

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, October 2, 2023 in the Township Building. Barry Schrope called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Barry Schrope, Jim Fuller, Jeff Smith, Attorney Bruce Warshawsky, Lester Nace, Vicki Jenkins, Dexter Potter, Marty Smith, Mary Smith, Sue Flickinger, Dave Jenkins, Phyllis Krieger, Paul Krieger, Holly Potter, Rick Shumaker, Phil Vogel, Candi Schrope, Bob Cash, Kurt Hepschmidt, David Mills and Paul Wyatt (Perry Cty. Times).

Jeff Smith led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation given by Kurt Hepschmidt.

The minutes of the September 5, 2023 regular meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the Township Building prior to the October 2, 2023 regular meeting for public viewing. Jeff Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented by the secretary, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Sue Flickinger thanked the supervisors for the volunteer picnic.

Phyllis Krieger stated she has contacted the banks about the Certificate of Deposit for the rec board monies. Phyllis stated she check with Members 1st and Belco; Barry Schrope stated Members 1st will not do municipal money. Phyllis asked the question as to who the signer would be on the account; the rec board or the supervisors. Barry said the money to invest would be coming out of the capital reserve account the township has for the rec board so the township would have to do it. Vicki Jenkins advised the budget hasn't been completed yet to even see where the rec board is at to know what they are planning on spending. Jim Fuller asked what is in the rec board account currently; Phyllis advised she believes there is \$17,000 in the checking and \$17,000 in the savings. Jim asked what was in the capital reserve account; Vicki advised around \$55,000. Vicki stated the supervisors first have to make the motion to invest the money and will it come out of the rec board account or the capital reserve account. Jim stated the township is going to invest the capital reserve money. Vicki asked if the CD would be in the townships name because of it coming out of our account and Jim said yes. Phyllis stated she wondered if that's why Members 1st said they could open up an account because it would be under the rec board and not the township. Vicki advised it's all township money; Phyllis stated the rec board has their own account at Members 1st. Phyllis asked if she could get the information and rates could she do it or does she need to come back next month for approval. The supervisors stated yes it would need to come back for approval and that Members 1st will in fact do it. Jim stated he would rather go to Pennian and not a federal credit union. Barry asked Phyllis to get some rates from Pennian; Vicki stated she could do it, but we would need to know how much the rec boards budget is going to be so we would know what amount can be invested. Phyllis advised they would be working on there budget next meeting.

Paul Krieger stated he checked with Brightspeed and they don't do internet to Wagner Park because their copper won't handle it. Paul advised their coming out with something possible at the beginning of next year that sounds similar to a cellular signal repeater.

Kurt Hepschmidt stated about a year ago the supervisors talked about utilizing the old salt shed to protect the assets of the township and now he sees the tar buggy out there. Kurt asked if the idea has been tabled. Barry Schrope stated it was tabled because the cost of building materials went through the roof and stated it may be something the supervisors could look at again.

David Mills gave the recreation board report: working on general maintenance, replaced the light on the pole at the main building and will try to plant some grass this week. David asked Jeff Smith about the 5 bales of straw; Jeff advised they will be there this week.

Dexter Potter presented the road master report for last month: sprayed around guard rails and street signs, sprayed the 3 fields at Wagner Park, cleaned up mud on Linton Hill from someone driving off the road and pushing it onto the road, replaced pipes on Roseglen, placed cold patch on Roseglen, started trimming on Hunkey Hollow, got the new motor for the glass crusher, got the tar buggy filled and got everything for the tar buggy except for the propane tanks, line painting will be done this Thursday and the black top patching will be done mid October. Jeff Smith suggested to Dexter about checking prices with R.E. Smith's for diesel. Kurt Hepschmidt asked about where the shoulders were filled in on Linton Hill; it's mud and a waste of time unless you're going to put stone or some way to bolster the shoulders. Dexter stated once the grass starts growing it won't be mud; he can't put rocks in people's yards where they mow.

No representative from the Duncannon Fire Co. was present at tonight's meeting.

