



TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL



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Consulting Engineers
JOHN F. GROSS, ESQ., *Solicitor*
TINA J. KOREN, *Treasurer*

SUMMARIES OF AGENDA ITEMS

ORDINANCES

Bill No. 24-2024 – The Township seeks to approve the lowest responsible bid for replacement of the flooring in the Whitehall Senior Center Building. After two unsuccessful attempts to bid the work, the Township utilized the Co-stars bidding process for vendor selection. The contractor previously performed work in the Municipal Complex construction. Budget Amount - \$16,000, Project Cost - \$28,035. Funding \$16,000 from Capital Reserve Fund, \$12,035 from District 4 Recreation Escrow.

Bill No. 23-2024 – The Township seeks to approval to subcontract collection of Business Privilege Taxes to HA Berkheimer. The commission percentage is 2.25%, or approximately \$41,000 (based on 2023 Collections). The proposal is supported by the Whitehall-Coplay School District, our Treasurer and the Administration. With Tax Office staff combining with Berkheimer's resources, all parties believe we can capture additional businesses and unreported revenue. As of July 2023, \$141,595.65 in taxes were unpaid and delinquent. Berkheimer has legal resources to secure payment of delinquent taxes (which we presently have limited means). Securing delinquencies alone would pay for the commissions of Berkheimer for the duration of the contract. The company has a decade long history of collecting Whitehall Earned Income Tax (which has grown from \$4.8 million to \$8.3 million in 11 years), and successful collection of Local Services Taxes.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 3320 – Developer seeks land development approval for the addition to the existing Hometown Auto Spa, located at 3318 Seventh Street.

Resolution No. 3328 – The Resolution permits the Township to apply for \$154,000 of grant funding to repave the Ironton Rail Trail loop and install security gates at key intersections by streets in the Township and Borough of Coplay.

Resolution No. 3329 – The Developer seeks Major Subdivision and Land Development approval for the construction of a townhouses on the property located at 3229 North Front Street in the Hokendauqua section of Whitehall Township

Resolution No. 3330 – Board is to consider settlement agreement for the property of 2401 MacArthur Road (Five Guys/Salad Works/etc.) and it pertains to Real Estate Tax Assessments. The settlement reduces the assessed valuation by \$1,110,800 in 2024 and \$799,700 in 2023, and would require tax refunds amounting to \$5,866.35.

MOTIONS

Motion – The Board considers the release of escrowed funds for projects that have either been completed by the developer or withdrawn for consideration.

Motion – To appoint Pedro Jose as an alternate to the Whitehall Township Zoning Hearing Board.

Motion – To appoint John Cool to the Ironton Rail Trail Oversight Committee.

Motion – To appoint Janet Minnich to the Whitehall Township Environmental Advisory Council.

Motion – To appoint Deb Rosene to the Whitehall Township Shade Tree Committee.

Motion – To appoint Karen Poshefko to the Whitehall Township Shade Tree Committee.

Motion – To appoint Janet Minnich to the Whitehall Township Shade Tree Committee.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Lee Rackus seeks to bring the Board current information regarding the Keystone Communities Grant. As of note, Whitehall Township has committed \$50,000 in the 2024 Budget to address community blight.

Commissioner Ken Snyder Jr., seeks to discuss the status of the former Whitehall Police Station property. As of note, the Township was unsuccessful in obtaining an acceptable bid for the sale of the property earlier this year. The Administration has had the property appraised again to obtain a more accurate value.

Commission Snyder seeks to discuss further the appointment of Berkheimer for collection of Business Privilege Taxes. This agenda item coincides with Bill 23-2024.

Commissioner Snyder seeks to discuss updating of the Township website. As of note, the Township has been gathering information necessary for updating the website. This includes future requirements necessary for ADA compliance.

Commissioners Snyder and Warren seek to discuss the construction of an access ramp from the walkway to the open-air pavilion.