

SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

August 2, 2016

The regular meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dennis Brown on August 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 several attending from the community.

MEETING MINUTES: The minutes from the regular meeting July 5, 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 July 1, 2016 to July 31, 2016. Dennis Brown asked all in favor of accepting the Treasurers report signify by saying Aye. Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

July 2016

Receipts:		\$ 22,836.40
Expenditures:	General Fund	\$ 5,800.60
	Payroll	2,394.79
	Payroll Taxes	1,469.10
	Total Bills	\$ 9,664.49

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Dennis Brown stated that the sign for Pfirman Road has been removed at least two times and maybe more. He addressed the issue of the need to have the sign available for emergency responders. He said it appears the act of removing the sign is vindictive in nature and why he does not know. He stressed if someone knows who is involved in the action that they might want to talk to that individual and let that individual know that they are only hurting the taxpayers of the community.

ROADMASTERS REPORT:

- Jim Surfield reported that he had received notification that the grant, he had applied for through the Dirt and Gravel Roads and Low Volume Paved Roads program, was approved. The township will receive roughly \$46,000 towards the Riverview Drive drainage issue. He stated this was for Riverside Drive only and it does not include the Pfirman Road project at this time.
- Jim stated that the swale between 332 and 348 Hillside Drive was reshaped at the end prior to the pipe going across the roadway and stone was added to prevent further erosion. He said he intends to get a grate made up to put over the swale to prevent a child getting washed into the pipe crossing the road.
- Jim stated that while they were working on placing the stone in the swale he was approached by two property owners on Hillside Drive with regards to cleaning the swales out on both sides of the road at that location. Alan Woleslagle requested the swale between Johnson Drive and Hillside Drive be cleaned and Donald Green requested that the swale on the West side of Hillside Drive be reshaped to allow the water to stay in the swale during heavy rain storms. Jim said he told them that the township could not do anything without having some sort of written proof that the township had an easement across those areas. Alan said he didn't know if there was an easement on the East side but Donald said there was an easement in his deed and he gave Jim a copy of the deed stating such. Jim said he would check into getting a landscaper to give him a price for removing about 60' of the sod and lowering that area and then replacing the sod.
- Jim stated that the pipe on the intersection of First Avenue and Hines Street was dug up and placed back in the socket of the adjoining section of pipe. It was then covered over with modified and tamped down. He stated they also put larger stone in the trench leading to the pipe to inhibit further erosion. He said he had called to get pricing for putting asphalt over the modified to hold it in place and restore the berm. He said he was also approached by the property owner on the other side of the road asking if the outfall of the pipe could be lengthen so that the berm of the road didn't drop into a 4' ditch. Jim said he would address that issue as well.
- Jim said he was ordering signs that were called for during the bridge inspections to be placed at the end of the bridges to caution motorists of the bridge crossing. He also said he was checking on ordering more 10' sign posts as well.

PARK CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Mike said that there wasn't much to report other than there would be tractor pulls the weekend of the 13th and 14th. He stated the dead trees would be cut down after the tractor pulls are done.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Dennis Brown said he had made contact with Codes Inspection Inc. and that they had forwarded him a copy of a contract. Dennis said he would set up a meeting the week of the 15-19 with Codes Inspection Inc. and the supervisors. Jim Surfield said he had contacted Dale Winter a Supervisor from Limestone Township and asked him his views of the pros and cons of partnering with the county Zoning. Jim gave a report of that conversation. An in depth conversation between the supervisors and solicitor was conducted regarding the zoning issue.