The township has received notice from the Commonwealth of PA that the Volunteer Fire Relief for 2023 has been received in the amount of \$19,192.65. Jim Fuller made a motion to release \$14,394.49 (3/4) to the Duncannon Fire Co. and \$4,798.16 (1/4) to the New Bloomfield Fire Co., Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to release the \$500 donation as budgeted to Perry County Crime Stoppers, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Correspondence has been received from Blue Ridge Communications regarding renewal of the franchise agreement. The existing franchise agreement expired May 31, 2020; the new agreement would be for an additional 5 years and will expire on May 31, 2025. Jim Fuller made a motion to renew the agreement as is until May 31, 2025, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

At last month's meeting there was discussion regarding the correct spelling of Glutzs Hole/Glutzshole Road. The supervisors asked Vicki to check with the Post Office to see how they have it spelled. Vicki advised she spoke with the Post Office and they have it as Glutzshole Road and Google Maps shows it as Glutz Hole Road. The one end of the road has Glutzs Hole Road and the other end has Glutz Hole Road. Jeff Smith made a motion to have the spelling as Glutzs Hole Road, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. The supervisors asked Dexter to order a new sign to replace the Glutz Hole Road sign.

Correspondence has been received from the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission seeking nominations for representation from the local governments in Dauphin and Perry Counties. Currently Jim Fuller represents the Perry Southeast Regional Planning Area. Jeff Smith made a motion to renominate Jim Fuller as the representative, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Jeff Smith made a motion to have Trick or Treat night in Wheatfield Township on Tuesday, October 31, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Jeff Smith made a motion to schedule a budget workshop for the preliminary 2024 budget on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. The workshop will be advertised as required by law.

At the budget workshop meeting there was discussion regarding the property at 1581 New Bloomfield Road. Jeff Smith advised the property has been abandoned for close to 3 years and is in terrible condition and has received several complaints about the property. The bank has started the process of taking over the house and the current owner is now living in the shed out back. Jeff said he talked to Sheriff Hammar for some guidance because he didn't know who would handle something like this and he advised the Township Zoning Officer is the one who should make the call if the house needs to be condemned and not livable and if they need to be evicted from the property. Jeff said he also suggested DEP could help assist and if it came down to eviction the Sheriffs Office or a Constable could assist in having the resident evicted. Bruce Warshawsky stated the Township could press Wells Fargo too because if they have exercised possession over the property with changing the locks, they have a responsibility to comply with all the township ordinances. Lester Nace advised the notice on the door is dated August 13, 2023 condemned by the leasing company which is Wells Fargo. Lester stated he spoke with an individual at Wells Fargo and advised them of the locks being broken off the shed and they sent someone out there to restore the lock on the door. Bruce asked if the township has a nuisance ordinance; Lester advised yes. The supervisors asked Lester to send a letter to the owner and Wells Fargo putting them on notice of the nuisance ordinance and DEP violations.

At the budget workshop meeting there was discussion regarding the ongoing issue on Montebello Farm Road. Jim Fuller advised the township has previously had a Constable hand deliver a letter to this resident on Montebello Farm Road to remove the hazards that he had placed along the road to try to hurt his neighbor; should anyone get off the pavement. Jim said now he has probably between 25 – 30 no trespassing signs; the township asked him to remove the hazards and put the signs back behind the right of way and he did that. Jim said the problem is the neighbor's mailbox has to be on the side of the road where the issue is which is only about 3' off the road within the right of way (25 feet). Jim stated the neighbor whose mailbox is on this person's property mowed one pass around the mailbox and the person called the State Police for it. Jim said now the person has placed some bricks at the mailbox and as far as he is concerned that is criminal mischief. Bruce Warshawsky asked if the bricks are on the right of way; Jim advised yes. Bruce said the township has the right to remove them. Jim stated we get Dexter Potter to go and talk to him and then we take the brick because otherwise the township is going to consider it criminal mischief. Jim said as far as the signs he doesn't believe the township can do anything about the signs because he moved a couple signs back out right against the road on the trees; Bruce said as long as there on his property there is nothing the township can do unless there on the right of way. Jim advised they are on the right of way; Bruce said they can be removed. Bruce stated the township is well within their rights as the township to police the right of way; as a courtesy the township should communicate with the resident and let them know it's going to be done. Jim asked Dexter to speak with the Constable and let him know the township has to take the brick and signs that are out against the road and ask him to go along and that the township needs some help with that. Jim said this man keeps challenging the township and if you were his neighbor, it would be a concern to you as well.

