

The Board of Supervisors of Dallas Township held their monthly meeting for June on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Administration Building located at 105 Lt. Michael Cleary Drive, Dallas, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Those in attendance included: Supervisor Chairman William J. Grant, Supervisor Vice Chairman Elizabeth A. Martin, Attorney Thomas J. Mosca, Township Manager Martin K. Barry, Police Chief Douglas Higgins, Roadmaster Gary Van Deutsch, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Russell Coolbaugh, Police Department Administrative Assistant Kimberly Landmesser and Secretary/Treasurer K. Gary Kirk. There were not any participates through GoTo Meeting. There were about 20 other people were in attendance including most of the Police Department. Administrative Assistant Landmesser set up Facebook Live to allow additional residents to participate in the meeting.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Grant stated that former Supervisor Frank Wagner had passed away earlier this evening. Mr. Wagner had served Dallas Township in many capacities in his over 50 years of service. He expressed sympathy to the entire Wagner family including current Supervisor Robert Wagner.

Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Pay the Bills**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried.

Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve the Minutes from the May 2, 2023 Monthly Meeting and the May 22, 2023 Special Meeting**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried.

Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve Employee Health Care Reimbursements** that had been requested in May in the amount of \$2,122.90 seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried. Total employee health care reimbursements made for 2023 was \$8,843.98.

**Citizens' Comments Concerning Agenda Items:**  
None.

Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Amend the Agenda to include after Agenda Item #4, Approval of Deed from Dallas Township to Dallas Township**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried

#### **Agenda:**

Chief Higgins stated that after a thorough interview process that he would like to recommend that the Supervisors hire Daelyn Mynes as a Police Officer. Everyone involved in the interview process felt she was the best candidate. Ms. Mynes needs to obtain Act 120 Certification and there is a class beginning in July 5, 2023 and concluding December 23, 2023. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Hire Daelyn Mynes as a Police Officer effective July 1, 2023**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried. Ms. Mynes was sworn in by District Justice Brian Tupper.

Supervisor Grant provided a financial update as of May 31, 2023. We have received \$1,171,985 of Real Estate taxes which is 89.33% of our budget and is better than most of the previous 6 years. Earned Income Tax collections are at 50.19% of budget or \$772,858 which is better than most of the previous 6 years. Local Services Tax collections are at 38.96% of budget or \$68,187 which is lower than the previous 6 years, but we did receive over \$34,000 in the first few days of June. Our Police Pension Plan is at 105.22% and our Non-Uniform Pension Plan is at 87.92% of the January 1, 2023 actuarial liability. Pension plan assets as of May 31, 2023 were \$5,564,626 for the Police Pension Plan and \$3,117,374 for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan. Our non-restricted cash balance is about \$3,850,000 and the Fire Protection account is about \$148,000.



Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve using \$189,000 of American Rescue Plan funds for WKL Architecture fees**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried.

Attorney Mosca stated that to help with building the new police station, we need to purchase .64 acres from the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association (ASTA) and that ASTA is willing to sell it to us for \$1. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve the purchase of .64 acres from ASTA for \$1**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried.

Supervisor Grant stated that the .64 acres of land just purchased needs to be combined with the existing 2+ acres we have on Lt. Michael Cleary Drive. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve the Deed from Dallas Township to Dallas Township**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried.

Township Manager Barry stated Pennsy Supply was awarded the contract for the contracted milling & paving of The Maples Development and that they have until July 31, 2023 to complete the contract. There has been discussion about the curbs on those roads and whether to remove them, keep them or provide some type of alternate. To include 4" formed curbs to The Maples Development paving project would cost \$51,637.50 and would eliminate \$12,000 of yard restoration. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve a Change Order to The Maples Development Paving Contract to eliminate the yard restoration at a savings of \$12,000**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve a Change Order to The Maples Development Paving Contract to add 4" formed curbs at a cost \$51,637.50**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried.

Supervisor Grant stated that we met with a company which installs zip lines. We would be able to place a zip line for children at the Southside Nature Park. It will be about 100 feet long, about 3 feet off the ground and have a weight limit. There may also be a height requirement. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve the Purchase of a Zip Line at a cost of \$32,816 subject to an insurance review and a safety review**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried.

Supervisor Grant stated that we are considering applying for a RACP grant which would be used to help build the new police station. It was recommended that we hire a consultant to help obtain the RACP grant and that they would only be paid if we obtain the grant. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Approve Engaging The DT Firm at a contingency fee not to exceed 12.5% and the contract to be reviewed by Attorney Mosca**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried.

Township Manager Barry stated that DAMA will be having a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Additional information as to what will be collected may be found at our website.

Supervisor Grant stated that the July monthly Supervisors' meeting will be Wednesday July 5<sup>th</sup> since Tuesday is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

#### **EMA Update:**

EMA Coordinator Alan Pugh was not at the meeting.

#### **Police Update:**

Chief Higgins provided the Police Department update. He has applied for two grants. One would pay for 75% of a new hire and the other would pay \$12,000 per officer for a bullet proof vest. National Night Out will be August 1<sup>st</sup>. The May Neighborhood Watch meeting was about Medicaid fraud, scams and AI scams. The June meeting will be June 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be about crime scene management.

#### **Road Department Update:**

Roadmaster Van Deutsch provided the Road Department update. Spring Clean-up filled thirteen 40-yard dumpsters and Roger's Services had great response in their first time working with us. Midland Asphalt

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completed crack sealing on several roads and street sweeping will be completed tomorrow. The flail mower is cutting roadside vegetation. Dust control was applied and the Kunkle Fire Department wet the roads to activate the calcium. June's main goal will be dirt and gravel road maintenance. There was discussion about tar & chipping roads. Jackson Township is currently doing this to some roads. Tim Rismondo works for Jackson Township and shared about the process.

**Planning & Zoning Update:**

Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Coolbaugh provided the Planning & Zoning update. 26 permits were issued in May and a couple of rental inspections were performed. He also completed ICS 400 training.

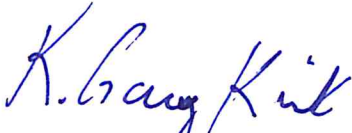
**Additional Citizens' Comments:**

Supervisor Grant thanked Nicole Rismondo for sending information about a real estate exemption for volunteer firefighters. Pennsylvania is considering new legislation on increasing/expanding the real estate tax credits. Supervisor Grant stated that we will be reviewing this information for consideration in 2024.

**Adjournment:**

Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Adjourn**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried. The Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by,



K. Gary Kirk, CPA  
Secretary/Treasurer

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