

The regular November meeting, was called to order by Chairman James Zefran on November 8, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the Clinton Township municipal building. Chairman James Zefran, Vice Chair Brad Bates, and Supervisor Brian Non were in attendance. Solicitor Jeffrey Treat was also in attendance.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance** - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- B. Hearing Check** – The hearing check was done.
- C. Minutes of the October 4, 2023 Regular Monthly Meeting** - *Supervisor Non made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bates to accept the minutes of the October 4, 2023 meeting. All voted yes. The motion carried.*
- D. Public Comment –Items on Agenda Only** – No public comment was made

**A. Correspondence**

- a. **Kuznetsov time extension request** – Representative Joe Burget brought maps forward for the supervisors to examine. He said that the time extension was only necessary if the maps would not be approved tonight. These maps are for the Solar Farm, also listed below in section B.c. Chair Zefran said that the maps would be approved and they would be signed after the meeting.

**B. New Business**

- a. **Adoption of proposed 2024 budget** – Chair Zefran said that, at the next meeting, he was going to recommend at the next meeting to have a CPA do the 2023 audit, as our auditors are behind in filing their report, which should have been filed in April. He stated that, as can be seen by the general balance on the budget paperwork, there is no need for a tax increase in 2024. He noted that in the general account the balance forward is listed as \$100,000.00 but it will actually be above that. The ARP account balance is listed on the bills list as \$48.06. That amount will be spent by the end of the year. He asked if there were questions regarding the budget, to which there was no response from the audience. *Supervisor Non made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bates, to approve the budget for advertising. All voted yes. The motion carried.*

b. **Snow removal bids** –

<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Debevec Excavating LLC</b>	<b>Smith Landscape &amp; Excavation</b>
<b>Company Address</b>	432 Maple St. Browndale, PA 18421	20 Rose Lane Honesdale, PA 18421
<b>Price for Plowing, Cindering, &amp; Salting (Per Truck)</b>	\$95.00 per hour	\$95.00 per hour
<b>Price for Opening Roads / Clearing Intersections</b>	\$100 per hour	
<b>Salting/cinders Ice Storms Only</b>		\$90 per hour

Two bids were received as listed above. *Supervisor Non made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bates to go with Debevec Excavating for snowplowing. All voted yes. The motion carried.*

- c. **Planning commission submits the following maps for approval**
  - i. **Solar Farm**

- ii. **Vogt Subdivision**
- iii. **Mann Subdivision**

*Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to approve all three map submissions. All voted yes. The motion carried.*

**C. Road Master Report**

- a. **Vehicle Mileage and Usage Reports** – Supervisor Non gave the vehicle mileage report. He stated that the new international needs a replacement “O ring” which is currently unavailable.
- b. **Road Reports** – He stated that there is an issue in Browndale where a sluice pipe drains into the Fitzsimmons property. The township put in the sluice pipe and the township needs to fix it. The lip on the driveway needs fixed. Also, water is laying on the road where Pazel and Yarnes meet. Non brought up the issue of a salt shed. Wayco gave a price of \$9,100. Vice Chair Non said that Billy Joseph gave a price of \$7,200 for a salt shed with an apron, and he could start late this week or next week. *Supervisor Non made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bate to use Billy Joseph for the salt shed and black top. All voted yes. The motion carried. Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bates to accept the road master report. All voted yes. The motion carried.*

**D. Treasurer’s Report Including Bills for Payment** – Chair Zefran noted that there would be a balance of approximately \$87,000 in the general account after this month’s bills are paid. Vice Chair Non started a motion to accept the treasurer’s report when Permit Officer Salak spoke up and said that he had made an error when requesting a reimbursement check for Michael Dyer (check number 1955, signed at the October meeting) and then a replacement check for Michael Dyer (check number 1985 to be signed at the November meeting) when the first one never arrived in the mail. He stated that the reimbursement check should have been written to Gene Connor of 229 Vine Street, Browndale, PA 18421 and not to Dyer. *Vice Chair Non amended his motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bates, to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills with the addition of a \$130 check to Gene Connor and the voiding of check number 1985 to Michael Dyer. All voted yes. The motion carried.*

**E. Browndale Fire Department** – Chief Debevec gave an oral report. A written report is on file. *Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Non to accept Chief Debevec’s report. All voted yes. The motion carried.*

**F. Old Business**

- a. **The regular December meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm, Wednesday, December 6, 2023. The required year-end meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm, Friday, December 29, 2023** – This was noted by Chair Zefran
- b. **Building Renovation (Exterior Ramp, Interior Flooring, Bathroom) – Bids will be opened at the December meeting** - This was noted by Chair Zefran. Currently no bids have been submitted yet. The office does need more filing cabinets.
- c. **Clarification for Pole Barn Permits** – Clinton Township permit officer Don Salak spoke up and asked if all pole barns require a \$130 permit, as his paperwork says, or does the purpose of agriculture change the permit amount? Chair Zefran said that he agreed, it should just be a pole barn permit. Currently 10’ x 10’ or less does not need a permit. Solicitor Treat said to revisit this at the reorganization meeting.
- d. **Solar Panel Ordinance Comments** – Chair Zefran asked Solicitor Treat about the fees involved within the ordinance to which Treat gave examples of what other townships are doing. Treat reiterated that this ordinance has nothing to do with solar panels owned by private individuals. Most solar farm fields are fifteen to thirty acres in size and by law require a seven-

foot fence. Chair Zefran suggested that the fee for this type of commercial venture be \$1,500.00 (one thousand, five hundred dollars). Attorney Treat laid out some specifics that need to be addressed within the ordinance. The company that owns the solar farm needs to have a contact person that is reachable year-round, 24/7 in the event of an emergency. This person will also need to meet with emergency personnel on a yearly basis. There needs to be a decommissioning plan. This is probably the biggest concern. Owners need to post bond. Supervisors should revisit the amount of bond required every three years. There needs to be a name plate of information with high voltage concerns. Any change of ownership within thirty days of said event. Monthly or quarterly reports need to be required and kept on file at the township building. Motion detectors and lighting need to be present. Winter plowing of any entrance way needs to be maintained for emergency vehicles. An audience member said that the solar farm owners should be required to vie the fire company a stipend for training. While this is permissible, Attorney Treat said that Clinton Township could not ask for a yearly fee. Glenn Aubello suggested that the Supervisors should go visit a solar farm before the next meeting. Treat said that PPL would not give pricing until local authorities approve or deny. Linda Zefran said that it was the supervisors' duty to protect citizens from those who use Clinton Township for financial gain but do not live here. Attorney Treat will advertise the ordinance for consideration of adoption at the December 6 meeting. His secretary will get a copy of the ordinance to Secretary Droppa. Chair Zefran asked that all citizens come and give input at the next meeting.

**G. Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

**H. Adjournment** – *Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Non to adjourn the meeting at 7:45. All voted yes. The motion adjourned.*