SANDY TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS SANDY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING 1094 CHESTNUT AVENUE, PO BOX 267 DUBOIS, PA 15801

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

~Amended~AGENDA

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD DECEMBER 4, 2023

Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes 12-04-23

TABLED BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Glenn O Hawbaker Pay Application \$1,159,964.26
- 2. Laugher Patel Developers, LLC Professional Services Agreement
- 3. The Fountains at DuBois Bond Reduction
- 4. Budget Resolution 37-2023
- 5. NEW Revisit Fire Chief Position

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

CORRESPONDENCE SENT

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 1. Tax Collector Report
- 2. Pennsafe Permit & Fee Report
- 3. Zoning Report
- 4. Public Works Department Report
- 5. Police Department Report
- 6. Fire Department Report
- 7. AmServ Report
- 8. Manager's Report

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

OPEN MEETING TO THE FLOOR

CLOSE MEETING TO THE FLOOR

PAYING OF BILLS

Checks written from December 5- December 18, 2023

	\$198,945.82	
Payroll # 25	\$ 101,075.92	
Police Pension Fund	\$ 3,871.00	
General Fund	\$ 93,998.90	

ADJOURN

SANDY TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS SANDY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING 1094 CHESTNUT AVENUE, PO BOX 267 DUBOIS, PA 15801

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Board Present: Staff Present:

William Beers Shawn Arbaugh, Manager

Barry Abbott Theresa Bracken, Secretary-Treasurer

Kevin A. Salandra Patrick Green-Zoning Officer

Mark Sullivan

Samuel Mollica Others: See sign in sheet.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Supervisor Sullivan made a motion to amend the agenda to include Item # 5 Revisiting the Fire Chief Position. Supervisor Sullivan stated that this motion was based on a letter received by the township that afternoon. Supervisor Abbott seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott – aye
Mark Sullivan – aye
William Beers – No

Kevin Salandra – aye

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD DECEMBER 4, 2023

• Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes 12-04-23

A motion was made by Supervisor Abbott that the minutes for the December 4, 2023 meeting be tabled until the next meeting in order for comments that he made at that meeting be added to the minutes. Supervisor Salandra seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott – aye
Mark Sullivan – aye
Kevin Salandra – aye

Samuel Mollica – aye
William Beers – aye

Motion carried.

TABLED BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Glenn O Hawbaker Pay Application - \$1,159,964.26

Manager Arbaugh stated, "We thought they did a great job this year and we always appreciate working with PennDOT, specifically Shawn Agosti who comes out, helps us inspect these folks as they're doing their work, and helps us with all of the MS forms that are required so I really appreciate his help."

A Motion was made by Supervisor Salandra and seconded by Supervisor Sullivan to pay the Glenn O Hawbaker Pay Application in the amount of \$1,159,964.26.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott – aye
Mark Sullivan – aye
Kevin Salandra – aye

Samuel Mollica – aye
William Beers – aye

Motion carried.

2. Laugher Patel Developers, LLC - Professional Services Agreement

Manager Arbaugh explained, "This is a professional services agreement between Laugher Patel LLC and Sandy Township, essentially what this does is this requires Laughner Patel to pay any professional consulting fees that we expend for their project, which is the charter school.

They did submit a \$1000 check for us to put in escrow as we pay Mike Haines review fees and other things that come in, we'll utilize that. If there's money left over, we'll return it to them. If there's additional money needed, we'll ask them to give us that. So I we just need approval of this agreement and for me to sign and execute the documents."

Supervisor Sullivan made a motion to accept the Laugher Patel Developers, LLC Professional Services Agreement. Supervisor Salandra seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott - aye

Samuel Mollica – aye William Beers – aye

Mark Sullivan – aye

Kevin Salandra – aye

Motion carried.

3. The Fountains at DuBois - Bond Reduction

The township received a bond reduction request from the fountains, actually they asked us to release the bond in its entirety. We authorized our engineer, Mike Haines, to go up and do a review of the project. He found that a majority of the project was done which included sewer water lines, stormwater management, and paving but one part still needs to be completed, which was the cul-de-sac so he recommended reducing the bond in the amount of \$206,061.00 on leaving \$39,644 in place until that cul-de-sac is completed.

Supervisor Sullivan made a motion to accept the bond reduction for the Fountains. Supervisor Salandra seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott - aye

Samuel Mollica – aye William Beers – aye

Mark Sullivan – aye

Kevin Salandra – aye

Motion carried.

4. Budget Resolution 37-2023

On this budget resolution the township had some overages and some funds that we didn't spend in certain budget items. Our workmen's compensation was over due to an audit, so we did bring in some money from other sources to compensate for that. Additionally, our computer system was taking money from a police line item that should have been coming from a different line item, so we did to have make an offset in there to justify those expenses.

