**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of October 12, 2020**

**West Pennsboro Township Building**

Larry Barrick called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

SPEAKERS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of September 14, 2020 were approved on a Sangialosi/Croutch motion.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The September 30, 2020 bank balances were as follows: Checking $3,058.77 Savings $30,552.56 and Regional Code MMA $209,576.61. West Pennsboro Township earned $1,899.24 for UCC building permit administration in September, the WCCOG earned $474.81 for the same period. The October Bill List of $31,633.31 approved on a Martin/Sangiolsi motion which carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

No report.

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Jean Foschi, Cumberland County Commissioner, indicated the County is busy preparing for the November election. It is essential that there is a fair and accurate election.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Marcus McKnight reported that sadly his father recently passed away at 95 years old. Everyone expressed their condolences,

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Big Spring School District –** Madison Barrick reported the District is six weeks into the Hybrid Model that consist of an A/B Schedule for most of the students. Students with unique needs attend school 4 or 5 days a week and Kindergarten students attend a half-day every day. Families were given three choices in how they engage in schooling. 2000 students attend face to face, 263 students livestream, and 186 students are attending Big Spring Cyber School. Families are doing a tremendous job with the protocols the District has in place and no COVID cases have resulted from school exposure. There is thermal scanning in place at each building. Everyone must wear a mask and/or shield. There have been five confirmed student cases, three confirmed staff cases, and two confirmed other cases. Hopefully as early as mid-November elementary schools will be back to students attending at least four days a week and by late January secondary level will be back as well.

**Cooke Township** – Pat Sangialosi mentioned the Township road crew has been trimming trees along the roadways and spreading stones. They plan to replace the footbridge in Laurel Park. They sold their 2006 GMC dump truck. The proceeds will be used to buy four tires for the loader and four tires for another Township truck. The BOS will be having a budget workshop meeting on October 22nd.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick said that the BOS approved the draft budget and the final adoption date has been advertised. Staff was directed to begin updating the Comprehensive Plan and provide input to the Board. The road crew with the assistance of Penn Township will be black topping a few spots on various township roads. The 2021 road projects are in the planning phase,

**Lower Frankford Township** – David Bachman reported that the Township is finishing up its SALDO rewrite. The PC will be holding a public meeting on Wednesday, October 21st at 5PM. The road crew is finishing up for the year. Alpha Space did the line painting. The Township was finally able to take three loads of recycling to Diller’s Transfer Station.

**Newville Borough** – Mike Croutch mentioned it has been a quiet month in the Borough. The Zoning Ordinance rewrite is moving along quickly, and the new ordinance could be adopted by the end of the year. There is a party seriously interested in purchasing the ribbon mill. If new use is approved, this would be an incredibly positive step in revitalizing the Borough.

**North Newton Township** – Mike Gutshall said the Township completed its fall cleanup. Alpha Space finished up their line painting. The road crew has been sealing cracks on various township roads. They installed a guide rail on Running Pump Road. The Weaver hog barn has received its final approval from the court system. Construction will be beginning soon. The Township has been working on the 2021 budget.

**Mount Holly Borough** – Troy Russell reported the Borough recently found out that PennDOT will be milling and repaving Baltimore Avenue from Hill Street to Route 174. The timing of this news is very unfortunate because they recently finished all the ADA ramps on Baltimore Avenue. The Borough recently hired another part-time police officer. The 2021 budget is almost complete. The codification process will be starting soon. The playground equipment installation and the dog park project are moving along. The dog park was funded by a DCED Grant. It will include separate areas for large and small dogs.

**Penn Township** – Gary Martin mentioned the 2021 budget has been advertised for adoption. The SALDO, Zoning Ordinance, and Comprehensive Plan updates are almost complete, thanks to a $15,280 grant from Cumberland County. The BOS plans to abandon the dirt portion of two Township roads, Gettle Road and Shaeffer Road. The Township is partnering with the District Magistrates office and installing a fire alarm system to work in conjunction with the existing surveillance system already installed at the office. Schlusser’s Paving will be paving the Township parking lot later this month. The newly formed parks and recreation committee applied for and received a $70,000 grant which will be used to fix up the park. A new red light was installed on Route 233 at the entrance to the warehouses. The first tenant is FedEX, who plans to hire 900 to 1000 employees.

**West Pennsboro Township** – Evelyn Swartz reported the Township is finalizing its update to the SALDO. The zoning ordinance will be updated with Cumberland County grant monies. Evelyn stressed to those who participate in WCCOG’s MIDA building permit process, all plans needs be turned in with a drawing. If residents have questions concerning what needs included on the drawing, Paul Rampula is in the office two mornings a week.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m. on a Martin/Sangialosi motion.

Respectfully submitted by Karen M Heishman, Administrator/Secretary/Treasurer.

October 12, 2020

WCCOG Attendance Record:

Jean Foschi, Cumberland County Commission

Madison Barrick, Big Spring School District

Pat Sangialosi, Cooke Township

Larry Barrick, Dickinson Township

David Bachman, Lower Frankford Township

Troy Russell, Mount Holly Borough

Mike Croutch, Newville Borough

Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township

Gary Martin, Penn Township

Evelyn Swartz, West Pennsboro Township

Peter Conlow, MDIA

Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator