

Penn Township Supervisor Meeting

August 2, 2023

Chairman Jon Payne called the 8.2.2023 Supervisor Meeting to order at 6:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present included: Supervisors: Jon Payne, Ross Smoker and Isaac Ramer Jr., Township Manager Julie Hartley and Jim Bathgate – Solicitor

Public Present: Bill Kline, Paul Long, William Moyer, Jim Grose, Michael Savidge, Merv Heimbach, Ginny Zeiber, Jason Kaufman, Ron Goodling and Chris Fetter

Minutes – On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to approve the July 12, 2023 supervisor's meeting minutes.

Persons Present to be Heard:

Jason Kaufman, DH&L Fire Company – Jason reported that they responded to fifty-four incidents with three in Penn Township with no major fire losses for the month of July. He noted that the ladder truck is slightly delayed with an expected delivery of February or March of 2024. An Oktoberfest is scheduled with music provided by The Badlees. They will also be attending the Snyder County Night Out at East Snyder Park next Tuesday, August 8th.

Ronald Goodling, 18 Horizon Drive – Mr. Goodling requested that the rolled curbing in front of his house be repaired because of damage from the township's snowplow. The Supervisors agreed that the road crew will repair the rolled curb.

Jim Grose, Greystone Estates Expansion Sketch Plan – Jim Grose presented the Greystone Estates sketch plan to the Board for comments. He noted that there will be fifty units within twenty-five buildings. The plans include two family lots with public water and sewer. The plans also create three off street parking spaces, a recreational area with pavilion and a walking path. Some modification waivers will need to be requested such as street trees and cartway widths. The Township will not be asked to take over the road. All units will be rentals and ownership will be retained by Mike Savidge who is the present landowner. Mr. Savidge requested that he supply escrow to the township to have the Township Engineer, Chad Shaffer, review the sketch plans before submitting preliminary/final plans. Chad Shaffer will be asked to suggest an escrow amount.

On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to have Chad Shaffer review the sketch plan after Mike Savidge posts the required escrow amount.

Jim Grose, Mike Schrey Add-on Subdivision – Jim Grose said that he will meet with the Planning Commission on August 28th with modified plans for the Mike Schrey Add-on Subdivision.

New Business:

Moment of Silence – Chairman Jon Payne called for a moment of silence because of the passing of Emergency Management Coordinator Fred Ulrich.

Cottontail Solar 6 LLC – The Cottontail Solar 6 project is underway with the excavating portion proceeding. The Zoning Permit and Building Permit have not been issued to date. Regular monitoring will be done by the Township.

Set Date for Mike Schrey Conditional Use Hearing – On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to set the Conditional Use Hearing for September 6, 2023 at 6 pm.

Five Member Board of Supervisors – Jim Bathgate shared that according to the Second Class Township Code a three member board can be changed to a five member board. This requires a resolution from the present board which then places a question on the ballot. If the residents vote over fifty percent in favor, then the Board is increased to five members. If the five-member board is established by the residents the terms would be one four-year term and

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one six-year term. **On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to have Jim Bathgate draw up a resolution for the next Board meeting.**

Heimbach ESP Farmland Rental – Currently Merv Heimbach farms the twelve undeveloped acres at the park. Mr. Heimbach shared that several years ago Pete DeWire requested that he farm it so that the area would not need to be mowed and maintained by Penn Township. Merv stated that he was open to lease options. Jim Bathgate will research the legalities of leasing land.

Stop Sign Ahead Sign on Hill End Road – Jon requested that the “Stop Sign Ahead” sign be moved a few more feet from his driveway entrance because he is worried that he will hit it with his panel van. Isaac recommended that the road crew check the Penn DOT specifications for this type of warning sign before moving it.

Pete DeWire Resignation – **On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to accept the resignation of Pete DeWire from ESRR and park volunteer position and to inform him to retrieve any personal items and turn in his park keys.**

Emergency Management Coordinator – **On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to appoint Colin Rice, present Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, to Emergency Management Coordinator.**

Public Comment:

Ginny Zeiber made the Board aware that a birdhouse at the corner of the park near the cornfield is missing half of its roof and wondered if she could donate one to the Township so it can be replaced. The Board said that if she donated it, they would see that it was replaced. She also questioned the sizes of the mowers being used at the park and Isaac answered that the current size is the most efficient due to the uneven surface of the park.

Old Business:

Salt Spreader for Truck #4 – **On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to table the salt spreader for truck #4 until the next meeting to allow Isaac time to reach out to the Roadmaster.**

Outsourced Newsletter – **On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to outsource the township newsletter to *Hometown Press*.**

Bright Farms – Jim Bathgate would like the Board to allow him to send a letter to Bright Farms about several items that need addressed. **On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to have Jim Bathgate draft a letter to Bright Farms on items to be addressed and ask them to attend the next Board meeting on August 16th.**

Reports:

Julie Hartley, Manager

∞ Written Report Provided

Mark Strawser, Roadmaster

∞ Written Report Provided

Julie Hartley, Zoning Officer

∞ Written Report Provided

Fred Ulrich, Emergency Management Coordinator – No report

Jim Bathgate, Solicitor – No report

FYI:

- ESCRA June 21, 2023 Minutes

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- Thank you from SUNCOM Industries
- Invitation to Customer Appreciation

Land/Subdivision:

- Bright Farms – Final LD, filed 6.17.20, due 10.13.23
- Daniel Habegger, Subdivision, filed 7.6.23, due 10.4.23
- Donald Schrey, Add-on Subdivision, filed 7.13.23, due 10.11.23
- Michael Schrey, Conditional Use, filed 7.19.23, due 9.15.23

Approval of Accounts Payable (State and General Funds)- On Motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Jon Payne, and Board acclamation, to pay bills.

Adjournment - On motion by Jon Payne, second by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation the August 2, 2023 Supervisor's Meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Hartley
Manager