

June 2, 2025
ATKINSON MILLS, PA

On May 5, 2025, The Wayne Township Board of Supervisors met for their regular monthly meeting at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held at the Country Crossroads Community Center, 3055 Ferguson Valley Road, McVeytown, PA. Members of the Board present were Ted Reed, Chuck Miles and Don Gearhart. In attendance representing Wayne Township were Mary Ellen Reed, Tax Collector; Jeff Hoover, Recreation Advisory Board Chairman; Heath Foster, Township Roadmaster, Jim McClure, solicitor, Jeff St. John and Dan Page, Page SEO, Inc. Several residents were also present.

Chairman Ted Reed called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Ted made the motion to approve the minutes; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Ted opened the floor for public comment on the agenda or other issues. Ted stated that he realizes the building is full and he will try to let everyone speak that wants to but no campaign issues will be addressed in this meeting. This is a meeting of the Board of Supervisors to conduct the business at hand. If anyone wants to discuss business not on the agenda, please make an appointment to be put on the agenda for the June meeting. Ken Smith, 100 Missing Pine Drive, McVeytown, asked if he could set the record and his reputation straight. Ken asked the Board if they received his email? Ken then asked if the Board would make the email public. Ted explained to Ken that the email he received was mostly not about Township issues but was responding to issues viewed on a private Facebook account or accounts. Ted said Ken's email was not about anything that was posted on a Township outlet or represented the Township's position on any issue. Ken asked if he could clarify the minutes and explain his position on some misunderstandings. Ken claimed that in the previous meetings, he was asking what he felt were relevant questions concerning certain agenda items, self-certification of on lot sewage systems etc. In Ken's opinion he was not stating his position but was questioning what he felt needed to be addressed. Ken then went on to explain that he felt the Board should be careful not to lose their integrity. Ken then mentioned to the Board about operating off of revenue of 25 years ago. Ted explained that the Township generates most of its revenue from earned income tax and not real estate taxes. The 1 mil property tax only brings ins in around 47 to \$48,000. Ken explained that the present revenue is higher now than it was 25 years ago and that inflation is built into the increase because as wages go up so does income. A comparison was made by Ken stating that earned income tax had increased 94 percent. Chuck asked if the price of gasoline previously compared to now and a 300 percent increase was noted. Discussion then turned to whether Wayne Township is the poorest Township in the state. It was explained that Wayne is not the poorest township in the state nor the county. Chuck explained that the day is coming when the Township will no longer be able to operate on 1 mil of real estate tax. Costs and inflation have almost doubled from 25 years ago and it's impossible to think the Township can keep surviving on a 1 mil tax. Chuck also asked the residents why no one is complaining about their school taxes going up 1.96 mil last year and that they will be going up again this year? Chuck mentioned a finding of misappropriation of funds said to be between two and three million dollars in the school system and there is no public outcry concerning that.

Mitzi Miller, Chrystal Lane, McVeytown, made comment about road signs being down. Ted explained they were taken care of after her email and that the roadcrew does inspect the roads at least twice a week or more depending on the weather. Chuck asked the residents to please call the Township when they see something.

Renee Miller, 10 Railroad Alley, McVeytown, PA, asked the Board to clarify It's hiring policy. Renee started to quote a PA State Manuel. Ted told Rennee he never heard of that particular manual and that the Township is governed by the Second-Class Township Code an Act of 1935. Ted further explained that Townships is no different than any other business etc. in the state in that it can hire and fire at will

as long as it does not discriminate. Ted explained there was a selection process and explained that process. The Township received at least 6 new applications for the job opening and that the Township also reviewed some older applications it had on file.

Todd Kauffman, 33 Hysteria Lane, McVeytown, asked to speak to the Board and read a letter explaining why he should have been selected as the new road crew employee and requested that in the future the Township hire a resident of the Township to which the residents present applauded.

There was then some discussion by the residents concerning CDL requirements and some demands as to why Todd was not hired. Ted explained the decision was made in executive session and could not and would not be discussed publicly.

Tracy Holder, 28 Sechrist Road, McVeytown had questions and comments about the on-lot inspection process and the ordinance governing inspections. It was Tracy's contention that the Township was not following the ordinance as stated in Section 7 Paragraph A. Tracy contended that the ordinance states that every tank should be pumped every five years and an inspection is optional or required only when there is a problem. Ted admitted the ordinance is vague in that paragraph compared to the way the Township is currently administering its inspection process. Ted explained briefly how the Act 537 regulations and Township mandate came about. Chuck explained the conversations he had with DEP concerning present regulations which are stricter than what the Township is currently enforcing and that that any change to the ordinance would have to be approved by DEP and DEP at that point could make the Township go to stricter regulations. Tracy claimed she didn't want to change the ordinance, she only wanted the Township to follow what she thinks the ordinance states. The supervisors agreed they would try to have a representative from DEP and the Township's solicitor at the next meeting to answer more questions.

Noah Hartzler from the Pennsylvania State Police was present to update the residents on what the PSP have been doing locally and to take questions from the residents. Several questions were asked about a blighted property on Loop Road that may also be harboring a meth lab. Trooper Harzler said he would be around after the meeting to take information or to answer further questions. Beth Kline, 130 Hidden Hollow Lane, McVeytown, PA, asked if anything could be done as far as condemning the property. Jim McClure thought maybe our building code inspector could look at the property. Ted said he would check into that.

Don made the motion to sign the subrecipient agreement with the County to administer the Wayne Township Water Department CDBG Grant for new water meters; Ted seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

As was discussed in an executive meeting held April 1, 2025, Chuck made the motion to hire Hunter Roles as the new road crew employee at \$20/hour and on a 90-day probation period; Don seconded the motion; all in favor motion carried.

Don made the motion to approve Township Ordinance 2025-1 repealing the Township's present solar ordinance and becoming subject to Mifflin County's Solar Ordinance which is part of the Mifflin County Subdivision Ordinance; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Chuck made the motion to approve Resolution 2025-7 making Wayne Township part of the America250PA celebration; Don seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Chuck made the motion to approve Resolution 2025-8 making application for the 2025 GTRP grant; Don seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Chuck made the motion approve the \$100 filing fee for the GTRP grant; Don seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Chuck made the motion to approve the applying for a \$5000 America250PA grant for America's 250th year celebrations during the 2026 year; Don seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Ted made the motion not to renew the PA Rural Water membership; Chuck seconded the motion, motion carried.

Chuck made the motion to advertise the 1994 International dump truck, plow and side spreader on Municibid. No reserve was stated: Don seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

The Board discussed implementing a monthly workshop the third Wednesday of every month at 6 P.M. Don made the motion; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor motion carried.

The Board discussed making Hometown Heros Banner available to the residents. Don made the motion to go forward and gather information for the project; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Ted made the motion declaring May 18-24th Emergency Services Week; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

There were no Water Department updates or grant updates.

Jeff Hoover gave a brief Recreation Board update of upcoming events and a special thank you for all those who helped and attended the Easter Egg Hunt.

Jeff Hoover thanked the Board on closing comments.

Don made the motion to pay the bills; Chuck seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

Chuck made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Don seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Theodore M. Reed Secretary/Treasurer