

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

ED BARZESKI, Chairman  
BOB AMISTADI  
SUE KONVOLINKA  
PAUL PIOLI  
KYLE SHAFFER

**OTHERS**

DAVID A. RAHO, Shahade & Shahade Solicitor  
JOHN BLAKE, Chief of Police  
ALICE HUMMEL, Executive Twp. Secretary  
MEGAN STASKO, Assistance Twp. Secretary  
CHASE MODIC/TOM KAKABAR, The EADS Group

**OTHERS:** John Barbadaes, Jeff Boback, Jamie Eckenrod, John Heider, David Hill, Karen Hill, Lynn Kassander, Bonnie Kindya, Dennis Kindya, John Klanchar, Jim Peters, Jeremy Petrick, Tim Reitz, Russ O' Riley, Shanna Murphy Sasko, Sierra Smay, Mark Walker, Brenda Ward, Joe Ward, Lisa Wagerer, Dan Zakraysek

**CHAIRMAN BARZESKI CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM, FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Ed Barzeski addressed John A. Klanchar regarding his refusal to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, although he exercises his use of his constitutional rights. Ed Barzeski, speaking as a veteran, indicated many people fought and came home with that flag draped over their coffins to allow him that freedom for him to be able to have those rights. John Klanchar thanked him for giving him that right.

Chairman Ed Barzeski then addressed all video recording must be done in the designated video section at the back of the room. Mr. Klanchar indicated his video was located in the back. Dave Hill was questioned regarding the body cam he was wearing and was asked to move to the designated area, to which he complied. John Klanchar was asked if he was also wearing a body camera and was warned if he didn't move to the designated area he would be removed from the meeting. John Klanchar refused to respond or answer any questions. Chairman Barzeski ordered Chief Blake to have John Klanchar removed from the meeting. Mr. Klanchar was escorted from the meeting by the Upper Yoder Police.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Kyle Shaffer moved; Bob Amistadi seconded to approve the agenda, as submitted.  
**MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Kyle Shaffer moved; Paul Pioli seconded to approve the Minutes of the January 18, 2024 Regular meeting, as submitted. **MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

**PERSONS REQUESTION TO BE ON AGENDA**

**David B. Hill, 248 Meadow Drive** - David Hill, reiterates his frustrations with the Township not handling the complaints made on Sept 7<sup>th</sup>. He also states his frustrations with Police Chief John Blake. He indicated he will run for supervisor to replace Paul Pioli. He stated Meadow Dr. is unsafe for anyone walking. He then addresses Paul Pioli by saying his grandson almost got killed on that road due to speeding, Supervisor Paul Pioli told Dave Hill, to keep his family out of this, shouting broke out between both parties. The 3-minute ruling was called.

**Shannon Murphy Sasko - Cambria County Planning Commission**

Ms. Sasko requested Upper Yoder Township consider developing a regional multi-municipal comprehensive plan. To use the type of funding which would be the municipal assistance program for the State to fund, where they would prefer it be multi-municipal effort, in order to make the application more competitive and present a lower cost involved as it would be shared between the municipalities.

Southmont Borough is willing to participate and she spoke with Westmont Borough who is receptive to the idea. She will be contacting Lower Yoder Township as well, in hopes for a better outcome as a multi-municipal effort. Ms. Sasko indicated she would like to meet with the Board of Supervisors on a smaller setting to further discuss. She provided information packets to each of the supervisors.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (Personnel & Legal)**

The Board Convened into Executive session at 7:08pm.

The Board reconvened at 7:42pm, with no decisions being made.

**APPROVAL OF REPORTS**

Sue Konvolinka moved; Kyle Shaffer seconded to approve the reports, as submitted.

