

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Independence Township was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at the Independence Township Community Center social hall. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman Daniel McLaughlin and the assembly stood for the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag.

**ROLL CALL**

Present were Supervisors Dan McLaughlin and John Fratangeli. Also present were Police Chief Lance Malobabich, Secretary, Debra Shaffer, and Attorney Curt McMillen. Supervisor Wayne Potts was absent.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no public comment on any agenda item.

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the March 13, 2024, meeting was approved with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer’s report and bill list were approved with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

The Police, Road and two Fire Department monthly reports were accepted with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP PARK PLAYGROUND QUOTES**

We received four separate quotes from Recreation Resource USA, which has a Costars contact. The difference in the quotes were the surface materials. J. Fratangeli made a motion to move forward with the quote in the amount of \$79, 420.00. This will be for the playset and swing set and a Fibar System with engineered wood fiber, FibarFelt, and FibarDrain surface system. D. McLaughlin second the motion. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #6 OF 2024 – THREE RIVERS RANCH SUBDIVISOIN PLAN**

This plan was submitted by Sheffler & Company, Inc. on behalf of Chris Azur/Three Rivers Ranch. This plan is a 153.52-acre parcel located mostly in Allegheny County being subdivided into four lots. 56.329 acres of the residual tract crosses over into Independence Township. None of the portion that is located in Independence Township is being developed. The Independence Township Planning Commission recommended approval by letter dated March 20, 2024. D. McLaughlin made a motion to adopt and J. Fratangeli second the motion.

Motion carried.

**MOTION TO PAYOFF THE 2022 WHEEL LOADER**

J. Fratangeli made a motion to pay off the 2022 wheel loader with our remaining ARP funds and balance out of the General Fund. At the time of our 2024 budget meeting, it was mentioned to either make payments on this piece of equipment or pay it off if we were able. D. McLaughlin second the motion. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following public announcements were made:

- Recycling Weekend – Fri., May 3<sup>rd</sup> & Sat. May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Next Supervisors Meeting – Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> @ 4 pm
- Next Week (April 15<sup>th</sup> thru April 19<sup>th</sup>) Clean Up Week!

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Beth Harwick** from the BF Jones Library spoke and wanted to let everyone know of the upcoming events that library was holding and passed out calendar of events. **Ralph Stauffer** of 301c Cowpath Road spoke and wanted to discuss the reason that Independence Township did not have any rules with respect to barking dogs after certain hours of the night. He stated that although the dogs have been quiet the last few nights, he has had to shoot a pistol off to get them to quite down. He stated that he can't believe other neighbors do not complain. Chairman McLaughlin stated that due to the rural nature of the township where animals are common and hunting dogs are part of the community, he does not believe an ordinance is warranted. He stated that his in-laws live across the street and have no issues with these dogs. Mr. Stauffer said that after Officer Villa spoke to the owners, everything seems to have quieted down. Chairman McLaughlin stated that the owner has attempted to mitigate the circumstance by building walls and using collars. Chairman McLaughlin asked Mr. Stauffer what he would like seen done with these dogs. Mr. Stauffer stated that he would like the owners to make sure the bark collars had batteries and if need be, he would supply the same and build a better wall out of brick or block. **Chairman McLaughlin** spoke and said he would like to publicly thank Mark New, our Emergency Management Coordinator, and his crew for an excellent job with respect to keeping the Board informed and handling the flood emergency.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 pm with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Debra J. Shaffer, Secretary/Treasurer