Lester Nace stated he has received a text from the attorney for the water softener issue and she indicated the issue has been corrected by the neighbors. Lester stated he thinks this could still.

At the budget workshop meeting there was discussion regarding a speeding issue on Basin Hill Road. Vicki Jenkins stated she did not get back to the resident yet because she didn't know if anything was going to be done. Bruce Warshawsky stated the township would need to do a traffic study to install a speed hump. The current speed limit is 30 mph and the resident would like to see it lowered to 15 mph. The supervisors agreed to do a speed study and possibly a traffic study.

Kurt Hepschmidt stated last month the supervisors discussed black top bids for some patchwork and the conditional approval of Cleck Paving and asked wasn't that supposed to come back to this meeting. The supervisors stated they conditionally approved that motion last month pending the price didn't change drastically and Dexter Potter got a price and called the supervisors and it was only \$500 more.

Jim Fuller stated recycling is Saturday.

Barry Schroepe stated he went and talked to Bruce Warshawsky about the Wagner Park issue and Bruce advised him to put out everything he has and what he has proof of. Barry stated the whole thing started out when David Mills said the rec board was going to pave the parking lot; but the 60' x 60' parking lot at the small pavilion was included in the bid. Barry said he and Jeff Smith checked the bid package to make sure it should be included and it was and then they asked John Weldon for the bill for the paving at the park and he came in and gave the township a whited-out copy. Barry advised Phyllis Krieger came into the township and gave the township a copy of the bill; the bill from John and Phyllis both had the same invoice number but they were different and the signatures were not the same on either one. Barry said he and Jeff went out to the park and measured all the paving which he has written down. Barry said he then mentioned about the bollards, which are the metal stops on the bridge so no one can drive across it, because we told the contractor the township would buy them and we did and he wouldn't take them off the bill so eventually the township told him we were taking them off the bill. Barry said then he was told the rec board was splitting some stone with the contractor and when he brought this up the he saw the stone on the bill was \$525 and he just recently bought stone himself and he got stone \$550 for about the same and John told him he got a really good deal. Barry said the next time he talked with John, he told him that Pavemaster's got both him and the rec board and charged them both for the stone and he doesn't understand why no one went after Pavemaster's for the \$525. Barry said when he keeps looking, the rec board minutes on September 20 state; after bridge project rec board will pave parking lot at pavilion #2 and the contractor work on the bridge includes paving from the bathroom to bridge and drive down to parking lot at pavilion #2 and he will also do handicap spot. Barry said the problem is when John bid the job, he bid \$15,000 to do the paving which is the drive down to the parking lot, the parking lot and a spot for a grill; then he asked the rec board what they got for there \$16,000; can anyone tell him? Phyllis Krieger asked if anyone has questioned Pavemaster's and why the invoices were the same number? Barry asked Bruce if the township could do that; Bruce advised we can but we don't have to if the rec board has it then why wouldn't the rec board provide it. Barry said John did provide the township one that was whited out and the rec board provided us one with the same invoice number but they were different. Phyllis said to clarify, there were 3 invoices with the same invoice number; one the rec board paid, one was paid by John; the whited out one was John's invoice that he paid Pavemaster's and he handed it in because when the township said they wanted to see the invoices he whited out his invoice because the township didn't need to see that; it was his cost, so the whited out one has nothing to do with anything. Barry stated the township did not ask for his invoice, we asked for the one the rec board paid for, the paving slips to see how many trucks to make sure the amount of black top the bid called for was actually put down. Phyllis stated if the township could forget about the whited out one because it has nothing to do with anything but could the township go back to Pavemaster's and ask them why the 2 invoices have the same number. Barry advised he did not; he's just letting everyone know what he was given. Phyllis said nobody knows why and that's why the township needs to go to Pavemaster's. Bruce said not necessarily have to cooperate, the township can ask for them but we can't force them to provide them. Kurt Hepschmidt stated when you're dealing with 2 different amounts on the same invoice, he would think for good business purposes they would do that. Barry again asked the rec board members in attendance what they thought on September 20th they were paying for in the black top. Phyllis stated she did not understand the whole package thing what was going on and being paid, but she put in the minutes what was said at the meeting. Paul Krieger asked what it said in the minutes, because that's what they were expecting to get. Barry read the minutes again, it says after bridge project rec board will pave parking lot at pavilion #2; which was in the bid package that John got paid for and did. Paul said then that's what they were expecting to get, whether they should've of or not, but that's what they were expecting. Phyllis said she thinks this was in 2 different minutes because it was brought up another time and she had them clarify what she was writing, as far as it being in the bid package she doesn't know. Jim Fuller asked Barry if he knew what was paved that was not in