Supervisor Sullivan made a motion to adopt Budget Resolution 37-2023. Supervisor Salandra seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott - aye

Samuel Mollica – aye

Mark Sullivan – aye

William Beers – aye

Kevin Salandra – aye

Motion carried.

5. Revisit Fire Chief Position

Supervisor Sullivan: I have asked Shawn to make copies of our past Fire Chief Ordinance and I would like to make a motion that we authorize him to advertise for our next meeting to reinstate the Fire Chief. If anyone has any additions or deletions to the current ordinance, I think we need to get them to Shawn. Was it 10 days prior to your meeting we need to advertise?

Manager Arbaugh: We have to advertise at least seven days prior to the meeting at minimum so that would be December 26th. But we yeah, if we wanted to make sure it got in, we'd want to get to the paper by the 20th, Wednesday the 20th.

Supervisor Mollica: So we can, just whenever we want to do these ordinances, we can just do them whenever we like it.

Manager Arbaugh: We have to advertise seven days prior and then it would be at a public meeting whether you wanted to adopt the ordinance or not. We do put the heading in the newspaper. We also provide the newspaper the full ordinance and then we have a copy here. So folks want to see it and comment on it. They would be able to.

Supervisor Mollica: And the Fire Departments we have now, they're independent of the Township.

Manager Arbaugh: We have four 501C3 fire companies that we have a contract with. So yes, they would be independent fire companies.

Chairman Beers: Individual contracts with each one.

Supervisor Mollica: So we could actually, if we wanted to bring DuBois in so that we could contract with one of them I mean, would that be legal?

Manager Arbaugh: We would have to dig into it.

Chairman Beers: You would have to go through, and you would have to make another ordinance with the other Municipality.

Manager Arbaugh: We do have contracts with the others. We would have to do some research on that, Sam.

Supervisor Mollica: And then they would get payments the same as the other fire. Companies.

Manager Arbaugh: We receive a certain fire tax. That money must be used for fire purposes, so it is specifically for fire purposes.

Supervisor Sullivan: Sam, right now the only contracts we have with anybody outside

of Sandy Township would be Mutual Aid Agreements.

Supervisor Mollica: Like Union Township doesn't have the equipment.

Supervisor Sullivan: If they had a big enough fire that they needed additional help they could call surrounding fire companies.

Chairman Beers: Yeah, Washington Township. We did one recently with Washington Township. Yeah, there's multiple in the tri-county area. I just want to know why this came back up again. We just voted on it. We voted at the board and you know, I know it was stated that it was all mine, but there were six members at the Board of Directors meeting and they could have tabled it there or anything and nobody said it word.

Supervisor Sullivan: They voted no.

Chairman Beers: They voted no, but they could have brought it back.

Supervisor Sullivan: Brought it back to whom?

Chairman Beers: Your own company if you wanted to. They had that option. They never brought no questions. It just seems to me that it's just like they didn't get your way and you just want to go with this now.

Supervisor Abbott: Well, my opinion is we were rushed, and I stated that. I felt it was here today, vote on it, move on and I didn't like that.

Chairman Beers: We always took recommendations from the board of directors.

Supervisor Abbott: I made a comment that I thought.

Chairman Beers: And the Board of Directors always did that.

Supervisor Abbott: Listen, Bill, I'm not part of the fireman, you know. Say what you want to say.

Chairman Beers: But I mean I know there's been a lot of, you know, back meetings here the last two weeks. You know, behind everybody's back, so. You do what you want. You want and it was already stated, you know, I'll just wait until Dick gets then we can make the motion so.

Supervisor Abbott: I think that's a very unfair comment.

Chairman Beers: I don't think it is.

Supervisor Abbott: I second Marks motion.

Supervisor Salandra: I have a question. There's been no new information that's come to light to me personally since we voted on this last time and there are several current and past fire chiefs here in the building. Can we get some input from everybody to see if there's anything that would maybe sway anybody's decision because at this point, I've been approached by two people in the last two weeks. One was a Brockway fireman that's been a fireman for probably 40 years, and he said that never made sense to me. I'm not sure why he did that, and the other was a life member of the Dubois Fire Department that said that it was a good move you guys made getting rid of the chief. He said that never made any sense. That's the only comments that I've had made to me in the past two weeks by anybody other than a conversation I had with Mark. So, if there's more information or things that weren't said, I guess I'd like to hear them now versus just taking another vote based on the same information.

