muncy Township Supervisors met in the Muncy Township Fire Hall on February 14, 2024.,, Gary Harmon and Heath Ohnmeiss, Denise Artley, Gwen Pidcoe, and Scott Williams were present. The meeting was called to order by Gary Harmon at 7:30 p.m.

Work information session before meeting.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Heath Ohnmeiss motioned to accept the January minutes. Denise Artley seconded the motion. Gary Harmon agreed. Motion carried.

**Re-Org Minutes:** Denise Artley questioned that when you have a CPA your auditors cannot audit the books is this true?

Scott Williams stated that yes this is true.

Denise Artley motioned to approve the re-org minutes. Gary Harmon seconded the motion. Heath Ohnmeiss agreed. Motion carried.

Ann Smith stated that on the note of the auditors. As the tax collector she was accused of dening access to her books . I did not I state that the auditors can come to my office and go through my books. They would need to give me notice so I can take off work. March 19 Melissa Doyle did a RTK and I denied it because I don’t respond to RTK. I was served with a illegal sspeana by a constable at work. I asked Matt who approved he stated he couldn’t discuss. I explained it wasn’t legal in a meeting. It was signed by Missy not a judge. She wanted 7 years of records, instead of one year. She gave me 10 days to comply. Tax documents can’t leave my office.

Scott

**PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES**

**TREASURER’S REPORT** The treasurer’s report for December 2023 was motioned for approval by Heath Ohnmeiss. Gary Harmon seconded the motion. Denise Artley agreed. Motion carried.

 **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**: no action items

**PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS**:

Terri Lauchle stated that with the Lerta Tax she has been to the commissioners’ meetings and doesn’t understand why the Township was not there. I heard what Farmvest had to say and was not impressed. They didn’t show to the first meeting. When they did show questions where asked and not answered. The taxpayers are not getting the answers to their questions. They said no housing whatsoever and now possible housing. Why are you giving them money when you don’t know what they are planning on doing. They won’t tell us about the sewer it is all hush hush. Fink from the commerce is for Lerta. We all just had an increase in our taxes. This guy from Farmvest is not from Muncy tired of hearing that he is. What is Farmevest they have like 10 different entities under Farmvest. They say they have over 30 years’ experience in community development. Ara has over 30 years and awards under his name in real estate he is worth over 1.5 billion dollars. Jon has 25 years in land development and real estate development. He has national tenants for big companies. He doesn’t need a Lerta either.

The other guy was raised in a real estate family. Several successful businesses have billions in revenue. He has student housing, retail, and affordable housing in Centre County. Again, why are we talking Lerta. This needs to be shut down so we residents don’t get tax breaks.

Thomas Schaech these guys are just a Ponzi scheme and on the backs of the taxpayer. The taxpayers of this township don’t get tax breaks. I am asking the Board of Supervisors do not to represent Farmvest. You are to support the taxpayers.

Larry Spatz Have you received any more info?

Denise Artley Ara called me. They are putting in a WAWA in Williamsport and that is part of a Lerta Tax. Every development that they do they receive assistance. They do this as enticement to get businesses to come to their development. They cannot tell us what is coming in they can just say retail or restraint. There will not be any low-income housing. We won’t lose the LST or EIT tax. The Township will still be getting paid the $30,000 a year that they currently pay us. They said they are trying to get the ball rolling going, they do have to start paying back the $10 million dollars that they have loans for. They are planning on demolishing the mall in the 3rd Quarter of 2024.

Larry Spatz 10 years is just a very long time.

Denise Artley They stated they will be willing to meet with the public. You can ask questions but please do not be rude to them.

Larry Spatz They should have already done this with the residents. 6 years on a sliding scale just doesn’t make sense.

Paul Kramer I appreciate they called but they should have been here before now.

Gary Harmon stated that Gwen did reach out to them through their attorney.

Curtis Lauchle stated he does not need them to meet with him. Who knows what is going to happen tomorrow or next week. We can’t give them tax free.

Joe Merrick is this building paid for.

Gary Harmon stated that it was not.

Joe Merrick there are three cars that sit here and use the building. I was against this, and you didn’t listen then. I am not good with the Lerta taxi. I don’t want to have to pay for it as a taxpayer. I was against the township building and the mall when they were built.

John Iseley Town housing what will happen if they sell.

Gary Harmon they would still have to come to the Township for zoning approval or changes to put any housing in this district.

Terri Lauchle is going to be low income. The commissioners said no low income.

Gary Harmon stated that they have said multiple times that there will be no low-income housing.

Jim Smith can the supervisors override the planning commissions if we make recommendations to not approve.

Gary Harmon stated that we can but that is why we have you to make recommendations as long as you follow the ordinances and laws we would not override the planning commission.

Thomas Schaech stated that the arrogance of this group they have been having meetings since 2020. There is a picture going around with them in a meeting with the commissioners. Vote this down.

Ann Smith we are all against this. Why are you pushing for it?

Gary Harmon stated that say we vote it down tonight. Target just put in for an appeal to lower their taxes. What is stopping farmvest from tearing the mall down and then applying to lower their taxes so then instead of a guaranteed $30,000 we may get $8,000 because they will be paying on land only. That is not good for the taxpayers of this community. We are looking at the whole picture not just our feelings. You have to let your feelings out of it and do what is best for everyone.

Thomas Schaech stated that the county voted to reassess properties to get the percentage current.