the bid package. Barry said he does and showed Jim the 4 sections that were not in the bid package and the sections that were in the bid package (copy of diagram on file). Paul asked about the money that came back from John, did that equal; Barry stated no. Paul asked what the difference was or what he thinks the difference is; Barry said to pave that parking lot, because according to the minutes John was going to pay for coming down the drive to the parking lot and the handicap spot, so the remainder of the 60' x 60' parking lot came to \$8,747.20 and that number comes from the bill that John gave the township, not the one Phyllis gave the township, because his has a price per sq. ft. for full depth paving of \$2.80 sq. ft. Paul said at the last rec board meeting you guys were at and he was there as well to the very end; you guys both said and both agreed there was a certain amount that needed to be paid extra and that was paid back by John. Paul said so this is something new there questioning; Barry advised yes. Barry said he tried to explain it to people and no one would understand so he has put together exactly what it cost for every piece of black top and that is why it is so critical the rec board knows what they paid before, because the rec board paid \$16,485 for black top; that's not including prep work or stone. Phyllis stated she thought at the last meeting John explained what the extra was and it seemed like everyone was in agreement with what he said. Barry said he tried to explain it to John and he got mad and said he was washing his hands of everything and he left. Barry said he tried to explain about the parking lot and his response was what does it matter who paid for the parking lot. Barry said it does matter. Phyllis said so if you combine all the paving and all the pavement, is there something out of place there or are you just trying to figure out what paid for what part, if you did it as a whole like all the money paid for the paving and all the paving that was done, does that match up? Barry said that's why he needs to know what the rec board paid for, because when John submitted his bid package in there are numbers; it gives a sq. yd. as to what John was to pave; 512 sq. yds. and 532 sq. yds. Kurt asked what the discrepancy, where's the difference, it's not making any sense to him. Barry said what he is saying is that the rec board paid for the parking lot and they shouldn't have because that was part of the bid package. Kurt asked and what's that amount; Barry said the bid package amount John put in there was \$15,000. Paul asked then where did the agreement of the \$4,000 come from; why was that agreed to at all. Phyllis stated he paved more than what was in the bid package so he paid that back so he wasn't wasting tax payer dollars, he gave that back. Phyllis said so there was more paving done than wasn't in the bid package so her question is if you take all the paving that was done and all that was paved does it add up; Barry said no. Someone asked how much is it off. Barry said you just can't do it as total paving because in the bid package there is prep work, stone and other things. Barry said if you sit here and do the math, he can come up with \$16,000 and that includes the parking lot. Phyllis said but there was other paving done as well and Barry said he was including all of that to get there \$16,000 that the rec board paid. Phyllis said so when you (Barry) were at the meeting and he showed you everything; Barry said the rec board adjourned the meeting and wouldn't let him talk. Phyllis said after the meeting it was talked about and they went over everything that was paved and the money that was laid out it evened out; he showed you how he got what he did. Kurt asked what the dollar amount of the difference he feels the township was not paid back. Bruce stated he feels that is not calculatable because the township does not have all the information it needs. Barry said he could figure it out if the rec board could tell him what they actually paid. Phyllis stated the township has the receipt of what they paid. David Mills stated every receipt that the rec board has put out has come through the supervisors and approved by the auditors. Kurt stated his suggestion a couple months ago was to get a forensic account and get an accountant to go over everything where it all went. Barry went over the drawing with measurements that he did with Jim; extra piece on the parking lot 600 sq. ft. \$1,680, extra piece at the parking lot 420 sq. ft. \$1,176, tree fix 120 sq. ft. \$336, grill spot 105 sq. ft. \$294, the paving out from the gate to Paradise Road 1584 sq. ft. \$2,217.60, from the gate back toward the pavilions 1300 sq. ft. \$1,820; so according to the rec board minutes John was going to pay for the part coming down to the parking lot and the handicap spot; so he took the handicap spot off of the 60' x 60' which would be \$8,747.20; total paving was \$16,270.80. Barry said so the rec board paid \$16,485 just for the black top, this does not count the stone or prep work. Barry stated he is right in the ballpark so he doesn't know how else the rec board is going to come up with the amount they paid out to get there \$16,000 plus dollars unless they include the parking lot; which was part of the bid package and what John got paid the \$15,000 to pave. Phyllis stated maybe they need to get with Pavemaster's and go over this with them because they did both sections; one part was billed directly and the other part was billed to John. Barry advised both bills were made out to John, none of them were made out to Wheatfield Township or Wagner Park. Phyllis said the one check she wrote out was made to Pavemaster's. Someone asked, so the rec board paid \$16,485 and the bill was \$16,270 so were talking about \$200; Barry said no, that's what there trying to figure out what the rec board paid for. Vicki Jenkins stated the rec board should not have paid that because it was in the bid package. Phyllis said that's why the township needs to go back to Pavemaster's. Vicki said the rec board should not have paid for what the grant money should've paid for.

