

# COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

## STOWE TOWNSHIP MEETING

April 11, 2023 7:00 pm

## STOWE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

555 BROADWAY AVENUE, MCKEES ROCKS, PA 15136

**ATTENDEES BOTH MEETINGS:** Commissioners K. Cropper-Hall; C. McDermott; D. Chestnutt (*voting only*); Solicitor B. Matta; Fire M. Chapman; Township Secretary R. Farls

**ATTENDEES WORKSHOP MEETING:** - Police M. Apicella, Engineer J. Marcink; Public Works D. Burkhart; Commissioner L. Parrilla; Commissioner D. Rugh

**ABSENT:** Police M. Preininger; D. Chestnutt (*from workshop meeting*); D. Rugh and L. Parrilla (*from voting meeting*)

The commissioners' meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Cropper-Hall with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for police, fire, EMS.

### COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

**Jeff Paul** – Asked when the meetings are going to be live streamed since we now have the new A/V equipment. President Cropper-Hall stated that we will not be live streaming the meetings.

### REPORTS

**FINANCE** – Commissioner Parrilla stated that finances are doing well. He spoke about what has been accomplished as board members including the overhaul of all the police vehicles as well as the public works vehicles. A lot of paving has been done on our roads. Somewhere from 60-100 houses have been demo 'ed and all of this was without raising taxes.

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Commissioner Rugh presented. Stated that 110 Caldwell was been emergency demo 'ed. The street sweeper schedule will be starting on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Derby and Penn Alleys paving will begin on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**POLICE** – R. Farls presented. A total of 357 calls for March were answered.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** – Fire Chief M. Chapman presented. On course to do 460 calls for 2023. For March 39 calls were answered. Hoping for approval to advertise and receive three (3) bids for the specs on a new fire pumper.

**ORDINANCE** – No report. President Cropper-Hall stated that Eddie took a job at the 9-1-1 center and we are working to outsource some of the ordinance issues to KLH. Still looking for a part time officer to handling rentals and trash, in addition to

now advertising for a full-time officer. DMC will be handling the collections of past due garbage invoices.

Garbage Ordinance changes will have R. Farls keep track; Chief Preininger to deliver first letter to address; 2<sup>nd</sup> letter sent to landlord. D. Burkhart will give bill to R. Farls to send out should cleanup by public works be done. This invoice will be sent to the landlord. Multiple ordinance violations, the owner will risk their rental permit being renewed. Violations can be as high as \$1,000. Currently they start at \$600, President Cropper-Hall would like to go directly to \$1,000 after the second offense. After that a citation would go down to Magistrate Boni's office. If not paid, a lien would be placed on the property.

President Cropper-Hall drafted two letters, one for tenant and one for landlord. Gary and Brad Matta, Solicitor is reviewing.

Parking violations – President Cropper-Hall stated that there have been numerous vehicles tagged, especially on Woodward. She would like to update the ordinance that after the third violation that the vehicle is either booted or towed. She asked Officer Apicella to have Chief Preininger look into the cost for the boots. Also stating that if a vehicle is being towed, the police would need to be with the towing company should issues arise. She also stated that whether the vehicle owner is paying the tickets issued or not, after three violations, the vehicle would be either towed or booted (should the Township use the boots).

**PLANNING COMMITTEE** – Did not meet in March or April. Next meeting is tentatively set for Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

**SOLICITOR** – B. Matta presented. Stated that 110 Caldwell has been demo 'ed. Mr. Tracy hearing is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup>. 81 Frazier has a mismarked lien that was placed on it years ago. This would be a one (1) year time period to be removed so that the property can be sold. B. Matta stated that this was a clerical error made.

**ENGINEER** – J. Marcink presented. El Grande won the bid to pave Erie and Glenn Way with a bid of \$51,783.40. Mobilizing will begin on April 18<sup>th</sup> with Penn and Derby moving right onto Erie and Glenn Way. Commissioner McDermott thanked Jeff for working on this grant extension to get it approved.

**OTHER BUSINESS** – President Cropper-Hall stated that there will be a summer clean-up help is in need of volunteers on Saturday, April 22, from 9am-1pm with pizza for all who help out.