Terri Lauchle we need to stop Lerta as a resident.

Curtis Lauchle they said the Lycoming mall was going to be the best thing for this township. It has been nothing but problems and will cost us. The more you bring in the more problems we will have.

Joe Merrick don’t buy stuff unless you can afford it. Pennsdale is going down the drain.

**FIRE COMPANY:** Report on File Scott Oldweiler wanted to thank everyone that helped with hero to helpers. A big thank you to Chris McKibben. The Blood Drive was a success we received 28 units. Would we be able to continue to use the upstairs to hold the blood drives 2 times a year?

Denise Artley stated that yes they could.

Christopher McKibben stated that heroes to helpers is to help people in the community at Christmas time. We supplied food and presents to the families. I would like to thank the Rupert Family, the Fry Family the Artley family that helped out as well as the Doyle Family which supplied all the food. As well as Mr. and Mrs. Claus they delivered the presents on Christmas Eve. It is times like this that we need to appreciate the community that we have. They stand up and help when they are asked.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Report on file.

**ROAD MASTERS REPORT**: Report on File

**OLD BUSINESS:** Water system was updated. It was giving us problems with low water pressure and brown water. ARP money was used to pay for the update**.**

**PERMIT OFFICER REPORT: 1** zoning permit, 0 building permits.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Lerta 2023-04** Denise Artley motioned to table the vote until the next meeting and we meet with the new owners. Heath Ohnmeiss seconded the motion. Gary Harmon agreed. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2024-01 PAYROLL**: This is to be able to do payroll between meetings. Denise Artley motioned to approve. Gary Harmon seconded the motion, Heath Ohnmeiss agreed. Motion carried.

**RESOLTUION 2024-02 PAID HOLIDAYS**: 9 paid Holidays. Heath Ohnmeiss motioned to approve. Gary Harmon seconded the motion. Denise Artley agreed. Motion carried.

**RESOLTUION 2024-03 FIRE CO EVENTS:** Gary Harmon motioned to approve the Fire co Events. Heath Ohnmeiss seconded the motion. Denise Artley agreed. Motion carried.

**SAFETY COMMITTEE**:

* **SAFETY MINUTES**: Heath Ohnmeiss motioned to accept the safety minutes for December. Denise Artley seconded the motion. Gary Harmon agreed. Motion carried.

**REVIEW MONTHLY BILLS:** Heath Ohnmeiss motioned to pay monthly bills. Denise Artley seconded the motion. Matthew Gary Harmon agreed. Motion carried.

Gary Harmon stated that Donnie Reese is stepping down from the planning commission. We need to replace two members. We had two residents step up to sit on the planning commission Scott Oldweiler and Tom Croucher.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Thomas Schaech asked if you advertised for new members of the planning commission.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that no you do not need to advertise.

Thomas Schaech stated that the Fire Co is taking over everything.

Donnie Reese stated that he is part of the Fire Co, and you placed me on the planning commission.

Terri Lauchle why couldn’t others be asked we were never asked.

Tom Croucher asked Tom Schaech do you want to be on it if you do you can have it.

Thomas Schaech stated that he did not want to be on the planning commission.

Bonnie Harmon what is the big deal if fire co members. They are residents of this township as well.

Gwen Pidcoe stated to Denise Artley did I or did I not ask you after the last meeting if you knew of anyone to sit on the planning commission to get me the name or have them come and see me.

Denise Artley stated that you did.

Thomas Schaech asked why they didn’t know.

Gwen Pidcoe stated that we did ask people. You just asked if I advertised.

Thomas Schaech stated that Gwen just doesn’t like to be questioned.

Gwen Pidcoe knows that I don’t mind. You asked if I advertised and I said I didn’t have to, not if we asked people whom we did ask.

Joe Merrick asked if you are for or against the Lerta Tax?

Gary Harmon stated that he is for it.

Heath Ohnmeiss stated that he is for it.

Denise Artley stated that she is against it.

Ann Smith stated that the little bit that they pay in taxes is peanuts to them.

Terri Lauchle stated that they are screwing the people.

Joe Merrick why do they need this money. What are you afraid of?

Bonnie Harmon if the township loses more tax money they will just have to raise our taxes again. Is this what you want. Because at least if they sign the Lerta they will be receiving the same amount of money the township already receives from the mall property.

Terri Lauchle, even though they say no low-income housing I do not trust them we will have low-income housing.

Gary Harmon you cannot control everything if the zoning permits it then they are allowed to put it in. right now, they cannot put any kind of housing in without coming through the township for a zoning. The township has a say.

Heath Ohnmeiss started to look at Geisinger which was approved with a different board. They don’t pay taxes. They told us to our faces when we met with them that they will not give us money.

Thomas Schaech stated that they give every community that they are in money.

Larry Gatz there has to be a happy medium somewhere. In business you need to meet in the middle.

Terri Lauchle did Euro Optic or Miele get free money.

Gary Harmon no they did not, but they didn’t ask for it either.

Larry Fry asked when the 10 years starts.

Gary Harmon when it is built after 6 years their taxes start to increase 20% until the 10 years which is at 100%.

Larry Fry asked who all in this room has clean and green. That is a tax break. Does all three entities the County, School and Twp have to approve it.

Gary Harmon stated that yes it does, and the school and county already approved.

**ADJOURN:** Heath Ohnmeiss motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:33pm. Gary Harmon the motion. Gary Harmon agreed. Motion carried..