Phyllis said it didn't, there was other paving. Someone stated it's not being explained right; that it's 2 separate projects and that's what there not understanding. Vicki said yes, it was 2 separate projects; one by the rec board and one by the grant; they intermingled both of them and charged everything to the rec board instead of two separate bills one to John Weldon for the grant work and one for the extra paving to the rec board. Jeff Smith said so the rec board actually paid for the parking lot twice. Paul asked where the \$4,000 agreement came from and asked if that is part of what is being talked about. Barry said no, there just trying to figure out where the rec boards \$16,000 went and what the rec board paid to have paved. Phyllis asked when you add up all of the paving that was done what does that come to; does it just come to what the rec board paid John or was there more there. Someone asked did the township pay for part of the paving and the rec board also paid for paving. Jeff advised they paid for the parking lot twice. This person asked how much did the township pay for the paving. Barry advised the rec board paid for the paving; what was left after you take off the handicap spot is \$8,747.20 so the difference would be what John paid back (\$4,311) and this amount; total difference \$4,436. Phyllis asked again; there were two paving projects done if you combine all of the paving; is it still overpaid. Barry said we will combine all of the paving; \$16,270.80, the road down to the parking lot was \$2,520, the spot is \$1,332.80, so it comes to \$20,123.60 and the rec board paid \$16,000 something of that so what John has down in material prices for that was \$12,000 plus the \$16,000; Barry said Phyllis is asking for the total amount of black top. Phyllis said she wants what was included in the whole paving project. Barry asked if she wants him to include the stone and prep work. Phyllis stated the payments are being questioned so whatever those payments were supposed to cover for the project. Barry said he is just questioning the paving because the prep work and the stone is what it is; so, the bid package says full depth paving, access lane to pavilion and parking and then when you look at the plan it tells you a 60' x 60' parking lot; it tells you this and the grill and that is what John was supposed to pay for. Phyllis said right and then he explained at the meeting how there was other paving that was done and if that came from the grant then the \$16,000 paid for the other extra. Barry said but it doesn't add up. Phyllis said that night it did, the night John met with Barry, he showed him how it added up. Barry said no, John said how he thought it added up and then he told him how this added up and then John got mad and left. Phyllis said it did not go like that; John showed him and everyone seemed to understand but then you questioned it again; so maybe the next step is to talk to Pavemaster's. Kurt said it's going to be tough because John was contracted and he's not going to give you his cost's because he has to mark it up because that is his profit. Barry said he understands that and that's why he's asking. Bruce said you can't correct an illegal payment by saying he did more paving for more money and therefore there is a credit; the bid has to be followed strictly. Phyllis said and that's why John reimbursed the township the extra \$4,000. Bruce asked if the \$4,000 was for the paving he didn't do. Barry said yes. Kurt stated he was overcharged. Phyllis said he went over the plans so he reimbursed the township that back because he underbid it or something. Phyllis stated while they were paving John had extra paving done that needed done and that is what the rec board paid for separate. Bruce asked why wasn't the additional paving bid. Phyllis said that she does not know. David Mills said because the grant only specified up to a certain amount and if they would've had the additional paving under the grant that would've taken the rec board up to the next grant level; they were under a small community grant. Someone asked if the bid was over \$11,900 for the additional paving. Jim stated there was no bid. The person asked if the cost was over \$11,900; Barry said it was over \$16,000. The person asked if it was bid; Jim advised it was not bid. The person said under state law you cannot go over \$11,900 in a government without a bid. Jim said there was a mistake made. The person then asked if there were telephone bids. Phyllis advised there was, one from McNaughton and one from another one and thought that was in one of her minutes. Jim stated what do they do; hindsight perfect vision, do they go back somehow and make calls now. Barry said John stated he contact McNaughton and they were too high. Bruce said the remedy is the auditors could, if the auditors agree, they could surcharge the individuals who skirted the bid law. Phyllis asked for clarification. Bruce said they could surcharge the people who made the decision to not bid it; meaning it comes out of there pocket personally. Paul stated someone said the auditors okay it. Vicki asked if Bruce was talking about the township auditors or state auditors; Bruce said he is talking township auditors. Bruce said his suggestion was going to be to allow the township auditors to tear this thing apart and to determine to do the job they are responsible to do under the Second Class Township Code and to get to the bottom of it. Bruce said if they don't have the capability to do it then get a forensic accountant to assist them in to do their job, the forensic accountant does not have to take over the project but the auditors should have the tools available to them which may be a consultant forensic accountant to help them get through this and then let them come back with a report to the board as to what occurred. Bruce said that was his suggestion when they came to see him and at that point, they did not have the bank records but now they are available and can be turned over to the auditors. Bruce said the township could entirely farm it out to an accountant firm to do it.

