

WEST LEBANON TOWNSHIP  
June 5, 2023

The regular meeting of the West Lebanon Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Michelle Testerman with the Pledge of Allegiance

The following were in attendance:

Commissioner Richard Pflueger	Treasurer: Julie Clouse (absent)
Commissioner John Brenner (absent)	Secretary: Antoinette Issis
Commissioner Michelle Testerman	Township Engineer: Mr. Michael Thorley
Commissioner Harry Fox (absent)	Solicitor: Mr. Michael Light
Commissioner Phylis Dryden	

Phylis Dryden made a motion, seconded by Richard Pflueger, and agreed by the Board to approve the minutes as written April 3, 2023.

**VISITORS' ADDRESS:** There were 17 visitors in attendance.

Gale Steckback, 2235 Lehman Street, stated she wanted to thank the police department for coming to help her with the kids coming into her yard and roof. The officers were nice and spoke with the kids. Gale asked if anything will be done about the swimming pool along the fence which is illegal. Will a letter be sent that they have to take it down?

Michelle Testerman stated the board can ask code enforcement because it is not a police issue. Michelle stated she will ask Mr. Brenner but is sure that a letter can be sent because it is a big pool.

Gale stated it is a big pool and is located from side to side of the fence. Gale stated she is not sure if anything can be done regarding the basketball net that is there. The kids are always running against her garage, and it will be dented. The officers were going to talk to the kids but not sure if they did.

Chief Knight asked if the police were called.

Gale stated yes because they came out when they were in her yard and went on the roof.

Chief Knight stated to have a no trespassing sign on her property and let the police know and they will come out.

Gale stated the police have been called out two times already and on the third time they should be able to do something about it.

Michelle stated with summer coming up it will get worse.

Gale stated she saw the township had about the cats being neutered and if the township calls the Humane Society they will take the cats for \$30.00 for male cats. They neuter the cats, give them shots, clip its ears, and do a whole bunch of things for \$30. It may be more for female cats, but Gale is not sure. Gale stated she has not seen as many as there was at one point. Gale asked how many homes on Scull Street are being built because she heard different numbers going around. Michelle stated originally it was supposed to be 38 and at one meeting it was brought up that it was back down to 28.

Mike Thorley stated the project was approved for 38 homes.

Gale asked if the homes are for seniors only or can anyone move in there.

Michelle stated she is not sure as that is private land.

Gale asked with adding all those homes will the township have enough water.

Michelle stated she is told that the township will have enough water as that question was raised.

Gale asked with all those additional residents, will water bills come down as more people will be paying towards it.

Phylis Dryden stated the township water bills will not go down. The township has a loan with Penn Vest that cannot be paid off early. The loan will be paid off in 2027 and the loan has 1% interest. If the township pays the loan off early the township would not be able to obtain another loan from Penn Vest.

Phylis Dryden stated as she was reading the Annville Township website and they have a bunch of material about cats, and they clip the ears in order to know the cat has been neutered. Phylis recommends anyone who is serious about the problem with cats to view the materials on Annville Township's website and some of the solutions they have used.

Gale stated at one point she had 37 cats, and they slowly went away, and the best solution is to get the cats neutered so they do not keep having more kittens.

Phylis stated Barry has traps that he offered to loan the township. Phylis asked how many traps Barry has.

Barry stated he has 9 traps give or take. They were doing a spade and neuter release in the Pine Grove area. In a 2-block neighborhood they had over 200 cats and walked across the street like kids.

Justin Snyder, 1923 W. Cumberland Street, came to the board with a proposal that John Brenner is working by himself the last Justin was aware. Justin is not sure how the hiring process has gone.

Phylis Dryden stated 2 employees were hired and believes they started June 5, 2023.

Michelle Testerman stated 1 employee started June 5, 2023.

Justin asked are the employees going to be reliable.

Phylis stated one employee the board knows very well.

Michelle stated one did not show up on June 5 and does not know if the employees will work out.

Justin asked so there is no reliability right now.

Michelle stated the township does not have the reliability right now.

Justin stated he offered Mr. Brenner his services again as he was employed by the township for many years to start maintaining the White Row since he is by himself. The man fell 3 times when he was out there mowing it about a month ago. Unfortunately, with him resigning there is nothing he can do, and the board of commissioners must decide whether or not Justin could assist with alleviating some of the stress from him.

Richard Pflueger asked what John Brenner's response was when Justin spoke to him.

