

Lewis Township Supervisors  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
December 4, 2019

The Lewis Township Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order by Chairman Willard Murray at 4:02 P.M. at the Lewis Township building. Those also present were Supervisors Duane M. Blakeney and Ricky Dyer, Solicitor Jonathan Dewald, Secretary/Treasurer Lucinda R. Bomberger and nine guests.

The meeting was temporarily adjourned for a public hearing on the vacation of a portion of Keefertown Road. Solicitor Jonathan Dewald gave a description of portion of the road to be vacated and that the Township would no longer be responsible for that portion of the road and would turn over to the adjacent property owner, the Lehmans, who have been notified by letter. There were no comments from the public. The regular meeting reconvened at 4:05 PM.

A motion was made by Ricky Dyer, seconded by Duane M. Blakeney and passed to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2019 Supervisors Regular Monthly Meeting as written.

A motion was made by Willard Murray, seconded by Ricky Dyer and passed to approve the October 2019 amended Financial Report and the November 2019 Financial Report.

### **Township Reports**

#### ***Supervisors***

Supervisor Duane M. Blakeney shared various work projects over the past month which includes ditch cleaning, pipe repair on North Bend Road, work on Water Company that hopes will hold up until spring.

Supervisor/Roadmaster Willard Murray shared the intentions of road work for 2020 to include full depth reclamation and tear and chipping of Schmidt Road. Work is also slated for Rovenolt and Gauger Road. Tar and Chip on Old State Road.

#### **Secretary/Treasurer**

Secretary/Treasurer Lucinda R. Bomberger shared correspondence with the Supervisors that was received earlier in the day from Sewage Enforcement Officer James Sanders regarding concern of sewage disposal issues in several areas of the Township and finding difficulty in on-lot solutions in compliance with today's regulations. James Sanders recommended meeting to discuss these concerns along with the the Township's Wasterwater Engineer. The Supervisors agreed that a meeting is necessary.

Lucinda shared that the Randall Hull Sewage Facilities Module was approved by DEP and plans updated accordingly and are ready for signature.

Lucinda also asked for authorization to sign the Bixler Sewage Facilities Module Component 1. A motion was made by Willard Murray, seconded by Duane M. Blakeney and passed to give authorization.

**Zoning/Codes Enforcement**

Will and Duane would like to request that Code Inspections include the property owners name along with the address and also if the reports could be more up to date.

**Fire Board Representative**

Fire Board Representative Duane M. Blakeney reported on several repairs to the ladder truck and transport truck.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Brian Stackhouse shared that he hopes the Township will table the adoption of the Zoning Ordinance and its amendments. He does not feel that the Zoning Ordinance does anyone any good and would like the zoning district map to be addressed and would make more sense to table the adoption and address the map at the same time to save money.

**Old Business**

A motion was made by Ricky Dyer, seconded by Duane M. Blakeney and passed to adopt Ordinance 2018-13, an Ordinance vacating a portion of Keefertown Road.

A motion was made by Willard Murray, seconded by Duane M. Blakeney and passed to adopt Ordinance 2019-14, the Lewis Township Zoning Ordinance and the amendments thereof.

**New Business**

A motion was made by Duane M. Blakeney, seconded by Willard Murray and passed to appoint Wayne Hawley as Lewis Township representative to the Warrior Run Area Fire Department Board.

A motion was made by Willard Murray, seconded by Duane M. Blakeney and passed to approve the treasurer’s bond in the amount \$500,000.00 through H.A. Thompson for 2020.

A motion was made by Duane M. Blakeney, seconded by Ricky Dyer and passed to affirm the Tax Levy for 2020:

General Purpose:	12 mill
Fire Protection:	2 mill
Equipment	2 mill
Per Capita	\$5.00
LST	\$52.00
Earned Income Tax:	½ of 1%
Realty Transfer Tax:	½ of 1%

**Terms:**

2% Discount	March/April
Face	May/June
10% Penalty	July/December

A motion was made by Ricky Dyer, seconded by Willard Murray and passed to adopt the 2020 budget for General, State and Wastewater Funds.

A motion was made by Ricky Dyer, seconded by Willard Murray and passed to authorize advertisement the Supervisors Reorganizational Meeting with the Regular Monthly Meeting directly following for January 6, 2020 at 4:00 P.M. and Authorization to advertise the Auditors meeting for January 7, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Duane M. Blakeney, seconded by Ricky Dyer and passed to approve payment of bills for the month of December 2019.

### **Public Comment**

Brian Stackhouse made a request for hearings, etc. be posted to the public news bulletin section of the Township's website along with the calendar.

Brian also asked if the commercial zoning was intended to expedite the public sewer along Route 54. The answer was no but a developer could trigger the implementation of the current approved 537 planning for that area.

Brian also asked if he would apply for a variance what the process would look like. The answer was upon a denied permit you would have the right to appeal through a hearing. Applications for variance are available through the Township office.

Brian also asked if a variance is denied by the Zoning Hearing Board, do they have to state the reason why and if it needed to be justified. The answer is yes and a decision letter is sent to the applicant stating that the request was denied and the reason for that decision.

Norman Reiff asked for clarification as to who would have granted his variance years ago, the Planning Commission or the Zoning Hearing Board, the answer being the Zoning Hearing Board.

Michael Hoover asked if consideration would be given to change the zoning district map now that the Ordinance has been adopted. Solicitor Dewald recommended that requests be made to the Planning Commission for review, consideration and recommendation to the Supervisors.

Alvin Hoover asked if a variance has been denied if you can apply again. Solicitor Dewald said that you can and that there is an appeal process.

A motion was made by Willard Murray, seconded by Ricky Dyer and passed to hire Martin Bobb as part time as needed seasonal employee up to 24 hours/per week.

A motion was made by Willard Murray, seconded by Ricky Dyer and passed to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lucinda R. Bomberger  
Lewis Township Secretary