Eldred Township Supervisors Regular Meeting

November 9, 2022

This meeting was held at the Eldred Township Municipal building.

Call to order at 4:28 PM by Chairman Greeley.

The meeting was opened with a salute to the flag.

Roll Call: Supervisors John MacBeth, Lawrence Ross and Gordon Greeley in attendance

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Stephanie Kammerdeiner said that she hopes that everyone is being honest.

Gigi McMichael presented a signed petition to the Supervisors with comments and concerns of Township residents in relation to the ATV Ordinance. The residents would like the Supervisors to make some changes to the ordinance to address their concerns or to rescind the ordinance. Speeding/racing, underage drivers, and the use of light bars were discussed. The Supervisors will take it under advisement.

Lorie Park, a Township Auditor, asked when the Auditors begin working on their report so that she can put it on her calendar. Andrea Shaffer, an Eldred Township Auditor in attendance, responded that the reorganization meeting of the Auditors is always the first Tuesday in January. Lorie also asked if the Auditors can do quarterly reports.

A motion to approve the **October 12, 2022 Minutes** and the **Treasurer's Report** was made by Supervisor MacBeth. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Ross.

Vote: 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Chairman Greeley explained that the beginning balance for the S&T Bank account on the Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2022 presented at this meeting (\$60,832.31) differs from the ending balance of the S&T Bank account on the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2022 that was presented at the October 12, 2022 meeting (\$62,514.98). The difference is -\$1,682.67 and is due to the voiding of three Berkheimer earned income deposits from May 2022 that were entered twice by clerical error, and a check from October 2021 that was labeled as lost in the mail and never cashed, but also never voided due to clerical error. The voided transactions are as follows:

Berkheimer earned income tax deposited on May 6, 2022: -\$1,620.39
Berkheimer earned income tax deposited on May 11, 2022: -\$1,784.09
Berkheimer earned income tax deposited on May 18, 2022: -\$4,358.48

Check number 3028 dated October 21, 2021, made payable to "Sigel Volunteer Fire Relief Association" for

the 2021 Act 205 state fire relief aid allocation: +\$6,080.29

Supervisor Ross made a motion to amend the October minutes to correct the Treasurer's Report for September. The motion was seconded by Chairman Greeley.

VOTE: 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Total Receipts (October 1, 2022 to October 31, 2022): \$8,830.10 **Total Expenditures** (October 1, 2022 to October 31, 2022): \$41,973.68

A motion to approve payment of the invoices for October 2022, in the amount of \$29,384.08, was made by Chairman Greeley. The motion was seconded by Supervisor MacBeth.

Vote: 3 ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Ross that payment of the payroll expenses for October 2022, in the amount of \$12,589.60, be approved. The motion was seconded by Chairman Greeley. Vote: 3 aves. Motion carried.

ROADMASTER REPORT:

Supervisor/Roadmaster Ross said that they are getting ready for winter and are cleaning out ditches and putting in cross-pipes and driveway pipes for residents.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution 2022-5

Chairman Greeley explained that this resolution is required by the state to comply with Act 57 of 2022 that was passed this year by the legislature. Chairman Greeley said that Act 57 of 2022 deals with property tax waiver provisions when someone buys a property or moves a mobile home and doesn't receive a tax bill. The Resolution instructs the township's Tax Collector how to implement the changes. A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-5 was made by Chairman Greeley. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Ross. Vote: 3 ayes. Motion carried.

2. ATV Sticker Purchase

The township will send out letters and emails that new stickers are due in January. A motion to purchase new permit stickers for 2023 was made by Chairman Greeley. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Ross.

Vote: 3 ayes. Motion carried.

3. Changes to S&T Bank Tax Collector Checking Account

Chairman Greeley said that Amber Siar needs to be added to the Tax Collector checking account so that she can sign checks. A motion to Remove Deborah Gillung from the S&T Bank Tax Collector checking account and add Amber Siar to the account was made by Supervisor Ross. The motion was seconded by Supervisor MacBeth.

Vote: 3 ayes. Motion carried.

