

Resolution No. 20240102

Borough of Harmony

A Resolution of the Council of the Borough of Harmony, providing for the continued participation and support of the Southwest Butler Stormwater Planning Group

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2019, the County Commissioners called together all of the municipalities in the County following a summer of catastrophic flooding events and called for greatly enhanced municipal collaboration to help mitigate future flooding events; and,

WHEREAS, ten municipalities in southwest Butler County accepted that call to actively engage with their neighbors, those communities being Adams, Harmony, Evans City, Forward, Harmony, Jackson, Lancaster, Penn, Seven Fields and Zelenople, along with County officials, and have become known as the Southwest Butler Stormwater Planning Group, and started building that collaboration that did not exist prior to this call to action; and,

WHEREAS, since that initial meeting of these ten municipalities major strides have been made in that spirit of cooperation, including, but not limited to the following: developed a comprehensive stormwater management plan encompassing the ten communities identifying needed improvements; enhanced stormwater management regulations to be consistent with each other; learned about ways to further protect their floodplains; jointly submitted 22 projects identified in the Comprehensive Plan worth \$9,718,867.00 and were successful in attracting \$5,777,867.00 in grant funding; created a sub-group of 4 members evaluating ways to address the increasing costs related to the unfunded mandates with stormwater and water quality, which is supported by a \$225,000.00 grant; another sub-group of 4 members are advancing a regional trail supported by a \$250,000.00 federal grant (the only such grant awarded in the State); the Group earned the recognition of the Governor by earning the Excellence in Local Government Award; and are jointly discussing approaches to address the crisis with Emergency Medical Services in the County and State; and,

WHEREAS, this Group has demonstrated there is significant benefit to every resident in the participating municipalities that are gained through active intergovernmental cooperation, further demonstrated by receiving \$6,027,867.00 in grant funding to advance projects beneficial to our residents; and,

WHEREAS, the Group recognizes the importance of continuing this collaboration, by reaffirming each member's participation and commitment to this intergovernmental on-going effort through the following:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council hereby authorizes the following:

1. Harmony Borough shall continue to actively participate in this Group and authorizes at least one member to represent Harmony Borough in this Group and shall continue to participate until such time as determined by the Borough Council.
2. Harmony Borough shall continue to support the facilitation of this Group. In March 2022, each member contributed \$2,000.00 to a fund managed by Harmony Borough which provides for the resources to facilitate this collaboration. A payment of \$2,500.00 is hereby authorized to continue the facilitation of this Group, as it is clear there are significant benefits derived from this collaboration, including grant funding.
3. It is understood that no powers or duties are being delegated to this Group, except the profound duty to advance intergovernmental cooperation with our municipal partners in Butler County to not only to continue to advance stormwater management initiatives but any initiative that advances the shared vision of its members.

RESOLVED, and APPROVED, by the Borough Council, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024.



Amy Brown  
Borough Secretary



Greg Such  
Council President