Steve Dunlap: I've been a Fire Chief now for the past 30 years. I was solely for the Fire department chief for the longest time, and I've been three different terms as fire chief as you're saying, the Township and I've watched it dissipate with the activity. You know a lot of people wanting to be involved in doing the job, it takes a lot out of your life and doing the job the way it needs to be done if you're doing everything needs to be done with that. I don't have anything personally against Jason. It's time, you know. He's tearing apart the fire department. That's what it was, it's a power struggle and its tearing apart the fire department.

When asked if it takes a lot to do the job, how can you eliminate the job if it takes a lot to do it?

Steve Dunlap reponded: The fact of the matter is you have right now, each station on their own has six line officers at the fire station. You have three guys. Three officers-Chief, Deputy Assistant. Most of them have Captains and at least one or two Lieutenants. You're looking at five to six officers. They are an administrative position and then basically all the ordinance stated when you're in there, you're supposed to be setting up the training for the firemen. We put a full-time training officer in. He is unpaid but he does a great job. I read the paper last week or whenever it was out. Honestly, nitpicking back and forth, it doesn't do justice for Sandy Township or the Fire Department. And honestly, this should be something that we should be able to sit down and discuss with you people up there and not air dirty air out. You know, I mean, I can sit here and go on and on and sit here with every rumor that people have come up to me. It's not going to make any of us look good to do it.

Supervisor Abbott: That's why I brought up the comment that this should have been discussed you know, at various meetings, maybe an executive session with us, with the firemen and not bought and said we're voting on it right now. It's my opinion.

Steve Dunlap: But I honestly think you know. And I have nothing against you. Trust me, I just think it's going to look really bad for the fire department in this in this board right now, airing out everybody's dirty laundry and they go on and on. And I've got comments from the paper last time for people coming to me and saying what are you

people doing? What is this? Don't anyone know what they're talking about? Because all some of that stuff is contradicting and some people obviously don't know the operations of the fire department. And how we've been operating for the last, you know, so many years. I put a lot of time in my years, you know, going up through the ranks, being the President, reporting secretary everything you know and it's kind of funny, because when we really started fighting ourselves is when this whole consolidation started. There was one against one another and the only reason why I say that is because the fire committee was handpicked. Instead of, you know, it was brought up that we were all going to get the chance to put our names and then all of a sudden that fire committee was assigned. And that's what our fire department as a board and the chief position started going down and bringing the fire department down. And I think it needs to be changed. I mean, I think people need to sit down and talk instead of going behind one another and air it out and change some stuff going forward.

Supervisor Abbott: That didn't happen. At least I was not involved in discussions.

Larry Bickle: Yeah, all emotions aside. I'm in the national incident management system. We have to have span of control and we've lost that here with the loss of our chief. When we go to our call. I've been doing this for 40 years. Let's talk about what we've been doing for so long. You have a Fire Chief from 36 and a Fire Chief from 38 responding to a call. He's in charge of those people under span of control, three to seven people. Five would be ideal. So he's got his crew. They're working, they're doing whatever they're doing and they're entering a building, extracting the patient from the vehicle. Now you got public where the police come in. You have PennDOT coming, possibly EMS, for sure. Other entities under span of control. We need somebody to look over those three to seven entities that are coming. The one Fire Chief from the company cannot do that safely. So all emotions aside we need somebody at that capacity to overlook that incident and nationally we've been doing that for years. It's working good. So I recommend that we keep a Fire Chief, thank you.

Supervisor Mollica: How do places like in Lawrence Township, how do they do it?

Larry Bickle: Doing it nationally, doing it statewide, doing it county wide all over the country for the last 50 years, that's how it works. You have to have span of control everywhere I go. Oregon, Idaho, California. You have to have span of control. We can't have one person in charge of everything here. That's what's been going on. We have to have a chief. That's it. That's cut and dry.

Chairman Beers: You contradicted yourself there, Larry. One person. What it is is one person sets it up. But you have the other three companies that have chiefs too. That went to classes for NIMS. Everybody has their NIMS Class, National Incident Management System. Like Larry said. You use them. You use your resources, not one person can do everything totally. That's why there were only four company chiefs set up. That's where you need to have span of control.

Supervisor Salandra: And the other line officers have that ability too. If there's two or three that get there first from wherever W Sandy or Oklahoma.

Chairman Beers: We just had an incident the other day. Come in as a reported structure fire. It was a 36A box. I'm across town. He's on my side of town. He started setting up. He called on scene. A command so there is a chain and we've been doing that for years. And it's never changed, and it's span of control, but the thing is that's why we wanted to go back to the four because they're, like Steve said, is a lot of animosity and when this got started you know, it just went downhill.

