

Penn Township Minutes
Regular Meeting
May 6, 2015

The Penn Township Board of Supervisors held their regular meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at the Municipal Building, 228 Clifford Road, Selinsgrove, Snyder County, Pennsylvania. Chairman Jon Payne called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Supervisors present: Jon Payne; Fred Ulrich; Brenda Moyer. Others present: Lynne Renn, Secretary/Treasurer; Jim Bathgate, Solicitor. Members of the Public: Kathy Ulrich; William Moyer; Dennis Keller; Dave Rothermel; Gary Griner, DH&L.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written from the April 1, 2015 regular meeting by Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer second, all in favor.

Motion to approve minutes as written from the April 7, 2015 special meeting by Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer second, all in favor.

Public Comment

Persons Present to be Heard

Dennis Keller was present to voice his concerns about a perceived drainage issue on his property located at 395 School House Lane. Mr. Keller and his neighbor, Dave Rothermel jointly addressed the Board regarding the fact that culvert on Mr. Keller's property is a huge concern. Water is draining under the center of the basket and is being channeled through his yard. Mr. Keller did reseed the area last year with the hopes that it will help to disperse some of the water as it flows out. Possible options were discussed. Isaac Ramer, Road Supervisor, to go out the next time it rains hard to evaluate the situation. Best option at this point is thought to be for Isaac to put more riprap around the area.

A report was presented by Gary Griner, representative from the DH&L fire company for the month of April 2015 including Alarm Type, Staff Activity and Estimated Loss. Gary also mentioned the chicken bar-b-que sale and Easter egg hunt sponsored by the fire company on Saturday, April 3 was a huge success.

Reports

Isaac Ramer, Road Supervisor was not present. His monthly written report was presented.

Dave Bowersox, Zoning Officer/Jim Geiswite, Asst. Zoning Officer were not present. No written reports provided.

Lynne Renn, Township Secretary/Treasurer presented a written report. Key point raised was that there is legislation pending (HB864) that would decrease the term of a township supervisor from 6 years to 2 years. Brenda Moyer also noted that there is also pending legislation that would require all executive sessions to be recorded. The supervisors would like PSATS to be notified that Penn Township is not in favor of either pending bill. Motion made for Lynne Renn to draft a letter to PSATS stating Penn Township supervisors are not in favor of HB864 to decrease the supervisor term or the bill to require executive sessions being recorded by Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer second, all in favor.

Also addressed at this time was a vacation request for July 13-17. Motion to approve vacation time for July 13-17 by Jon Payne, Fred Ulrich second, all in favor.

Fred Ulrich, Emergency Management Coordinator and Chairman had nothing to report.

Jim Bathgate, Solicitor had nothing to report that will not be addressed further down in the agenda.

New Business

One sealed bid was received for the sale of the 1987 International truck and snow plow. Solicitor Jim Bathgate opened bid received from Jeremy Napp in the amount of \$2,000.00. Motion made to accept bid from Jeremy Napp in the amount of \$2,000 for the 1987 International truck with snow plow included by Fred Ulrich, Jon Payne second, all in favor. Buyer to be responsible for tag transfer costs and payment for full purchase price to be made by certified check, cash or money order. Original check received with bid for 10% of purchase price to be returned to purchaser.

Discussion regarding Ordinance 15-03 Rudy Road Vacation. Noted that Brian Haight, PennDOT has been in contact with Jackson Township regarding their portion of Rudy Road. Motion made to vacate the Penn Township section of Rudy Road by Ordinance 15-03 by Jon Payne, Fred Ulrich second, all in favor. Solicitor Bathgate to do petition. PennDOT to be notified of road vacation to remove from liquid fuels road miles and new private road sign to be purchased.

Discussion regarding Ordinance 15-04 Old Route 11 & 15 Vacation. Motion made to vacate a section of Old Route 11 & 15 by Ordinance 15-04 by Fred Ulrich, Jon Payne second, all in favor. Solicitor Bathgate to do petition. PennDOT to be notified of road vacation to remove from liquid fuels road miles and new private road sign to be purchased.

The Planning Commission submitted their recommendation to the supervisors to establish a \$50.00 permit application fee for any non-grandfathered Outdoor Wood Fired Boiler. Motion made to adopt Resolution 15-09 Outdoor Wood Fired Boiler Permit Fee by Brenda Moyer, Fred Ulrich second, all in favor.

A signed extension request for the Jerry Hazelwood Sub-division Plan was received from the applicant. This is the second extension to be submitted by Mr. Hazelwood and will expire on August 5, 2015. Unless Mr. Hazelwood can prove good cause, this will be the final extension granted for this set of plans. Motion made to grant Mr. Hazelwood a second extension on his Sub-division Plan by Brenda Moyer, Fred Ulrich second, all in favor.

Larson Design Group (LDG) submitted a manual for proposed work needed to complete the paving project for the recycling area and office parking lots. LDG also submitted a bid of \$3,800 to complete all engineering work. This would include meeting with the contractors, handling of the bidding process and advertising. After discussion it was suggested that there be at least one other manual/bid offer so there can be a cost comparison. Stahl Sheaffer Engineering LLC to also be contacted and asked to prepare a similar manual with bid for engineering work prior to the scheduled workshop meeting on May 20. Further discussion tabled until the May 20, 2015 workshop meeting.

It was brought to the attention of the Board, based on concerns raised by two separate residents, that an adult rehabilitation establishment, doing business as U-Turn for Christ, may currently be operating in what was previously known as the "Scott House" located at 1573 Old Route 522. This residence had previously been used as a daycare-type rehab establishment for babies and infants. It is thought that the residence is now being used for adult rehab or a similar type of business. It is unclear at this time if that is a permitted use for that zone. Solicitor Bathgate recommends that a Zoning Officer investigate and gather additional information to be presented to the Supervisors at a later date. Motion made to have Asst. Zoning Officer Jim Geiswite obtain additional information and investigate the situation by Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer second, all in favor.

