

## SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

June 2, 2016

The regular meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dennis Brown on June 2, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Township Office Building on East Village Drive. In attendance was Supervisor James Surfield, Supervisor Michael Steinbacher and Solicitor Denise Dieter. There were also many attending from the community.

**MEETING MINUTES:** The minutes from the regular meeting May 3, 2016 were reviewed and were approved as submitted. Motion: Jim Surfield; Seconded by Mike Steinbacher; Motion carried.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Sherry Hatch read the Treasurers report for the period of May 1, 2016 to May 31, 2016. Jim Surfield made a Motion: To accept the Treasurer's report as read; Mike Steinbacher Seconded the motion; Motion carried.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW:**

#### **May 2016**

|                      |                    |                     |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Receipts:</b>     |                    | <b>\$ 29,321.27</b> |
| <b>Expenditures:</b> | General Fund       | \$ 18,852.08        |
|                      | Payroll            | 2,347.74            |
|                      | Payroll Taxes      | 677.44              |
|                      | <b>Total Bills</b> | <b>\$ 21,877.26</b> |

Jim Surfield made a motion: To pay the bills as presented; Mike Steinbacher Seconded the motion; Motion carried.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

- Dennis Brown gave an explanation of the MS4 program that the township will be facing in the coming year that is being mandated by DEP. He stated that Jim Surfield has already attended a session at Penn College on May 20<sup>th</sup> with regards to this subject. Dennis also stated that he would be attending a 2 hour session on June 15<sup>th</sup> with the county and he invited Mike Steinbacher to attend as well.

### **ROADMASTERS REPORT:**

- Jim Surfield stated he had received a cost of \$160 per hour to sweep our streets from the borough of South Williamsport. Jim said he felt the price was too high and that he declined the offer. He said he was later approached by borough maintenance supervisor with regards of doing a swap with them sweeping our streets and in return we would mow areas along the dike with our boom mower. John Askey stated his concern about mowing along the bank with our tractor because of the steepness of the dike. Jim said he would meet with the borough to see what they were requesting to have mowed. He said if it was felt that it would be too dangerous we would not agree to the swap. Mike Steinbacher made a Motion: That we proceed to pursue the swap with the borough of South Williamsport to sweep our streets and the township in turn would mow the areas along the dike as long as it was not a safety hazard; Dennis Brown Seconded the motion; Motion carried
- Jim stated that the road signs for Pfirman Road and Cohick Road had received some damage in the past couple of weeks. The Pfirman Road sign had the top of the sign removed and the Cohick Road sign had been run into and bent over. He said both signs had been restored.
- Jim stated that the grant applications for the Riverview Drive drainage issues and the Pfirman Road pipe replacement were turned into the County Conservation District on May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Jim stated that the backhoe needed repaired. He said there was no brakes on the backhoe, the throttle linkage was sticking and the locking mechanism for the hoe did not work properly. He said the backhoe was sent out to C.H. Waltz & Sons for repair and was now back in service with a cost of \$3,169.

### **PARK CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

- Mike said he assumed the basketball/ tennis court was done. Jim said it was not quite done that the fencing contractor still needed to repair the fence.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Denise Dieter stated that Flood Plain Ordinance had been advertised, reviewed and approved by the DCED, Lycoming County and Leslie Rhoads and that we were good to go to approve the ordinance. Dennis Brown stated it was also given to the Planning Commission for their review. Jim Surfield made a Motion: To pass the Flood Plain Ordinance 2016-03; Mike Steinbacher Seconded the motion; Motion carried.
- Jim Surfield stated the Sewer Jet had been sold for \$1,050 through an auction house for municipal equipment. Jim thanked Sherry for doing the homework for getting it sold.
- Jim Surfield said he received a call from Jim Emery of Central Keystone COG informing the township that they would serve as the board of appeals for the International Property Maintenance Code Enforcement. Jim Surfield made a Motion: to use Central Keystone COG as our Board of Appeals for the International Property Maintenance Code Enforcement: Mike Steinbacher Seconded the motion; Motion carried.
- Dennis Brown stated the he and Mike Steinbacher had met with Ron Reed, Jamie Nolan Sewage Enforcement Officer and Jerry Kilgus Central Keystone COG inspector at the Ron Reed property. He stated that they had Plumbing Masters come in. Mike Steinbacher stated that they went thru the whole building and found no sewer or drains in the building. Mike said there is water to the building. Mike said

they ran cameras into the sewer line and found that the lines only go from the house to the bed field. Mike stated that Mr. Reed agreed to pay half of the cost for the cameras used to check out the sewer lines. Mike said that he received a letter from Jamie Nolan that he was satisfied with the results of the findings. Bill Giles asked about the Gray water runoff from the back of the house. Mike said that the property was walked and nothing was seen. Bill said the pipe was hidden by blocks placed in front of the pipe so it wouldn't be noticed. Graffus Johnston said he was disappointed that the township didn't review the complaints of the people who were close to the situation to understand what the fundamental issues were. A discussion was held about numerous concerns about the use of the building. There was concern about chemicals being stored in the building. Mike said all chemicals that were in the building were water soluble and could be dumped on the ground with no ill effects.