Supervisor Abbott: So that animosity occurred within one month? That we've never had a discussion about? I still think we should have had a discussion. I still think we should open up for discussion and I think you know these people who do this daily. Do it yearly. Years and years and years, we should have a meeting and then maybe I get a better understanding.

Chairman Beers: I think it should be the four that have the signed contracts. One or two from each individual station that way you can see because they signed a contract with our municipality. Would you like that?

Supervisor Abbott: I seconded Marks motion.

Chairman Beers: Wait a minute. Marks motion to put it back up as an Ordinance and reinstate the chief? And you're saying you still want to talk about it.

Supervisor Abbott: We can do that but I still second Marks motion.

Supervisor Salandra: There is already a motion on the floor. Can we hear from the other two ex-fire chiefs?

Supervisor Sullivan: There's a lot more than what Steve brought up here too. I think it's important that somebody from the Township overseas, our mutual aid. Somebody be responsible for what units are out of the Township at one time. I guess I don't know how that would work.

After some discussion about the current procedures of the fire companies, the question was asked to repeat the motion. This would be a new ordinance reinstating the chief's position.

A Motion was made by Supervisor Sullivan and seconded by Supervisor Abbott to advertise an ordinance reinstating the Fire Chief.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott – aye

Samuel Mollica – aye

Mark Sullivan – aye

William Beers - No

Kevin Salandra -No

Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

CORRESPONDENCE SENT

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 1. Tax Collector Report
- 2. Pennsafe Permit & Fee Report
- 3. Zoning Report
- 4. Public Works Department Report

Yeah, just a couple things I want to put out for public works. Sewer work crews have been working well on Phase 2 Kiwanis Trail. Also, some leak detection. We've been doing that anytime we have down time. We're short on guys. Anything along those lines. We're all trying to find leaks. They also just replaced a bunch of equipment at our pump stations. We've had a couple issues, nothing major. We've caught it in time, but we've had to replace some things with the pump station. Additionally, just wanted to let you know the Road crew has been grading on Gamelands Rd. that got beat up pretty bad over hunting season. So we were out last week to get that back in shape. They're trying a different process that seems to last more than a month or two. We have a goal to do a lot better on that roadway, but the Road is so hard it's hard to get the material to stay in place especially with some of the speeds that folks travel on it. We have a grant application in for next year for stormwater and the following year we'll do the DSA material on it, which should be the ultimate solution.

Also at the park, we've been doing some upgrades up there. We now have doggy pots, which look fantastic and are been used and so we're excited about that. Additionally, we'll have the Gaga ball pit installed before spring.

We have the trucks ready for snow, so we're kind of watching the weather for tonight. But we have a crew coming in early tomorrow morning to make sure the morning commute is safe for our residents. Last, I just want to let you know we did get a bunch of shale for free. Really good shale material. So we did take advantage of that.

- 5. Police Department Report
- 6. Fire Department Report
- 7. AmServ Report
- 8. Manager's Report -

We are going to submit a RAC grant application for sanitary sewers on industrial drive. So, we have partnered with Clearly Ahead development. There was an appropriations bill that came out several years ago and Clearly Ahead had some light items in there that we can Piggyback on to submit our project. So, we're hopeful to get that in and get that awarded. Just want to let you know that we have that going on right now. I wanted to thank Oklahoma Fire Department. Today they did a meatball luncheon like they have traditionally for the public works, police and administrative staff, and we really appreciate it. I know myself. I ate about 50 meatballs. So thank you guys.

Last thing I did want to let you know, we did submit a scoping application for a Green Light GO grant. That's kind of the first step in the process for grant application for the

Brady and Dixon Traffic Light intersection. That intersection needs a lot of work. It's not a great traffic pattern right now down there. It is a significant project due to the complexity of that intersection. Additionally, there's no curb ramps so we have a lot of work to do there. We're hopeful to get that grant application through, but I want to let you know we did submit at least a scoping application which is the first phase of that grant. Oh, I'm sorry. One more thing. I want to let everybody know we do have one item that wasn't auctioned off. That is the recycling truck, if anybody likes to haul trash or recyclables and wants to start their own business, please. Our auction ends December 29th. But it's a good truck. It's sitting outside if you want to look at it.

Supervisor Sullivan made a motion to receive and file administrative reports. Supervisor Salandra seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott – aye Mark Sullivan – aye Samuel Mollica – aye William Beers – aye

Kevin Salandra – aye Motion carried.

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

<u>Supervisor Abbott</u>- Can we go back a second, I have a question about the fundraising campaign that we all got a letter. Is that like a moot point? Is all that fund sitting in an account?