Justin stated that John told him that he must bring it up to the board and get brought up at a public meeting since he is not a commissioner anymore and he is just the township maintenance department.

Richard stated that John has given Justin work in the past.

Michelle stated John was notified of Justin's offer and she let Harry know as well. When Harry gets back in town Michelle will bring it up again to Harry.

Justin asked how long this is going to wait before the board provides help.

Michelle stated unfortunately John is aware that if it is needed, he can contact Justin. It has been mentioned.

Justin asked even though it was mentioned, has it been voted on.

Michelle asked if Justin was ever fired from the township.

Justin stated he would have to ask the board of commissioners as the township has the records to indicate with the W2's and everything.

Michelle cannot answer that question.

Phylis stated since this is a personnel matter Justin could talk to them after the meeting.

Justin wanted this to be brought up legally and that is why he brought it up at the meeting and not behind closed doors so other residents knew John Brenner is working by himself and it is not easy to maintain.

Michelle stated once again that John was made aware of Justin's offer.

David Snyder, 1923 W. Cumberland Street, asked if the board has been notified who is doing a traffic study on Chapel Lane and why.

Michelle stated the board sitting at the table now has no knowledge of a traffic study being done. On the monthly report for highway there is nothing to report.

Justin Snyder stated they showed up two weeks ago on a Sunday between 7-9 am and disappeared a week later a Sunday.

Michelle asked Richard Pflueger if he knows anything about it since he lives over there.

Richard stated no.

David stated he wonders if Henry Molded is doing the traffic study to open the roadway to his warehouse.

Michelle stated she can question that on June 6 and let him know because she does not have an answer.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer's report:** Copies of the report were given to the Board members and available to the visitors in attendance.

Lebanon County Treasurer Real Estate Taxes collected are \$66,892.42 from 4/23/23 to 4/29/23  
Municipal (\$64,150.17), Street Light Taxes (\$2,742.25).

Lebanon County Treasurer Real Estate Taxes collected are \$21,672.94 from 4/30/23 to 5/6/23  
Municipal (\$64,150.17), Street Light Taxes (\$2,742.25).

Lebanon County Treasurer Delinquent Real Estate Taxes collected are \$901.94 from 4/01/23 to 4/28/23  
Municipal (\$827.21), Street Light Taxes (\$74.73).

Lebanon County Treasurer Real Estate Taxes collected are \$850.00 from 5/14/23 to 5/20/23  
Municipal (\$682.55), Street Light Taxes (\$167.45).

Total monies in all West Lebanon Township accounts as of May 31, 2023, are \$1,957,557.37.

Phylis Dryden made a motion, seconded by Richard Pflueger, and agreed by the Board to accept the Treasurer's report.

**POLICE:** Chief Knight was in attendance and gave the report for the month of November 2022 as follows:

<b>Total Calls for the month</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Traffic Arrests</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Criminal Arrests</b>	<b>03</b>
<b>Parking Tickets</b>	<b>00</b>
<b>Faulty Equipment Cards</b>	<b>06</b>

<b>Non-Reportable Incidents</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Reportable Incidents</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>UCR Crimes</b>	<b>09</b>

Chief Knight stated as a department they handled 334 total calls for the month. At the end of the month the police department did a great job assisting the city and got tied up with the triple homicide. The police department lead the SWAT team to detain the suspect at 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

Michelle asked as a mother of a young child, when the chief stated about sex offenses in the police report, is that something that residents should be concerned about.

Chief Knight stated no it has been taken care of.

**SPEEDWELL FIRE COMPANY:**

Billy Testerman gave the following report for May 2023 as follows:

4 calls for the month with 8 personnel for 1 hour and 28 minutes.

2 Fire police responded to assist North Lebanon.

Training for hours for the month: 27 personnel for 66 hours and 18 minutes.

Fund raising was a boot drive with 10 personnel for 45 hours.

Memorial Day parade was May 29<sup>th</sup> in the City of Lebanon with 8 people for 25 hours total for cleaning and presenting.

Billy stated calls for the month included:

- Service call for fire police to assist North Lebanon Fire Police.
- Pedestrian struck in Annville. Call was out of area and officer happened to be driving by at the time of incident.
- 1 MVA wrong location at North Cornwall Township at Rutter's.
- 1 MVA general cleanup at Rutter's

**HIGHWAY:** Phylis Dryden stated nothing to report.

**WATER:** Richard Pflueger stated the daily average for the month was 34,677 gallons per day (GPD). The water tank is full. The total City of Lebanon Authority (COLA) water was zero (0).

