East Hanover Township, Lebanon County Municipal Building 1117 School House Road Annville, PA 17003 Special Session – September 23, 2024

The Board of Supervisors convened in special session at 7:00 pm for general and all purposes, including 2025 Budget Planning. The meeting was open for the public to attend.

Chairman - Edward Heagy Present
Vice-Chairman - Stefan Wentling Present
Secretary/Treasurer - Dennis Grubb Present
Township Manager - Erik Harmon Present
Administrative Assistant - Sheila Seaman Present

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Edward Heagy.

Met-Ed - Request to release bond to Met-Ed regarding temporary driveways (\$21,884.00) -

Harmon advised the Board of Supervisors that Met-Ed has provided temporary bonding to the Township to ensure proper restoration of temporary driveway areas created during their pole replacement project within the Township. As they have now completed portions of the project, they are asking for one of the bonds to be released in the amount of \$21,884.00. Harmon felt that it would be appropriate to release this bond as requested.

Grubb motioned to release the bond being held for temporary driveways from Met-Ed in the amount of \$21,884.00. Wentling 2^{nd} the motion and with all three Supervisors voting in favor, the motion passed.

Zoning Amendments Re. Accessory Apartments and Elder Cottage Housing -

Harmon advised the Board of Supervisors that the Planning Commission has been discussing the current laws regarding accessory apartments and elder cottage housing and feel that some revisions to those topics would be appropriate. Harmon provided the Board of Supervisors with copies of the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance regarding these matters and asked the Board of Supervisors if they would like to proceed by authorizing him to move ahead with public notices for holding a public hearing on this matter prior to the October 28th meeting of the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors reviewed the proposed changes. Several comments and questions were posed regarding the suggested changes. After some discussion, it was determined that the Board of Supervisors would like to return the proposal to the Planning Commission for further discussion and review.

The Supervisors were in unanimous agreement to continue further discussion and review of the proposed changes regarding Accessory Apartments and Elder Cottage Housing in the Township's Zoning Ordinance with the Planning Commission.

2025 Budget Planning -

The Board of Supervisors were presented with copies of the current year's Budget vs. Actual Report for all township funds, along with Harmon's proposed budget numbers for 2025. During this session, the General Fund Budget and State Fund Budget were the main points of discussion. Topics to highlight from their discussions are as follows:

- 1) Income received from fines is notably decreased so far in 2024, therefore, an adjustment has been made in the 2025 Budget to reduce expected income in this area.
- 2) At this time, there are no Dirt and Gravel Road projects planned for 2025.
- 3) We do not expect to receive Liquid Fuel Funding from Lebanon County in 2025 for the purpose of helping fund road line painting, as we have for the past many years.
- 4) Elected Auditor Salaries have increased from \$10 per hour to \$18 per hour for 2025. (based on new legislation)
- 5) Pension payment (employer contribution) is currently set at 9%. Consideration is being given to raising the rate to 10% as the State of PA will reimburse the Township for full time employees' pension costs, up to a certain amount, calculated annually. We could increase the employee benefit and in the end receive a reimbursement of the benefits paid out.
- 6) Implementing a Local Service Tax for folks who live outside of this Township, but work within the Township is being considered. This is being considered as costs related to the Life Lion Ambulance

- Service are expected to be increased in the coming years. This would be one way to help cover the anticipated increased cost for those services.
- 7) Purchasing a new boom mower has been in the plans since 2024. Money was budgeted for this cost in 2024, however, the purchase hasn't been completed yet. Therefore, funds already budgeted remain in the account to be used in 2025 for such a purchase.
- 8) On 09-07-2024 the township had a CD that matured. The initial investment for that CD was \$300,000 from the Gaming Fund. Harmon obtained current rates for a new CD with Jonestown Bank for these funds. The rates quoted were as follows:

6 months 4.79% Rate, 4.90% APY 9 months 4.65% Rate, 4.75% APY 12 months 4.49% Rate, 4.58% APY

Wentling motioned to reinvest the \$300,000 from the Gaming Fund into a 12 month CD with Jonestown Bank, at the quoted rate of 4.49% Rate, 4.58% APY. Grubb 2nd the motion and with all three Supervisors voting in favor, the motion passed.

Having no further business to discuss, Grubb motioned to adjourn the meeting. Wentling 2nd the motion and with all three Supervisors voting in favor, the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila M. Seaman Administrative Assistant