

September 12, 2023

**Empire Township Board
Regular Meeting**

Supervisor Carl Noonan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. Also present were members Casey Noonan, Neiswonger, Price and Deegan. Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2023 regular meeting as written. All ayes.

Campground Report: After another successful year at the campground, motion was made by Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to give the following employee bonuses: Manager - \$2300; Maintenance Manager - \$1200; and Assistant Maintenance - \$500. All ayes.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Price reported on CDs and bank accounts as of 08-31-2023. Report received as read.

Planning & Zoning Report: 1.) Zoning Administrator, Tim Cypher, issued the following permits/approvals in August: 1) Attached garage-Fredrickson Rd. 2) Private Road-Echo Valley Rd. 3) Guest house-Olive St. 2.) Deegan noted that Planning would be holding a public hearing next Tuesday, 8-15-23, on the draft Master Plan.

Supervisor Report: 1.) Due to the passing of ESAC member Ralph Mittleberger, a motion was made by Neiswonger; support-Deegan to appoint Robert Price to the term that expires on 12-31-2027. All ayes. 2.) Board received notice from attorney Timothy Figura that he joined the law firm of Mika Meyers. He asked if the Board would like to continue with his services through the new firm. After discussion, motion was made by Carl Noonan; support-Deegan to enter into an agreement with the firm Mika Meyers for attorney services and authorized the Supervisor to sign the agreement for Empire Township. All ayes. Carl will request a fee structure from attorney Figura.

Clerk Report: 1.) 1.) Board reviewed Form L-4029, the 2023 Tax Rate Request from County Equalization. The form allowed 0.4248 to be levied for general operating costs and allowed up to 6.7615 to be levied for fire department operations. After discussion and review of money that would be needed to fund next year's Fire Department contract costs, a motion was made by Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to levy 0.4248 for general operations and levy 4.5000 for fire department operations. All ayes. 2.) Motion-Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to pay September 2023 monthly bills as presented and attached. All ayes.

Final Business: 1.) Casey Noonan noted that the Inspiration Point clearing work had been done by the Road Commission. 2.) Deegan informed the Board that Dick Becker was appreciative of the \$500 and letter regarding his upkeep of Bland Cemetery. 3.) Fire Chief Bryan Ferguson reported on monthly fire department operations and noted that the public hearing on next year's budget would be held tomorrow night, 9-13-23, at the Glen Arbor station.

All business being concluded the meeting was adjourned by the Supervisor at 8:13 p.m.

Christine M. Neiswonger, Clerk