4. UPMC Health Plan 2023 Renewal

Chairman Greeley stopped in to talk to Debbie Stewart at Hoak Insurance and she said that premiums were going to increase approximately 16% if the Supervisors keep the same plan for the full-time employees. He said that he thought this was reasonable. Supervisor MacBeth asked what co-pay amounts are required with the plan. Chairman Greeley said that there is a reimbursable \$1,500.00 deductible and copays are \$35/\$50. He said that it will cost the township \$4,500 for the deductibles, but the township is saving \$16,000 by going with the \$1,500 deductibles and that employees have to bring in a bill that has been paid to order to be reimbursed. Supervisor MacBeth asked what co-pay amounts are required for prescriptions. Supervisor Ross said that the prescription co-pays are also \$35/\$50. He said that the talked to COG (Council of Governments) and they would like the townships to try to go together to get a health plan to bring down costs. Chairman Greeley said that he told Debbie Stewart to just go ahead and renew the policy because she doesn't have anything else to offer for less that has comparable coverage.

5. New Equipment Shed

Chairman Greeley said that he talked to Bureau Veritas and that the township needs drawings or architectural plans that are stamped by an engineer to get a building permit. He said that the township is not exempt from getting a permit, and he was told that they need to get a utility permit instead of a commercial permit because a commercial permit requires a handicap accessible restroom and handicap accessible doors, etc. and this is just an equipment shed and a roof on the Eldred Township building. He added that the utility permit will allow them to hook onto the existing building if they decide to do that. He said that to advertise for bids, the township needs a drawing with an engineer stamp on it. Supervisor Ross said that he called Eads Group, the township engineers, and they told him that they need pictures of where it's going to go and size and dimensions. They told him that they are really busy right now and don't know when they can get to it so he said that the Supervisors can wait for a few months for Eads or find someone else to do blueprints and stamp them. Chairman Greeley said that to advertise for bids the township needs a blueprint that is stamped. The structure planned is approximately 48 feet by 56 feet with two bays. Four big garage doors, two on each side, will be needed as well as a couple of man doors. Supervisor Ross made a motion to advertise for a bid opening at the next meeting if stamped plans can be obtained. The motion was seconded by Supervisor MacBeth.

VOTE: 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Chairman Greeley said that they would try to get everything this month and asked if bids should include concrete for the new shed. Supervisor Ross said that if they can get the building up then they could prep the ground this spring for concrete.

6. 2023 Draft Budget

Chairman Greeley said that the Supervisors may have to raise taxes because the proposed budget has a deficit. He said that taxes haven't be raised since the 1970s and one mill would bring in approximately \$29,117 at face value. Lisa Kelso said that the budget worksheet is a rough draft and that she cut expenses as much as she thought she could.

Andrea Shaffer, a township Auditor, said that maybe at the meetings we should set out a list of the bills paid each month, so residents will know what the money is being spent on. Lisa Kelso said that the Supervisors receive a list of the bills at each meeting and a copy could be set out for people to look at during the meetings.

Chairman Greeley made a motion to approve the rough draft as the preliminary budget. The motion was seconded by Supervisor MacBeth.

VOTE: 3 ayes. Motion carried.

An ad will be placed in the paper notifying the public that the preliminary budget will be available for inspection Monday to Friday, 11 AM to 3 PM at the Eldred Township Building. The final budget will be adopted at the December 14, 2022 meeting.

OTHER SUPERVISOR COMMENTS OR CONCERNS:

Supervisor MacBeth said that he has been driving on a lot of the dirt roads lately, and he thinks they look the best that he's ever seen them.

The Supervisors discussed the year-end meeting and decided to have it immediately following the regular meeting scheduled on December 14, 2022. The re-organization meeting will be held on the first Monday in January, which is January 2, 2023.

Chairman Greeley adjourned the meeting at 5:44 PM.

The next regular meeting will be held at the Eldred Township Building on December 14, 2022, at 4:30 PM, with the year-end meeting to be held immediately following.

Lisa Kelso Secretary