

Powell Township Board Meeting
PO Box 319, 101 Bensinger, Big Bay 49808
July 17, 2023
Minutes

1. Call to Order 7:02 pm by Supervisor
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call of Officers – Darlene Turner (Supervisor) present; Kelli Santilli (Treasurer) present; Karen December (Trustee) present; Denise Hudson (Trustee) absent; Mitch Walker (Clerk) present.
4. Approval of Agenda – **Motion** to approve agenda with the following changes (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
 - a. 3d. Parks and Rec, MDARD 2023 grant
 - b. 3e. Planning Commission, Community center grant
 - c. #10 Safe roads to schools grant
 - d. #11 Replace valve box
 - e. #12 Blight
5. Approval of Minutes - **Motion** to approve June 20, 2023, Board meeting minutes (Santilli/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
6. Revenue & Expenditure Report:
 - a. **Motion** to approve May 31, 2023 report (Santilli/Turner). All in favor, motion carried.
 - b. **Motion** to approve June 30, 2023 report (Santilli/Turner). All in favor, motion carried.
7. Treasurer’s Report
8. Approval of Bills – **Motion** to approve Bills to be Paid (Santilli/December), with the following addition. All in favor, motion carried.
 - a. See Coast \$37.40, revenue share from binoculars.

Committee & Department Reports:

1. Ambulance Department: No Report.
2. Emergency Management: Darlene Turner, Supervisor, spoke with Kim Bourgeois, EMS Coordinator; everything is fine. Kim is still discussing the food bank at Halfway and will give an update next month.
3. Fire Department: Chris Sutter, Fire Chief. See attached report.
4. Parks and Recreation Department: Kelli Santilli, Treasurer.
 - a. Fire on the Bay went really well, thank you for the community donations
 - b. Seeking permission to submit for the MDARD 2023 grant for a storage building
 - c. Considering applying for the community center grant but the grant deadline timing is tight
 - d. The next concert at Draver Park is August 12th, final concert is on Fall Fest weekend, September 23rd
5. Planning Commission: Darlene Turner, Supervisor. The next meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday. Community involvement is needed.

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6. Sewer Department: Darlene Turner, Supervisor, all good with the sewer department.
7. Water Department: Darlene Turner, Supervisor.
 - a. In June, 1.28 million gallons used which is comparable to last year
 - b. Alarms due to high temperatures in the pumphouse and a loss of tower communication
 - c. Samples for PFAS, nitrates and chloroform completed
 - d. Water tower PLC panel had a faulty breaker and was replaced
 - e. Water meter is still on back order
 - f. Working with Miss Dig to have the most updated information on our system
8. Correspondence: Letter of opposition to the space port was received from N. Scripps. Please see attachment.

Public Comment:

1. C. Sutter reserved comment for 2E
2. J. Gertz – Ferrell Gas Big Bay Co-op, new price in effect is \$1.499 until November when the price will be re-negotiated.

Unfinished Business:

1. Credit Card Policy. **Motion** to approve the Draft Credit Card Policy (Walker/Santilli), (2) in favor, (2) opposed, motion failed.

New Business

1. Ambulance
2. Fire Department
 - a. **Motion** to approve \$3,989.75 from Donated Funds for bid from QTAC for 50/50 DNR grant, UTV skid unit (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
 - b. **Motion** to approve \$851.05 Dressler's 2 initial repair attempts on St1 Water Main Break 50/50 split between fire and ambulance (Santilli/Turner). All in favor, motion carried.
 - c. **Motion** to approve \$120 for cleaning office area carpet after the water main break inside St1 (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
 - d. **Motion** to approve \$130 commercial grade fan for Station 1 to move air and help dry wet fire hose & gear (December/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
 - e. **Motion** to approve \$350 to replace missing tarps for salvage, overhaul, extrication, rehab & RIT operations (Santilli/December). (3) in favor, (1) opposed, motion carried.