- The issue of the Township's Emergency Operation Plan review was discussed. Dennis stated that the three supervisor's and Jim Pfleegor, the Emergency Management Coordinator, met on Wednesday July 13, 2016 at 2 PM to review the plan. During that meeting it was found that we do have an ordinance in place for the Emergency Operations Plan. The ordinance was presented to the county they were ok with the ordinance as it was written and that all we needed to do was update the promulgation. Jim Surfield said he found two different resolutions for the promulgation of the ordinance, one in 1990 and the other in 1993, so he created resolution 16-3 to adopt the Township's Emergency Operations Plan. Dennis Brown made a motion: To rescind resolution 5-93; Jim Surfield Seconded the motion; Motion Carried. Dennis Brown made a Motion: To adopt Resolution 16-3 known as the Promulgation for The Emergency Operations Plan of Susquehanna Township; Jim Surfield Seconded the motion; Motion Carried.
- A discussion was held with regards to the Property Maintenance Issues at 67 Second Avenue. The violation notice was sent out on July 7, 2016. The property owner was given two weeks to comply with addressing the issues outlined in the notice. This would make July 21, 2016 the date to have the items corrected. To date there has been no action taken by the property owner to correct these issues. Denise Dieter stated the time allowed for appealing the notice was actually 20 days instead of 10 days that Graffus Johnston had indicated. It was noted at the time of the meeting that even the 20 days had expired without an appeal. When asked, what was the next step? Denise stated she felt it was time to file a criminal complaint with the MDJ (Magisterial District Justice). It was decided that Denise would file the criminal complaint. The issue of the cost of mowing the grass last year on this property by the CK COG was addressed. Denise stated she would file a lien against the property to recoup these costs. The issue whether the township should mow this property or not was discussed. Denise said she felt a court order would be the best way to pursue getting permission for the township to mow this property. Denise stated it would be best to get the criminal charges filed and then the township could take steps to mow the grass. Graffus Johnston asked if the window that is open could be closed up. Denise said it could be closed. Dennis told Graffus if he planned on doing so to make sure someone else was with him at the time to ward off any false accusations.
- Jim Surfield stated he had contacted Troy Plocinski with regards to setting up a date to meet with him. He said he was available on Wednesday August 10, 2016. Jim said he set the date of August 10th at 1:00 PM. Denny said that that date was not good for him and to see if he good make it for the next week.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Jim Surfield addressed the issue of large amount of junk accumulating on 43 Second Avenue. The issue was addressed and decided it should be addressed by the Property Maintenance Code.
- The Feist junkyard was addressed. It was decided that Graffus Johnston would set up a meeting with Denise Dieter to discuss the issue.
- Jim Surfield said he was approached by a township resident with regards to a car that has an expired license plate and no inspection sticker that has been sitting on the township right-of-way for almost a year on First Avenue. He asked Denise what course the township can take to get the car removed from the right-of-way. Mike Steinbacher said he would take care of the issue.

- Jim Surfield said he had contacted MAS printing with regards to ID badges. He said MAS does ID badges at a cost of around \$8 per badge. It was decided that the township will take the pictures and forward them to MAS to be processed into ID badges.
- Jim Surfield stated he had received a FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) Form 536 that needs to be filled out with regards to our receipts and expenditures for highway maintenance for the year 2015. He stated the problem is that all that information is in the hands of the auditing company of Klein and Rizzo. Jim said he was concerned about the lateness of our audit being done each year. He said each year it gets later and later that the audit is completed. He said our audit is supposed to be submitted to the State by April 15th of each year. Denise gave a name of a CPA that a number of municipalities that she represents uses. She presented the name of Lea Ann Plessinger at 570-748-4011.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT:

- Jim Pfleegor stated that Lycoming County was placed on a drought watch.
- Jim Pfleegor presented the Fire Company Report. He reported they responded to 9 alarms for the month of July (4) Medical Calls, (1) Water Rescue, (2) Trees down, (1) suicide (1) Lift Assist. Training for month was Confined Space Rescue attended by 10 personnel. Jim stated there was a Bike Race thru Susquehanna Twp. And the Fire Police would be involved on August 14th. Jim stated the Fire Company had tractor pulls scheduled for August 12, 2016.
- Jim Pfleegor addressed the issue of the naming of the river lots with regards to county maps as per Mr. Bill Van Campen.
- Jim Pfleegor stated that the sign at the intersection of Johnson Drive and Cohick Road was damaged by a member of the fire company and Jim offered to pay for the damages incurred. Jim Surfield said the township would take of fixing the sign but he felt the individual should have left the township know that it was an accident and not a case of vandalism.

MISCELLANEOUS:

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Previous Owner

Mark Orwig (deceased)

New Owner

R. Thomas Dixon, Patrick Joseph Dixon and Fred G. Salvatori
Tenants in common

PUBLIC INPUT:

- Jim Pfleegor asked if Armstrong Township got a waiver for the MS4 regulations and can Susquehanna Township get a waiver likewise. Jim Surfield said that he was not aware of Armstrong Township receiving a waiver. He said Woodward Township received a waiver and they pretty much have the same issues of Susquehanna Township so we are hopeful that Susquehanna will be granted a waiver as well. Dennis Brown stated the county was going to help the township apply for the waiver.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mike Steinbacher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM; seconded by Jim Surfield; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

James Surfield
Susquehanna Township Secretary