President Cropper-Hall mentioned that Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> would be a safety day. She still needs to speak with Fire Board President R. Stewart concerning CPR training and with UPMC. More details to follow.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. [**Approve** / Deny] regular Board Meeting Minutes from the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting

Old Business to **APPROVE** item A - Motion made by Commissioner Chestnutt; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Cropper-Hall; all others approved all.

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. [**Approve** / Deny] to advertise and hire summer help for Public Works
- B. [**Approve** / Deny] ratification of accepting resignation of Edward Snyder as Ordinance Officer
- C. [**Approve** / Deny] to advertise and hire full time Ordinance Officer
- D. [**Approve** / Deny] to advertise and hire part time Ordinance Officer
- E. [**Approve** / Deny] Motion to award Contract 2023-01, Erie Street and Glenn Way Milling and Resurfacing to El Grande Industries in their bid amount of \$51,783.40
- F. [**Approve** / Deny] to advertise and solicitation of bids for new fire engine
- G. [**Approve** / Deny] motion to pay final lease payment on fire department 2019 Chevy Silverado utility truck for \$16,803.07
- H. [**Approve** / Deny] change garbage ordinance fee schedule
- I. [Approve / **Deny**] in purchasing Cyber Insurance
- J. [**Approve** / Deny] the ratification of an emergency demolition of 110 Caldwell
- K. [**Approve** / Deny] of removing a mismarked lien on 81 Frazier
- L. (**Informational**) National Day of Prayer Service (Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>) Faithbridge Community Church (possible street blockage for event)

New Business to **APPROVE** items A through L with a **DENY** for item I - Motion made by Commissioner Cropper-Hall; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Chestnutt; all others approved all.

**RECEIPTS**

	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
\$178,323.86	PA Dept of Trans	Liquid Fuels Tax Fund payment
\$ 2,935.00	Sto-Rox School	Crossing Guard Reimbursement
\$271,088.37	PA Municipal Services	Utility Sewage
\$ 5,687.86	Creditech	Collections - Delinquent Sewage
\$ 4,900.00	Exactuals LLC	Filming "American Rust" Reimbursement
\$337,576.38	Jordan Tax Service	Real Estate
\$ 1,633.06	Allegheny County	DUIs
\$ 3,031.35	Magistrate	Fines
\$ 18,533.27	Jordan Tax Service	LST
\$ 5,729.83	Jordan Tax Service	Mercantile

\$ 12,550.00	Stowe Businesses	Mechanical permits
\$ 4,700.00	Columbia Gas	Street Opening
\$ 500.00	Stowe Businesses	Junkyard

**[Approve / Deny]** motion to approve above receipt of March funds Totaling \$847,188.98  
 Motion by Commissioner Chestnutt; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Cropper-Hall; all others approved.

**III. LISTS OF BILLS**

A. Motion to approve payment of March, 2023 bills Totaling \$34,719.67

**[Approve / Deny]** motion to approve March, 2023 bills  
 Motion by Commissioner Cropper-Hall; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Chestnutt; all others approved.


**PRESIDENT COMMENTS**

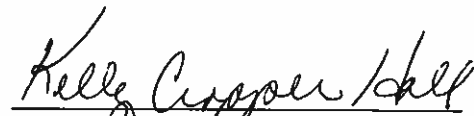
- 1) Thank you card received from DeFrancesco family for flower arrangement
- 2) Thank you letter sent to MacBid for their sweeper donation
- 3) Thank you letter received from F.O.R. for the Township's annual donation of \$500

At workshop meeting – prior to adjourning Commissioner Parrilla asked Commissioner McDermott again concerning the landslide. Commissioner McDermott stated she would not say anything without her attorney. After several words between the two, comments from the public attendees as well as the solicitor, President Cropper-Hall immediately adjourned the meeting.  
*Workshop meeting ended at 7:52pm Motion to adjourn 1<sup>st</sup> by Commissioner Parrilla; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Rugh, all approved.*

**VOTING MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Chestnutt; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Cropper-Hall to adjourn.  
 All approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:06pm

  
 Roberta L. Farls, Township Secretary

  
 Kelly Cropper-Hall, President  
 Stowe Township Commissioners