**SEWER:** Richard Pflueger stated nothing to report.

**STORM SEWER/MS-4:** Richard Pflueger stated still waiting on boxes, should have within next 3 weeks.

**TOWNSHIP BUILDINGS:** Michelle Testerman stated still waiting to finish upstairs A/C and touch up.

**RECREATION:** Michelle Testerman stated nothing to report.

**PUBLIC SAFETY/CODE ENFORCEMENT/SANITATION:** Michelle Testerman stated a lot of notices were sent out for sanitation, high grass/weeds in the last month.

**GREEN WASTE/RECYCLING:** Michelle Testerman stated received the 904 Grant that was applied for.

Michelle Testerman stated Green Waste Card Renewal notices were sent out.

**Zoning:**

**Zoning Permits Issued as Follows:**

Z-6-2023 issued to Beverly Yost, 2232 Church Street, for porch addition.

Z-7-2023 issued to Elliot Houser, 2232 Church Street, for HVAC.

Z-8-2023 issued to Elliot Houser, 2234 Church Street, for HVAC.

**Building Permits Issued as Follows:**

B-11-2023 issued to Beverly Yost, 2232 Church Street, for porch addition.

B-12-2023 issued to Elliot Houser, 2232 Church Street, for HVAC.

B-13-2023 issued to Elliot Houser, 2234 Church Street, for HVAC.

**Excavation Permits issued as follows:**

E-6-2023 issued to UGI Utilities for 350 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street Lebanon, PA 17046 for 2X2 EFC for installation of gas services.

**FINANCE:** Phylis Dryden made a motion, seconded by, Richard Pflueger and agreed by the Board to pay all the bills as submitted.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Richard Pflueger made a motion, seconded by Phylis Dryden, and agreed to adopt Ordinance 535 for parking of commercial sized private or business trucks, tractors, or commercial vehicles.

Justin Snyder asked if this ordinance includes campers.

Michelle stated yes because it is a recreational vehicle.

Justin asked so residents are not allowed to park their campers.

Michelle stated residents are not allowed to park on the streets.

Justin asked it does not include private property.

Michelle stated it does not include private property.

Billy Testerman asked about the registration stickers since PA has not made stickers in years.

Michelle stated the police need to be able to come up behind a driver's vehicle to make sure the registration is valid.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Phylis Dryden made a motion, seconded by Michelle Testerman, and agreed accept the resignation letter dated May 5, 2023, from John Brenner as Township Commissioner. Richard Pflueger opposes.

Michael Light stated what happens is after 45 days John's resignation letter is deemed to be accepted.

Michelle asked is it 45 days from him writing the letter or 45 days from the township meeting.

Michael stated 45 days from writing it and then the board has 30 days to appoint a resident.

Justin asked why he resigned.

Michelle stated she does not know and that is a question for Mr. Brenner. At the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting the board will not appoint a resident until Harry Fox is back to assist with that appointment for the vacant position.

Richard Pflueger made a motion seconded by Phylis Dryden and agreed by the board to adopt Resolution 2022-06 adopting the 1-year agreement with TNT Sanitation for single family residential trash and recycling services in the township effective July 1, 2023, to the last pick up being June 30, 2024. The rates per quarter for the length of the contract are \$75.00 and \$69.00 for seniors over 60. Recycling will be picked up every other week. If the cost of diesel is above \$5.00 per gallon there will be a \$5.00 fuel charge per customer per quarter.

Gary Redinger asked if the cost of diesel fuel goes above \$5.00 for one day, residents will get charged the fee?

Michelle stated according to TNT Sanitation yes.

Phylis Dryden is wondering why year after year the township keeps adopting the resolution with TNT and the township does not put it out for BID.

Michelle stated it was put out for BID two years ago and the TNT Sanitation BID was by far the best BID.

Gary Redinger asked with the recent reassessment of the Boscov's building have an impact on the township budget or money wise.

Michelle Testerman stated at this point no and asked Michael if he could answer how that happened since the township fought it.

Michael stated his understanding after speaking with Paul months ago was that the township won on their appeal and Boscov's lost on their appeal.

Gary stated it was reported on the news that Boscov's won the appeal.

Michelle stated the township received a letter.

Michael stated he will discuss that with Paul.

