

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Independence Township was held on Wednesday September 11, 2024, at the Independence Township Community Center social hall. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman Dan McLaughlin and the assembly stood for the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag. After the Pledge, there was a moment of silence to remember the lives that were lost September 11, 2001.

ROLL CALL

Present were Supervisors Dan McLaughlin and Wayne Potts. Also present were Chief Malobabich, Secretary, Debra Shaffer and Solicitor Curt McMillen. Absent was Supervisor John Fratangeli.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment on any agenda item.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the July 10, meeting was approved with a motion by W. Potts and second by D. McLaughlin. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Road and Fire Department monthly reports were accepted with a motion by W. Potts and second by D. McLaughlin. The Police Department report was unavailable as Chief Malobabich was having computer programming issues. He will supply two reports at next month’s meeting. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #9 OF 2024 – McCOY ASA APPLICATION

Resolution 9 of 2024 is for approval of an application that was delivered to the Township from Wayne McCoy to enter acreage into the Agricultural Security Area for Independence Township. This application is outside of the 7-year review period; therefore, it will be recorded with this resolution. Wayne Potts made a motion to approve the application. D. McLaughlin second the motion. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #10 OF 2024 – PENNDOT 5-YEAR WINTER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Resolution 10 of 2024 is to adopt a new 5-year Winter Maintenance Agreement with PennDOT to perform winter maintenance on Thompson Hill Road and Tank Farm Road. D. McLaughlin

made a motion to approve the agreement and grant the Chairman authority to execute. W. Potts second the motion.

Motion carried.

PMRS MMO FOR 2025

Secretary/Treasurer and Chief Administrative Officer Debra J. Shaffer disbursed the 2025 PMRS MMO to the Board of Supervisors.

TRICK OR TREAT 2024

Thursday, October 31, 2024, from 6–8 pm was set for Trick or Treat with a motion by W. Potts. D. McLaughlin second the motion.

Motion carried.

BUDGET MEETINGS

D. McLaughlin made a motion to set the 2024 budget meetings for Wednesday, October 30th at 11:00 a.m. and if needed, Thursday, October 31st at 11:00 a.m. at the Independence Township Municipal Building. Deb Shaffer, Secretary/Treasurer will advertise such per the requirements.

Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following public announcements were made:

- Recycling Weekend – Fri., Oct. 4th & Sat. Oct. 5th
- Next Supervisors’ Meeting – Wednesday, October 9th
- Office Closed – Friday, October 4th

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barb Hughes of 141 Patton Lane spoke and stated that there are three campers parked on her lane and they should not be there. She stated that they are parked close to the road and if there is an emergency, a fire truck would not be able to get to her. She said that they shouldn’t be allowed to stay because we will never get them to leave. Secretary Shaffer explained to the Board that Mrs. Hughes came into the office about this, and she sent letters to all three residents with a copy of the ordinance that states that they are permitted to have campers stay on their property that they live on for 90 days. She asked how we were going to get them to leave once the 90-day deadline occurred. Solicitor McMillen explained that we would send a violation notification letter and if they did not adhere to that then we would have to take them to the magistrate. She asked who goes to the magistrate the camper owner or the property owner. Attorney McMillen explained that the property owner would be the one in violation of the ordinance. Chairman McLaughlin stated that he would have the Fire Chief go and make sure that a vehicle could get through in case of emergency. He did so and the Chief said that their biggest truck can get through without a problem.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 pm with a motion by W. Potts and second by D. McLaughlin.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra J. Shaffer, Secretary/Treasurer