Road Supervisor Isaac Ramer has been researching the cost of having the dump truck box sandblasted and painted. All but one refused to even do the work as it was indicted that the box was too far gone, work done to it would not be a wise investment and it would most likely need done again in another year or two at most. As the cost for a new box is thought to be less than \$19,400 Isaac could get phone bids for possible purchase. Motion made to have Isaac get three phone/written bids for a new truck box by Fred Ulrich, Jon Payne second, all in favor.

There had been damage done to some of the curbing in the Salem Glen development by the snow plows during the winter. Road Supervisor Isaac Ramer questioned whether the damaged curbing should be cut out and repaired or if it should simply be removed. Discussion held. Motion made to have Isaac cut out and repair all damaged curbing by Fred Ulrich, Jon Payne second, all in favor.

John Steininger from PennDOT submitted the following paperwork to the Township: 1) Listing of the Penn Township roads to be mowed with the agility mowing program for 2015, 2) Agility Work Plan which lays out the services/resources provided by both Penn Township and PennDOT for 2015 and 3) Work Plan Completion Form which states whether services/resources provided for 2014 were acceptable or not. Discussion held and 2015 Work Plan seems appropriate and 2014 services/resources were acceptable. Motion made for Supervisor Jon Payne, Chairman to sign the 2015 Agility Work Plan and the 2014 Work Plan Completion Form as acceptable by Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer second, all in favor.

Donald Stanley, a resident of Graysonview, expressed interest in volunteering at East Snyder Park by perhaps picking up garbage and dog litter and/or collecting the garbage from the cans. Chairman Jon Payne, also a member of the East Snyder Regional Recreation Assoc. board, will take information to the next ESRRR meeting to be held on May 13, 2015 for discussion.

There has also been mention of people not cleaning up after their pets at East Snyder Park. Solicitor Bathgate to research if it is possible to put an ordinance in place about enforcing some sort of clean up requirement with a fine imposed if not complying. Chairman Payne to also bring this to the attention of the ESRRR board at the meeting on May 13.

There has been an application for a Zoning Variance completed by MBC Development with regard to land located at Tax Parcel 13-8-113-2 in the Highway Commercial zone. Proposed development is for a Dollar General store. The request is for a dimensional variance, not a use variance. The recommendation letter from the Planning Commission, that will be presented to the Zoning Hearing Board at their hearing of the subject, was given to the supervisors for informational purposes only.

The water fountain in the shop area started leaking and has been removed. Especially with the summer months approaching it was thought that some sort of replacement water source should be installed. Prices to be obtained from a few places like TC Water, Inc and Tulpehocken to get some options for replacement.

When Supervisor Brenda Moyer was discussing the Route 522/Salem Road/University Ave intersection with a trooper at the Selinsgrove State Police barrack she was informed that they would be getting a new sergeant, Eric McKean. It was suggested that perhaps the Township should send a letter to Sgt. McKean to make him aware of residents' concerns about that intersection with the possibility of increased patrol in that area. It was also discussed that it would be a nice gesture to invite Sgt. McKean to the next supervisor meeting. Letter to be done to include both the concerns and invitation.

At this time Bill Moyer made comment about the road work recently completed on Bake Oven Hill. He voiced concerns about some of the drop-offs and it not being feathered in enough or tapered enough. After discussion Road Supervisor Isaac Ramer and Supervisor Fred Ulrich will jointly look at things and Isaac will correct where needed.

Old Business

There are still 2-3 businesses that are delinquent in payment of the 2014 Local Services Tax. Solicitor Bathgate to send letter to each indicating this is the final request that will be made for payment. If no payment is received legal action will be taken to collect.

It was noted that the Planning Commission is currently in the process of reviewing the entire Zoning Ordinance which includes the possibility of some rezoning within Penn Township. It is to be included in the spring newsletter that this is a possibility and any residents interested in this should contact the office. It was also noted that the Planning Commission would like some direction or plan of future growth from the Penn Township Municipal Authority (PTMA). Without this plan of expansion by the PTMA it is impossible for the Township to consider any rezoning or expansion.

****Executive session was called at 8:47pm. Meeting was reconvened at 9:15pm with personnel discussions being held.****

Motion made to offer employment to Zachary Bogar by Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer second, all in favor. Zach will be considered an at-will, part time employee, starting rate of \$12.00/hr, with a 90 day and a 180 day review. During this time he will also receive holiday pay as shown in the Personnel Policy.

There were five (5) road crew employees that were due for their 180-day review. Employees being Jeff Benfer, Ken Carroll, Matt Cook, Steve Keefer and Tom Wallish. Good reviews were written/presented by Isaac Ramer, Road Supervisor, for all. Motion made to approve a 5% (or \$0.63/hr) raise for all five employees by Fred Ulrich, Jon Payne second, all in favor.

Supervisor Fred Ulrich requested clarification by Solicitor Bathgate of the zoning definition of a fence and whether it is considered a structure that is subject to the setback requirements. Jim Bathgate referenced Section 5.08 of the Zoning Ordinance which states that setbacks do not apply to fences.

Correspondence

No comment made.

Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll

Checks were presented for signing and reports distributed for review. Motion was made to approve the payroll and accounts payable checks as presented by Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer second, all in favor.

Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer second, all in favor. With no further business to discuss the May 6, 2015 meeting was adjourned at 9:29pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Renn
Township Secretary