Phyllis stated then that's more tax payer money. Bruce said that is the difficulty. Sue Flickinger (Township Auditor) stated what David Mills mentioned the auditors approved was the normal looking at bills and checks and that they don't go over every single thing. Sue said they did not have all of the information from what she understands and there is only 3 of them and none of them are experts. Sue said they agreed to do this job so the township was not stuck with not having auditors. Sue said she could try and get them together and see if they would do that, she doesn't know if they would feel comfortable. Vicki asked how this would work because it is a contractor's business so they cannot audit his business they can only audit what was through the township. Bruce said the first issue is the bid; to determine if the bid law was skirted and that they can clearly do, the second is try to ascertain what was spent and by whom and on what and try and match it up with what they know about these 2 projects. Barry said that is what he has done. Phyllis said that is what John tried to explain to Barry but he wasn't understanding what he was trying to say. Phyllis stated they are all volunteers and they put in a lot of time and David puts in a lot of time cleaning bathrooms at the park. Barry said and he is thankful and he thinks they do a great job; he just wants the money straight. Barry said nobody pushed everything else in the bid project that wasn't done. Kurt said it's implying there is malfeasance or there was overcharging by the contractor so were going to the next step and asked Barry if that is where he is heading and said you are not coming up with what the difference is and what the township is out of money. Barry said yes, he did, it was \$4,436. Paul asked Barry if this is something new from when they talked in July; Barry said yes. Barry said before he was fine with the whole thing, the township got some money back, until Jim called him and told him you do not look into this any further, if you do, he will tell everyone he is wasting township money and then John came in, and what he is tired of is being lied to, every time we try and talk about something he changes the story. Jim said to Barry so you say I called you and told you not to look into it any further; Barry said yes. Bruce said his recommendation is the auditors independently review this and if the auditors believe they don't have the professional capability or background then the auditors should come and request assistance from a CPA firm to help conduct the audit. Bruce said they may decide they know what's going on when they look at it. Bruce said the one thing he has heard the last hour is that no one really knows what happened and now is the time for the auditors to come in and try and figure it out. Bruce said he thinks it would be appropriate for a motion, if somebody is so inclined to make it, to request the auditors look at this issue and report back to the supervisors at the next meeting. Barry asked Bruce, would that mean he would turn over all of his paperwork to the auditors and asked if he would be able to explain everything to them or just turn over his paperwork. Bruce said Sue has been taking notes this whole meeting, he thinks the auditors will have to talk to the people on the rec board but if they need information from Barry they can ask as well and they can ask John Weldon as well, but he may not be willing to provide anything. Somebody said maybe the auditors should get all the documents on their own and see how much input they need from others rather than have other people in their ear telling them what they should be looking at. Bruce said the auditors are on their own, they can talk to anyone they want and make any inquiries they