

The Re-organization and Regular January meetings of the Board of Supervisors of Independence Township were both held on Monday, January 6, 2025, at the Independence Township Community Center social hall. The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by the Solicitor, Curt McMillen, and the assembly stood for the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag.

**ROLL CALL**

Present were Supervisors Daniel McLaughlin, Wayne Potts and John Fratangeli; Police Chief Lance Malobabich, Secretary Debra Shaffer and Solicitor Curt McMillen.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no public comment on Agenda items.

**RE-ORGANIZATION**

**CHAIRMAN**

Daniel McLaughlin was re-appointed Chairman with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by W. Potts. Motion carried.

At this time the gavel was handed to Chairman McLaughlin.

**VICE CHAIRMAN**

Wayne Potts was re-appointed Vice Chairman with a motion by D. McLaughlin and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**

Debra J. Shaffer was appointed Secretary/Treasurer with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S BOND**

The Treasurer's bond was set at \$750,000.00 with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**SOLICITOR**

Curt McMillen was re-appointed as Solicitor with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

**SOLICITOR RETAINER**

The Solicitor's retainer remained at \$500.00 per month with a motion by W. Potts and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

**ENGINEER**

The firm of Eads Group was appointed as engineer with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Sherrie Domitrovich and Paul Frey were re-appointed to the Planning Commission for four-year terms with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**ZONING HEARING BOARD MEMBER**

Jake Iorio was re-appointed to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

W. Potts made a motion to re-appoint Jeff Winkle as principal SEO; seconded by J. Fratangeli.  
Motion carried.

**ALTERNATE SEOs**

Dylan Winkle was appointed alternate SEOs with a motion by D. McLaughlin and second by W. Potts.  
Motion carried.

**UCC BLDG. INSPECTOR**

Code.sys Code Consulting, Inc. was re-appointed UCC Building Inspector with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli.  
Motion carried.

**ZONING OFFICER**

Deb Shaffer and the Eads Group were appointed as Zoning Officers with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by W. Potts.  
Motion carried.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

Independence Township Police Department was appointed Code Enforcement officers with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli.  
Motion carried.

**POLICE CHIEF**

Lance Malobabich was re-appointed Police Chief with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli.  
Motion carried.

**ROADMASTER**

Jeffrey Sweitzer was re-appointed Roadmaster with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin.  
Motion carried.

**WORKING SUPERVISOR COMPENSATION**

The hourly rate for working Supervisors was increased to \$15.91 per hour, pending Township Board of Auditors approval, motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli.  
Motion carried.

**TAX COLLECTOR COMPENSATION**

The R.E. Tax Collector compensation for the next election year was set as 5% of taxes collected. An updated Resolution will be prepared and adopted at the February 2025 meeting.  
Motion carried.

**VACANCY BOARD CHAIRMAN**

Victor Potts was re-appointed Vacancy Board Chairman with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin.  
Motion carried.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

Mark New was re-appointed Emergency Management Coordinator with a motion by W. Potts and second by D. McLaughlin.  
Motion carried.

**PENSION CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Debra Shaffer was appointed Pension Chief Administrative Officer with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by W. Potts.  
Motion carried.

**COG REPRESENTATIVE**

John Fratangeli was appointed COG representative with a motion by W. Potts and second by D. McLaughlin.  
Motion carried.

**ALTERNATE COG REP.**

Wayne Potts was appointed Alternate COG representative with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by D. McLaughlin.  
Motion carried.

**AGRICULTURAL SECURITY AREA REP.**

Wayne Potts was appointed ASA representative with a motion by D. McLaughlin and second by J. Fratangeli. 2025 is our seven-year review. Motion carried.

**RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER**

Debra Shaffer was re-appointed as Right to Know Officer with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**STATE CONVENTION VOTING DELEGATE**

Debra Shaffer was appointed as the State Convention Voting Delegate. Therefore, if she attends the convention, she can vote on behalf of the Township with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**MILEAGE**

The mileage amount was set at 70 cents, which is set by the federal standard, with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**DEPOSITORY FOR TOWNSHIP FUNDS**

D. McLaughlin made the motion to retain Wesbanco Bank as depository for all Township funds, seconded by W. Potts. Motion carried.

**SUPERVISOR'S MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE**

The Supervisor's monthly meeting schedule was set for the second Wednesday at 4 pm to be held at the Independence Twp. Community Center. W. Potts made the motion and D. McLaughlin second. Motion carried.

**BEAVER COUNTY TAX COMMITTEE DELEGATE**

Debra Shaffer was appointed as the Beaver County Tax Committee Delegate with a motion by W. Potts and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

**DEPUTY REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR**

Diane Palsa, Hopewell Twp. RE Tax Collector, was again named as deputy RE Tax Collector with a motion by W. Potts and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

**REGULAR JANUARY MEETING**

**\*\*\*AT THIS TIME AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL ISSUE\*\*\***

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the December 11, 2024, meeting was approved with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's report, including payment of bills and payroll, was approved with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by W. Potts. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

The Road, Police and Fire Departments monthly reports were accepted with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by W. Potts. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**APPOINT CPA FOR 2023 AUDIT**

Mark Turnley, CPA was appointed to complete the 2024 audit with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION #1-2025~FEE SCHEDULE**

Resolution #1-2025, the fee schedule for 2025 was approved with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**ADOPT PMRS 2025 DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN AGREEMENT**

The PMRS 2025 Defined Benefit Plan Agreement waiving Lt. Villa’s 5% contribution requirement was adopted with a motion by W. Potts and second by J. Fratangeli. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following public announcements were made:

- Auditors Re-organization Meeting-January 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm at Community Center Bldg.
- Recycling Weekend, Fri., Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sat., Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>
- Next Supervisor Meeting February 12<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 pm at Community Center
- Chili Cookoff will be held February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Secretary Deb Shaffer** let the Board know that she received an e-mail from Range that they will be moving the Patterson 876 rig off the Miller Ralph 18119 pad at 586 Bocktown Cork Road starting on Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. The move should take about 3 – 4 days to complete.

**Supervisor Wayne Potts** jokingly wanted to let the Road Department know that they need quieter chains as he hears them every time they drive by his house. **Supervisor Fratangeli** let the Board know that his term is up at the end of this year and that he will run for another term.

The Planning Commission 2024 annual report was given to the Supervisors by Secretary/Treasurer Debra Shaffer.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm with a motion by J. Fratangeli and second by W. Potts. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Debra J. Shaffer, Secretary/Treasurer