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- f. **Motion** to approve \$90 for replacement of vehicle creeper and a new jack stands for fleet maintenance (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
 - g. **Motion** to approve \$60 to purchase an OSHA approved eye wash station for each firehall (Santilli/December). (3) in favor, (1) opposed, motion carried.
 - h. **Motion** to approve promotion of auxiliary member Phil Bakken to Auxiliary Captain (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
 - i. **Motion** to approve David Weber termination from the Fire Department (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
3. Parks and Rec
- a. **Motion** to approve aggregate \$850.00 from Associated Inc from MDARD grant and/or P&R operating budget (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
 - b. **Motion** to approve \$150.00 for new signage on sandwich boards (Santilli/Turner) from donated funds. All in favor, motion carried.
 - c. **Motion** to approve \$800.00 August concert band (Santilli/Walker) from donated funds. All in favor, motion carried.
 - d. **Motion** to approve 30% matching maximum of \$30,000 for 2023 MDARD grant (Santilli/Turner). All in favor, motion carried.
 - e. **Motion** to approve P&R to apply for a community center grant providing capital improvements due by the end of August (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
4. **Motion** to approve Township building roof repair \$2,430.00 with Fetterhoff Roofing (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
5. **Motion** to approve an increase to the Water Tower Usage fees (Santilli/December). Santilli amended the motion to table it and schedule a special meeting to discuss the fees and required repairs. All in favor, motion carried.
6. **Motion** to approve Zoning Permit Fees - Increase fees from \$300 to \$400 as Mining Journal fees have increased \$100.00 (Santilli/Turner). All in favor, motion carried. Please see attachment.
7. Tipping and Hauling Fees:
- a. **Motion** to request the utility billing clerk to make a recommendation to the board for the 2023, 2024 and 2025 tipping fees for nonprofits (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
 - b. **Motion** to request the utility billing clerk to make a recommendation to the board for the 2023 and 2024 hauling fees for nonprofits (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
8. Water Operator Certification: \$70.00 each, 3 applications, payable in August.
No action required.

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9. **Motion** to approve Pay Water employee to attend township meeting to give report \$35.00 a meeting (Turner/December). All in favor, motion carried.
10. **Motion** to approve Safe Road to School cooperative agreement with the Road Commission and the Township, contingent on legal approval of the agreement and subsequent board approval (Walker/Turner). All in favor, motion carried. Please see attachment.
11. **Motion** to approve \$1,762.44 to Associated for the replacement of the valve box top and curb box near the Catholic church coming out of system improvements (Walker/December). All in favor, motion carried.
12. **Motion** to approve addressing the blight issues in the Township by following the blight ordinance and enforcement procedures as written (December/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.

Public comment:

1. J. Gertz, Blight is a problem, and something needs to be done. A lot of places need clean up.
2. J. Dewitt, The problem has been going on so long that we get used to seeing it but people from out of town see it differently. We should look at ways to decrease the costs of enforcement. People's impression of the area isn't good. What will the costs be later if not addressed.
3. J. Gertz, questioned why we have to go through the lawyer for blight and questioned why other ordinances such as parking are not enforced.
4. H. Shatz, is concerned about Township employees going to do blight enforcement by themselves. Would like to have a committee formed.
5. C. Wheelock, feels people don't know where to start to resolve the blight issue. She would love to be on a committee. People are upset and don't know what to do about it. The violators are not scared because nothing has ever been done historically.
6. J. Dewitt, questioned why the township has to go knock on a door as the first step to address blight. Recognizes that if someone doesn't want to change or address the problem, that it is difficult to enforce because people know how to avoid repercussions.
7. N. Gaines, Planning Commission meeting is on Wednesday and blight will be discussed. Committees help with resources for those that are affected by blight.
8. H. Shatz, planning Draver park native garden maintenance on July 28th from 9-noon

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Board comment:

1. D. Turner, Supervisor, one cannot go on another person's property without permission even to help them or clean-up for them.
2. K. Santilli, Treasurer – called Jackie S. today regarding the 102 Schneider property but she is on vacation until Wednesday.
3. K. December, Trustee, spoke with Jerry Corkin, but Joe Derocha did not respond. Provided a document regarding blight, please see attachment.

Next Regular Board Meeting August 15, 2023; 7:00pm

Adjourn 8:49 pm

Minutes prepared by:
S. Bevins
Powell Township Deputy Clerk