Michelle stated the township originally fought it because Boscov's was asking for tax forgiveness only from West Lebanon Township and not from North Lebanon, which is odd because the split is in half. The township's understanding is West Lebanon's Taxes were put back on.

Gary stated according to what he read it was the school taxes from North Lebanon Township.

Phylis stated the township had to pay a little over \$5,000 back to Boscov's.

Michelle stated it was her understanding that no attorney could be present for that appeal.

Michael stated he is not aware of that.

Michelle stated for the appeal process having an attorney present could have made all of the difference of reducing the assessment and the township should have had legal representation present if allowed to.

Michael stated he will provide the township an answer this week.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Received checks as follows:**

North Lebanon Township Police Department- \$50.00 for parking tickets.

Bradley Menzel- \$114.17 for payment plan for water meter for 525 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street.

Heartland Payroll Solutions, INC- \$121.00 for NAPLI Inc. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023 LST.

Rescue Hose Company No. 4- \$24.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023 LST.

Lebanon County Probation Services- \$198.50 for vehicle, crimes code and miscellaneous income report.

UGI Utilities- \$194.00 for excavation permit #E-6-2023 for 350 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street for permit fee (\$100.00), inspection fee (\$90.00), and 200ftX Footage fee at \$1.50 per foot (\$4.00).

Lebanon County Probation Services- \$0.35 for vehicle, crimes code and miscellaneous income report.

Public Partnerships LLC- \$14.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter LST for Virginia Heise.

Lebanon County Tax Claim Bureau- \$901.94 for April Municipal Tax.

Public Partnerships LLC- \$14.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter LST for Virginia Heise.

UGI Utilities- \$194.00 for excavation permit E-6-2023 for 350 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street for Permit Fee (\$100.00), Inspection fee (\$90.00), and 200ftX Footage fee at \$1.50 per foot (\$4.00).

Lebanon County Probation Services- \$0.35 for vehicle, crimes code and miscellaneous income report.

Rental License- 2 at \$50.00 each totaling \$100.00

Lebanon County Recorder of Deeds- \$1089.27 for Local Realty Transfer Tax Distribution for the period from April 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023.

Cody Fulk- \$50.00 for Rental License.

Beverly Yost- \$79.00 for zoning permit Z-6-2023 and Building Permit B-11-2023 for porch addition at 2232 Church Street.

North Lebanon Township- \$782.92 for District Judge for April 2023.

North Lebanon Township- \$731.03 for code enforcement, inspections, and milage for public safety.

Elliott Houser- \$207.40 for Building Permits B-12-2023 and B-13-2023 and Zoning Permits Z-7-2023 and Z-8-2023 for HVAC at 2232 Church Street and 2234 Church Street.

Department of Environmental Protection- \$13493.74 for Section 904 Recycling Grant.

Rental License (6/1/23)- 6 at \$50.00 each totaling \$300.00.

Harold Davis- \$100.00 for food license #146149.

**DJ-52-3-03: \$771.16 for May 2023.** Local Ordinance (\$463.67), Title 18- Payable to Municipality (\$307.49).

**Received letters as follows:**

Jonestown Bank- standby letter of credit for emergencies only.

John Brenner- resignation of commissioner position.

Michael Reist (pastor of St. Mark Lutheran Church and professional magician)- information regarding professional entertainment about magic shows.

Accord- Certificate of Liability Insurance for CCAB Insurance and Benefits, INC. (producer) for Groff's Heating Air Conditioning & Plumbing (insured).

Erie Insurance- certificate of insurance for P G Martin Excavating LLC.

Paul Bametzreider- copy of right to know request from Toni Fiasco Lebanon Valley Mall.

PA Department of Transportation- notice of payment of state police fines and penalties in the amount of \$160.58 will be paid on June 1, 2023.

Accord- Certificate of Liability Insurance for Seltzer Group Partners (producer) for Bartush Signs Inc, CBJF Realty LP, Bartush Industries LLC D/B/A All Season Self Storage, D/B/A Defrost Signs Bartush Signs INC, D/B/A Bright Sign and Maint. Bartush Signs dba Neon by Frack 302 Washington Street Orwigsburg, PA 17961 (insured).

The next meeting of the West Lebanon Township Board of Commissioners is Monday July 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the West Lebanon Township Building, 322 North 22<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Phylis Dryden made a motion, seconded by Richard Pflueger and agreed by the Board to adjourn the meeting at p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Antoinette Issis, Secretary