want to. Jim said so as far as Barry telling the auditors now John Weldon bid this and bid that because it's in the bid package; they would have to look at the bid package themselves. Jim said whether they have been lied to or not that is up for debate. Sue said she will contact the other two auditors and see if they are willing to do this because she is getting the impression that the auditors could say they don't want to do this and whatever the next step would be. Bruce said the auditors would come back to the board and say they feel they don't believe they have the capability, because they can't say they won't do it because they are under a statutory obligation, but if they don't believe they have the capability and they need assistance they come back to the board with that. Barry Schrope made a motion to request the auditors look into this situation and report back to the supervisors, Jeff Smith second the motion, Jim Fuller opposed. Phyllis said she would like to say something in John's defense because they are giving everybody the wrong impression; she said John is a good, honest, Christian man and he has kept his cool through this whole thing even with everyone yelling at him, so to say he has lied and then to give the lawyer the wrong impression and anybody else here the wrong impression. Barry stated if you want to get the minutes out, he can prove he lied. Kurt said that's saying it's malicious intent, someone could have misspoken and caught someone on the spot, it's not a deposition. Jeff said he can't believe anybody sitting in this room would be fine with the thought that somebody may have stolen from the township, whether he did or didn't, especially a supervisor sitting on the board is okay with he might have stolen it, he might not have, I'm not looking into it. Jeff said he thinks that is completely wrong; Jim said no. Kurt said the three setting up front is where the responsibility lies, they were not paying attention to how the funds were going out and everything. Jeff stated he said it month's ago and he ended up getting shut down because he was just after John so nobody wanted to hear it. Kurt asked if that was at a meeting, Jeff said yes, many meetings. Jeff stated every time he brought something up about the project, he was told he was just after John Weldon because he ran against him for

reelection. Barry said he will respond to the paying part; Barry said yes, it was all supposed to come out of one fund and that did not happen; the rec board paid two or three payments to John that did not come out of the funding it was supposed to be paid from. Jeff stated the rec board also bounced a check so there's multiple reasons to be looking into this. Phyllis stated the rec board has not bounced a check since she's been on the board. Sue asked Bruce if she contacts the auditors and she wants to meet with them to discuss this off the record to see if they are capable to do it, do they have to advertise a special meeting to do that or can she just do that with them. Bruce said if they are going to convene with all 3 at the same time it should be convened as a meeting, his suggestion would be that Sue has independent discussion with each of them first and then if there's a meeting it should be advertised. Phyllis asked who they would use for a CPA if the auditors couldn't do it. Bruce advised he could give the supervisors some recommendations.

Barry Schrope made a motion to approve the checks from the General Fund for the month of September. They were as follows:

6349 – 6380, 090123, 08-2023, 090723 and 008-2023

Jeff Smith second the motion to approve the checks, with all in favor.

There being no further business Barry Schrope made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins
Twp. Secretary