

May 18, 2020

As advertised in the Journal Herald newspaper, the Packer Township Supervisors held a special meeting to consider property tax relief on Monday, May 18, 2020 via <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88010997921>. Cory Gerhard called the meeting to order and roll call was taken. All were present.

The meeting was opened to the floor. Valerie Kane, Tax Collector, would like the Supervisors to also consider that if the penalty period is changed it will affect her pay. Cory asked if there was a timeframe on that so it can be looked into. Valerie responded that the penalty pay would be from when the penalty period begins which would be August 1st. Cory said that is something we can discuss and have on the agenda for next month's meeting. Attorney Yurchak asked Valerie if the taxpayer's would be assigned a penalty in regards to her pay. We are penalizing them for your pay but not penalizing them otherwise? Valerie explained that the penalty period would begin November 1st. Atty Yurchak responded that whoever pays between August 1st and November 1st is still going to be assigned a penalty with regard to your pay? Valerie said she gets the 3% discount during the discount period and the base period then I only get 5% during the penalty amount which that will change to November 1st instead of August 1st. Atty Yurchak said that was his only question which was basically how are we going to apply the penalty. Robert Selert said his understanding is the resolution will say that we are extending the base period for 60 days before the 10% penalty goes into effect. Is that correct? Valerie-My understanding is yes. Stephanie asked could we pay her the 5% when the penalty period would have started? Robert S. confirmed that Valerie gets 3% during the base period then goes to 5% of taxes collected for that 60 days. So we are only talking 2% on top of the fees that would have been collected. Valerie says right. Mr. Selert asked Atty Yurchak if the resolution has to state that. Atty Yurchak responded that the supervisors will have to make a determination somewhere whether it's in a resolution or doing it separately how you are going to award that pay. Robert Selert says well I think we can do that at the next meeting, reflect that her pay is to be compensated for that 60 day period. The thing that we have to do by Thursday the 21st is to extend the period by 60 days. So I make that motion for resolution to extend the base period 60 days to October 31st. Cory Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

Valerie asked if that was just on Real Estate Property Taxes or does it also include Per Capita Bills. It is Atty Yurchak's understanding that the County just did Real Estate. Robert Selert felt the Township should just do the Real Estate. Valerie's only concern is then people are going to have to figure out, it might cause confusion, a lot of confusion. Bob Selert asked Atty Yurchak about other municipalities. Atty Yurchak said some municipalities decided not to extend it. The ones you are extending it, he thinks are going to be required to notify the taxpayers of the difference. Mr. Selert asked if the Township will still have to notify the taxpayers of the Real Estate adjustment? Atty Yurchak responded yes and Mr. Selert asked if we can do that by public notice or is there going to have to be a mailing? Atty Yurchak said it would probably be more foolproof if you did the mailing and I think Valerie would appreciate that too. Bob Selert asked if we can do that with our newsletter. Atty Yurchak suggests both. Cory asked if we can do the Per Capita too? Atty Yurchak said according to DCED they say you can although the statute doesn't authorize it, I don't think anybody would really challenge if we did. Cory agrees with Valerie that it will be confusing if we have two different deadlines. Robert Selert amended his motion to include the Per Capita taxes. Cory reiterated then that will be all of them, the Per Capita and Real Estate. Valerie said correct. Cory Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0
Terry asked Valerie if you pay your taxes early you get a break, is that still in effect? Valerie confirmed that yes, up until May 31st.

Attendees were given the opportunity to make additional comments. Sharlene Bittner asked where the Zoom meeting information can be found besides Facebook. Bob Selert responded that it was in the legal notices of the Journal Herald. Sharlene asked if it can be posted on the Township website and Stephanie responded that it was posted on the website and posted at the Township building. Cory Gerhard made a motion adjourn the meeting, Robert Selert seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m. A total of 2 residents attended the meeting.
Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Stolpe, Packer Township Secretary/Treasurer