**MOTION CARRIED 5/0**

**APPROVAL OF GENERAL FUND BILLS -\$63,783.95**

Paul Pioli Moved; Sue Konvolinka seconded to approve the General Fund Bills, in the amount of \$63,783.95

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Paul-aye, Sue-aye, Ed-aye, Kyle-aye, Bob-aye**

**APPROVAL OF OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES- 117,154.84**

Sue Konvolinka Moved; Bob Amistadi seconded to approve other Fund Expenditures, in the amount of 117,154.84.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Bob-aye, Kyle-aye, Ed-aye, Sue-aye, Paul-aye**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**ENGINEERS REPORT** - Chase Modic, The EADS Group, addressed the Board regarding the Elim St. Playground. Chase requested the final bill for the Elim playground equipment be paid in the amount of 89,012.00 to Recreation Resource USA.

Kyle Shaffer moved; Paul Pioli seconded to pay Recreation Resource USA in the amount of 89,012.00 as final invoice for the playground equipment and installation.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

**TELEPHONE/COMPUTER SYSTEM**

Kyle Shaffer moved; Bob Amistadi seconded to accept Laurel Net Services Option #1, to upgrade our current phone system and add an additional phone as needed for \$1,400.00 with a monthly charge of \$200.00. **MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

Kyle Shaffer indicated computer system upgrades will be tabled at this time.

Kyle Shaffer thanked the Board for the opportunity for several of the Township Officials to attended a PSAT's Workshop a few weeks ago, and in moving forward hopes to be able to use what is learned back to the betterment of the Township.

**RADON TEST KITS**

Sue Konvolinka announced Radon test kits, provided by PaDEP, through the American Lung Association, will be available to the Township within the next several weeks. Residents should monitor the Township website, as to the arrival and distribution process of the kits, which will be available to Upper Yoder Twp. residents only, on a first come, first serve basis.

**ZONING ORDINANCE - SOLAR FARMS**

Sue Konvolinka moved; Bob Amistadi seconded, to amend the current Zoning Ordinance, to add a solar farm ordinance, including regulations, construction, operations and decommissioning. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

**CORRESPONDENCE**

David Hill certified letter February 1, 2024 - No comments were made.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2024 Spring & Fall Election use of facility at 110 Sunray**

Ed Barzeski moved; Kyle Shaffer seconded, to approve the use of the facility at 110 Sunray Drive for the 2024 Spring and Fall elections. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

**BANKING**

Sue Konvolinka moved; Ed Barzeski seconded, to invest in 2 Certificate of Deposits at Slovenian Savings and Loan. Both CD's will be for \$50,000.00, with one for 7 months at 5.125% interest and the other being for 13 months at 4.678% interest.

MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

**Payment Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission Central**

Paul Pioli moved; Sue Konvolinka seconded the Township's payment to Westmont Hilltop Recreation Commission Central in the amount of \$25,635.00 MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

**Spring 2024 Road Inspection**

Paul Pioli moved; Bob Amistadi seconded the Supervisors meet for the spring road inspection, March 22, 2024 at 5:00pm. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

**Resignation of Full-Time Police Officer Autumn Cassler**

Paul moved; Bob Amistadi seconded the resignation of Full Time Police Officer Autumn Cassler and thanked her for her service to the Township. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0

**Police Chief Contract - Tabled**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Dan Zakraysek thanked the Board of Supervisors for the improvements at the Elim Street playground, especially the new walking track and pickleball courts.

**ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Humane Society of Cambria County Letter** - Paul Pioli advised the Humane Society of Cambria County has returned the township's check in the amount of \$4,100.00 and are discontinuing their service contract with Upper Yoder and other municipalities at this time, due to the overabundance of animals they have at the shelter. Chief Blake indicated Chief Pollino of Stonycreek Township, is in the process of starting up a service but is unaware as to the current status at this time.

**Victim Services Letter** – Victim Services thanked Chief John Blake for being a highly active participant within their agency, stating he provides education, resources and has been proactive in positive communication with their agency.

**Heritage Ridge Thank You Card** – Heritage Ridge sent a thank you card for locating a resident that was missing.

**ADJOURNMENT TIME:**

Sue Konvolinka Moved; Kyle Shaffer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm  
MOTION CARRIED 5/0

Respectfully Submitted,



Alice E. Hummel  
Executive Secretary