- Jim stated that we are one month closer to the retirement of Ron Heindel as our zoning officer and that we will have to soon make a decision of what path we are going to take. A discussion was held about options that the township has. Denise Dieter said she would get information about who Eldred Township uses for zoning.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Dennis Brown addressed the issue of the property maintenance issues involving the Second Avenue Properties. He then turned the presentation over to Graffus Johnston who showed video pictures of the issues with 67 Second Avenue. The issues being weeds and grass over 12" in height, debris strewn about the property making it very difficult to mow, and broken windows on the structure. An at length discussion was held with regards to the history of this property and the lack of cooperation with the owner. Denise said she needs to have a more detailed listing of the debris Denise also said when the Notice of Violation is sent out it should be sent out certified mail with return receipt requested and certificate of mailing. It was decided that Graffus and Denise should ensure the notice has all the correct information on it and then proceed to file the NOV.
- Graffus Johnston then addressed the junkyard issue at the Feist property on Valley Road. He showed pictures of the piles of junk tires stored on the property and many unlicensed vehicles. He stated he talked to Mr. Feist who said he was given a year to clean up the property by Magistrate Sortman and at the end of the year he said Supervisor Hafer met with him and said it looked good ok with him. Denise said there is no record of any hearing at the magistrate's office. Again an at length discussion was held with regards to this issue. Graffus stated that Mr. Feist showed him a tax receipt that lists his property as residential with commercial function. Graffus said he checked with the county assessment office and found that the with commercial function was added in 2008 and that it was probably added when the assessor came out to look at the property and noted it was residential but had a business in operation on the property. The assessment office told Graffus that it did not mean anything because the township controls the zoning areas and it is zoned as residential. Graffus stated that Mr. Feist told him he had a letter from a Mrs. Metzger stating the township supervisors gave him permission to operate the junkyard. Graffus said he told Mr. Feist to produce the letter and so far he has not. Denise said she found at Magistrate Sortman's office that a hearing was scheduled for May 9, 2013 and on May 28, 2013 the complaint was withdrawn. She said a NOV was sent from Norm Lavallee in October 2012 and a letter was sent from Jim Emery in July of 2012 and another letter was sent from Jim Emery in 2011.

- Jim Surfield addressed the issue draft FFY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program from Mark Murawski the Lycoming County Transportation Planner. Jim stated there is no items listed in the document for Susquehanna Township but the requirement is that the document be made available to the residents from May 23, 2016 to June 24, 2016.
- Jim Surfield read the notice that every two years the elected officials meet with Emergency Management Coordinator to review the current Emergency Operations Plan. Dennis Brown said he would set up the meeting.

**FIRE COMPANY REPORT:**

- Jim Pfleegor presented the Fire Company Report. He reported they responded to 8 alarms for the month of May (5) Medical Calls, (1) Missing child, (1) Vehicle Accident, (1) Still Alarm. Training for month was Vehicle Rescue and Life Flight Landing zone. Jim stated the Fire co participated in the S.A.D.D. program at the South Williamsport High School. He also stated Nisbet, Duboistown and Independent Fire Companies was honored by Newberry Little League for the Donation of an A.E.D. He said tractor pulls would be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. He said the driveway permit for Rte 654 was completed.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

- Denny Brown stated there was MS4 training in Lewisburg on July 19 or 20 2016 and training June 15, 2016 at the county.
- Jim stated there is a course in Zoning Administration being offered at Lysock view complex on September 22, 29 and October 6, 2016. Zoning Hearing Board members will be sent a copy of the notice.
- Jim read a notice that the Central Keystone COG is seeking appeals board members.

**REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS**

**Previous Owner**

Tara A. Carl aka Tara A. Yokitis and Kevin Yokitis  
Thomas F. Schrimp and Irene T. Schrimp

**New Owner**

Irvin J. Henninger  
Clifford J. and Cara M. Hannan

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

- Larry Brungart said that on the WEB site the permit information says to send the application and check to the township. Jim said they would check on it and correct it if need be.
- Dennis Brown asked Sherry if she had collected any information as to how many people are using the WEB site. Sherry said to do that an account had to be opened up at Google. Denny asked Sherry to find out by the next meeting if Google has a charge for this and how much if they do.
- Jim Pfleegor asked if any action was taken on the issue of Duboistown providing police protection for the township. Dennis said there was no action taken to date. Jim Pfleegor said he checked with the PA State Police as to the number of calls responded to in 2014 and 2015. He presented the list to Denny Brown.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Jim Surfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM; seconded by Mike Steinbacher; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

James Surfield  
Susquehanna Township Secretary