ATTENDANCE:
- Supervisors; Chairman Gregory Hoeper, Vice-Chair George C. Fluhr, Supervisor, Keith Raser, and Solicitor, Jason Ohliger, Secretary, Diana Blume and all other on the attached list.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:30

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board on November 8, 2018, made by, Vice-Chair Raser, second by Supervisor Fluhr, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:
- Motion to approve the list of expenditures for November 2018, made by, Vice-Chair Raser, second by Supervisor Fluhr, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TREASURERS REPORT:
- Motion to approve Treasurers’ Report for November 2018, made by, Supervisor Fluhr, second by, Vice-Chair Raser, motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION:
- Roger Saumaur: No meeting for the Month of November due to inclement weather. Next meeting will be in January to begin working on zoning revisions.

SOLICITORS REPORT
- Appeal State Office of Open Records from Joe Zenes – Township will be responding to the Appeal and the Second item is the Solicitor was requested by Chairman Hoeper to prepare a Resolution to Disband the Police Department.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
- Reorganization Meeting will be held on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 12:00pm

OLD BUSINESS:
- Open Multi Road Project Bids. Two bids were received: E.R. Linde Bid: $937938.07 Waco, Inc., Bid: $915550.46
- Motion to accept Waco’s bid subject to Solicitors Review, made by Chairman Hoeper, second by Vice-Chair Raser, motion carried.
• Bid for Parker’s Glen Dirt & Gravel Project: Motion to accept Waco's Bid in the amount of $79,983.31. Waco was the only contactor to Bid. Made by Vice-Chair Raser, second by Supervisor Fluhr, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:
• Kirk, Summa & Company Service Contract: Motion to sign annual contract made by Supervisor Fluhr, second by Vice-Chair Raser, motion carried.
• Motion to move proceeds of Wayne Bank PIB Loan to PLGIT Account, made by Chairman Hoeper, second by Supervisor Fluhr, motion carried.
• Donations to the local Food Pantries: Motion to donate $200.00 to St. Jacobi’s and St. Ann’s Food pantry, made by Vice-Chair Raser, second by Supervisor Fluhr, motion carried.
• Shohola Police Department: Solicitor Ohliger opened the discussion by reading the Resolution to Disband the Police Department.

Discussion:
John Hahn: Asked the Board if there will be a public hearing on the issue of disbanding the Police Department. Solicitor Ohliger advised Mr. Hahn that it has been announced that this meeting will serve as a public meeting to discuss this issue. Mr. Hahn requested that this issue be postponed so others could comment on this decision.

Maryann Yeaw: Question is why disband? She wanted to know why a formal notice was not mailed to every resident. She further stated that the Board was jumping the gun. Solicitor Ohliger advised that there has been a lengthy ongoing discussion about addressing the ambulance problem and the Township is required to provide reliable service to the Township but is not legally required to provide police services. Ms. Yeaw wanted to know if funding was a problem, why cut this department now. She further stated that we were trading one service for another. Solicitor Ohliger reiterated that the problem with the ambulance has only come about in the past year where this decision was necessary. Solicitor Ohliger further stated that there is nothing we can do in terms of funding for an ambulance with having a police department utilizing 20% of our budget. We have to contribute towards the ambulance. We are only able to legally put a half mill tax on the

Carrie Thomas: Addressed the board by voicing her support to their position to disband the Police and investing in reliable ambulance services. Ms. Thomas also asked how many paid days off does the Chief get. She further stated that if you want to know what’s going on in the neighborhood, you must attend the Township meetings. She

Greg Knight: Advised the Board that Shohola is a safe place to be because of Scott Carney. He commented that he would prefer to have both services not get rid of one service to gain another.

Omar Brown: Asked what level of uptake will be from the State Police since Shohola is disbanding the Police Department. He further asked if anyone has spoken with the State Police about this.

Aaron Robinson: Stated that the Police Department is a legacy of the River Management Plan and Shohola established it on the onset with Federal funding and it was funded for many year most of its entirety by the Federal Government. The funding was curtailed from almost 100% down to 30% and in 2011 it went down to $4500.00. In 2012 it was cut completely. Shohola no longer qualifies for funding since we do not have public access to the Delaware River from Shohola. Shohola set up this department to address the
participation in the River Management Plan. There were other towns that had police departments such as Lackawaxen Township, but when the funding stopped they disbanded their Police Department. It’s a great service but as a tax payer and resident we all have to look at value and cost benefit valuation and he commended the supervisors for looking at that and determining that the ambulance service was more important. He feels our resources should be focused on the ambulance.

Bruce Baker: Thanked Supervisor for the work that he has done in terms of the ambulance service. Mr. Baker wanted to know if there was any consideration of looking at other communities for a multi-municipal police department. He was informed by the Board that the Township was in talks with Lackawaxen Township about doing a multi-municipal township police department but they did not want to pay what it would cost to have shared police.

Don Worzel: commented that he feels ambulance service was more important than police. He stated he did not feel the police have done enough in the past 15 years to justify its existence.

Robert Myers: Mentioned that during a meeting with Scott Maciak from Municipal Services, Mr. Maciak did mention that several other towns are disbanding their police for the exact same reason.

John Graber: Asked the question if there will be any residual expenses with disbanding such as pension, etc.; Secretary Blume advised that the Township will not fund his pension since it is a State funded pension.

Shirley Masuo: stated that she agreed with the decision about disbanding the police because the ambulance service is more important. She further stated that she didn’t feel we are getting the bang for our buck with the police department.

Frank Ciefero: Stated he has lived here since 2002 and found that there is very little benefit from our Police force in Shohola. Even though it is a comfort to have them, but I don’t see them out and about other than sitting here at the Township building.

Tom Fluhr: stated that Lackawaxen did have a police officer and once the funding was gone, they got rid of the police and never hired anyone else. They have a larger population and have not suffered from not having a police officer.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-07 (Disbanding the Police Department), made by Chairman Hoeper, second by Supervisor Fluhr, motion carried.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD
- Road Department- We are cleaning ditches and culverts preparing for the winter. Also, working on getting trucks ready for snow.
- Park Committee – Diana advised the Board that the Decoration Workshop was a success with 31 letters to Santa.
- Fire Department – 8 Fire Calls in the month of November. Chief DeGroat asked the community to be sure to plow out their dry hydrants
CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from District Attorney, Ray Tonkin, requesting funding from the Township in order to fund the County Drug Task Force to combat the opioid crisis. They are requesting $1.00 per resident in each Township. Motion to table made by Vice-Chair Raser, second by Supervisor Fluhr, motion carried. Motion to send a letter to the DA requesting more information on the Drug Task Force, made by Supervisor Fluhr, second by Vice-Chair Raser, motion carried.

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS:

Supervisors Fluhr: Stated that over the past year the Supervisors have worked hard to keep taxes down and try to do what is best for the Township. He also commended the employees.

Chairman Hoeper: Stated that the public really doesn’t see what goes on behind closed doors at the Township building and doesn’t see what the staff does. For instance Robert Myers has obtained over $140,000.00 in grants in order to resurface the dirt and gravel roads. He further stated that everyone plays a very strong part of making this township great. Including Road Crew, Secretary, Planning Board, Zoning Officer. It’s a great team!!!

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

- Motion to adjourn made by Chairman Hoeper, second by Supervisor Fluhr at 8:55pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Diana Blume
Township Secretary