Chairman Beers: I'll tell you what, Barry, I've got the chairman of the fundraising committee right there.

Supervisor Abbott- Has any of that money been dispersed? Is it sitting in an account? I don't know anything about that?

Pat Gearhart: When the fundraiser goes out, everything comes back into the Township. It's in our general fund. And then after there, once everything's in, then it gets split up. I'll add to that some of that's being held to help offset the cost of our new air packs that we have coming. There's a cost for each fire department, so some of those funds will most likely be used to offset that cost as well.

Chairman Beers: In the correspondence that you received it stated that it was up to the four chiefs and Shawn to disperse it like we usually do.

Supervisor Sullivan: But that is coming to the Township Building now?

Chairman Beers: It is coming to out PO Box.

Supervisor Sullivan: When you said township I thought you meant the township.

Chairman Beers: No, it comes to a township box that we have.

Supervisor Abbot: So it has not been dispersed yet?

Chairman Beers: Four companies still make that decision.

Supervisor Abbot: Thanks. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and my Christmas wish to you is that we start consolidation sooner than later. Hopefully come the new year, We start talking consolidation I know we're behind the 8 ball with looking for a few documents, but I think there's more to consolidation than those documents and I think we need to move faster. So Merry Christmas. And that's my wish to the people of DuBois and Sandy Township.

Supervisor Sullivan: What Barry said about consolidation, I think we're ready to hit the ground running next year. I'm glad that the board agreed to take a look at a new ordinance regarding the Fire Chief. That is all.

Supervisor Salandra- So yeah, so I'd like to thank the residents of the Township for allowing me to serve for six years. Served with quite a few different supervisors over that term since Marks the only one that's still here from when I started. Enjoyed working with some of them. Others not quite as much. I think we've got a lot accomplished. We've got a lot of new hires here, several that are sitting at this table doing a great job for the Township and couple of promotions that people that aren't in the room right now. So I think we've done a lot. I think we've accomplished a lot. Shawn and I were negotiating with both Unions. We were able to do two union contracts in the last four years without going to arbitration. Which was not the past history, so I hope that can continue and I think we did a good job moving forward with consolidation, but I guess to caution what the other guy said, I think we've also done a good job by slowing down because we don't want to bring things on our citizens as a result of alleged acts in another community and we want to make sure that we're doing things the right way. That we don't do things that are going to be the detriment of our residents, and I guess that's my Christmas wish which is a little bit different than Barry's is I want to make sure we continue to protect the residents of Sandy Township. So I guess my last comments. My last meeting. Thanks everybody.

Supervisor Sullivan- Something I wanted to share with everyone here tonight. You may not remember, but Kevin was instrumental in making sure that we still have public works or I guess I should say a water and sewer authority. It was almost to the point where that was going to go to a private company, but Kevin helped immensely in turning that around.

Supervisor Mollica - I just want to wish that we continue to work on the fire company business and just continue having talks so that we can work through this chief /no chief type situation and consolidation. I'm anxiously waiting. 2026 can't get here soon enough so like I said I'm all for it and when it gets going so and I think we can work through the

legalities that are still waiting. Thank Kevin for all. I only almost threw a microphone at you one time. That's true.

Chairman Beers: No, I just like to thank you too. Yeah, I know it's been three years. Got a lot done in the last three years, you know, and you're always a straight shooter. Standup guy. So, wish you the best on your businesses.

OPEN MEETING TO THE FLOOR

Jason Runyan: I don't know if any of you guys know it's the sag and the intersection of Oklahoma and Maple Ave. just past where the paving ended. There's a divide in the road now it's it used to be on one side, but now it spans the hole road.

A question was asked about the heavy towing contract in the township. Manager Arbaugh stated that the two and a half year contract was just recently awarded but the township is aware of the issue and is working on it.

CLOSE MEETING TO THE FLOOR

PAYING OF BILLS

Checks written from December 5- December 18, 2023

General Fund	\$	93,998.90
Police Pension Fund	\$	3,871.00
Payroll # 25	_\$	101,075.92
		\$198,945.82

Supervisor Sullivan made a motion to pay bills for the General Fund in the amount of \$93,998.90, the Police Pension Fund in the amount of \$3,871.00, and Payroll # 25 in the amount of \$101,075.92. Supervisor Salandra seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Motion carried.

Barry Abbott – aye
Mark Sullivan – aye
Kevin Salandra – aye

Samuel Mollica – aye
William Beers – aye

ADJOURN

Supervisor Salandra made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Sullivan seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Barry Abbott – aye
Mark Sullivan – aye

Samuel Mollica – aye William Beers – aye

Kevin Salandra – aye

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Bracken
Secretary Treasurer