

July 27, 2020 SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING

Polk Township Supervisors Brian K. Ahner, Carl S. Heckman, & Michael D. Hurley met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 27, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 165 Polk Twp. Rd., Kresgeville, PA. Also, present: Solicitor James Fareri, Engineer Russell Kresge, Jr., Zoning Officer Tracy Herman, Deanna Schmoyer, Mae & Terry Kline, Robert Butler, Billy Tippett, Hal Touni, Candy Burger, Mary Beth Serfass, and Andrew Ames.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Minutes: Hurley moves to approve the 6/22/20 Regular Supervisors Meeting Minutes, 7/7/20 Emergency Meeting Minutes and 7/9/20 General Meeting Minutes; Second by Ahner. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Polk Twp. Vol. Fire Chief Tippett: (1) June: 16 calls, 123 Training hours, 125 Fundraising hours July: 12 calls ; YTD: 120 calls (12 responses in Towamensing YTD) (2) The Company brought in 2 new members: Angela Gogno and Vincent Fernandez (3) Chief Tippett explains they are doing what they can to fundraise and apply for grants. It has been a tough year.

Treasurer Christman: (1). **Deposits**-\$45,981.55 (2). **Bills**-\$135,607.57 Hurley moves to pay the Bills; Second by Heckman. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried. (3). **7/27/2020 Report:** Total General Fund is \$1,698,413.32. Highway Aid Fund is \$483,919.75. **All Funds Total \$2,182,333.07** Total Escrow Funds of \$52,221.43 Heckman moves to approve the 7/27/2020 Treasurer's Report; Second by Hurley. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

Roadmaster Ahner: (1) Dura-patched on Dotters Corner, crew cut 70+ trees on Upper Middlecreek Rd, worked on Haney/Catalpa (The Woods Development), mowing with tiger, swale at fire house was opened, trees at Dorshimer & Burger Hollow Rd removed and new pipe installed (2) Repairs: Tiger tire and truck tire were repaired. Kenworth air condition needs to be fixed again.

Solid Waste & Recycling Center: Aluminum cans, tin cans, cardboard, plastics, and newspaper were hauled

Secretary: No report

Solicitor Fareri: Solicitor's Report is covered below.

Zoning/Codes Official: (1) July- 18 Building permits, 33 Zoning permits (2) T.Herman explains issues pertaining to residents living in campers. Currently, there are no restrictions in the Zoning Ordinance and she suggests reviewing example from a neighboring Township. (3) T.Herman also suggests the Supervisors to decide on if storage containers and tractor trailer bodies will be restricted to all or some districts. Fareri drafted language to prohibit storage units in all districts.

Ahner motions to refer to the Planning Commission the following two issues: 1) Camper restrictions 2) Storage Units; Second by Hurley. Vote 3-0. Motion passed.

Parks: Robert Butler is presenting for the Committee. The Committee met with Alec Shonk regarding a possible Boy Scout project. The Nature Park is being opened by a neighbor at sunrise and sunset, except in bad weather. Tree stumps at the Walking Park were removed and the Twp. placed dirt in the area to cover up the holes. The Committee suggests planting 2 trees next to the pavilion. Next meeting is August 27, 2020.

Veterans' Memorial Committee: Joan McKinsey, Sally Jablonski and Candy Burger were present. McKinsey states that 2021 is the 25th anniversary of the Memorial and they would like to do a re-dedication. The Committee would like to collect names of Veterans in Polk Twp. Depending upon how many names the Committee receives will depend on the size of the Memorial and placement at the Memorial. The Supervisors do not want to lose parking spaces at the Memorial. The new plaque will cost about \$5000, not including installation. The Committee is soliciting donations and looking into grants. Fareri states that the donations and funds received can go through the Township and kept track of in the Veterans' Memorial bank account. Any grants that are being applied for must

come through the Township. Discussion on adding Memorials to the Walking Park. Discussion on the Hometown Hero Banners.

PLANS:

- A. **Speed Transport Parking:** Deanna Schmoyer was present for the plan. Schmoyer submitted a revision and is looking for final approval. Discussion of truck turnaround, paved/stoned parking, restriction of any hazmat material storage.

Schmoyer is asking for 3 waivers:

- 1) Appendix D, Section F (Basin required to have a min. of 1% slope): Basin has been designed with a 0.5% slope since the basin has a infiltration basin.
- 2) Section 612.3, 616, 617 (Parking area lighting): There will be lighting at the access into the office, storage building, the car parking area and truck parking for safety.
- 3) Section 615 (Landscaping requirements): a substation for the street trees is requested along the road due to the utility line on Rt. 209.

Heckman motions to approve the 3 waivers for Speed Transport Parking: 1) Appendix D, Section F(Basin required to have a min. of 1% slope) 2) Section 612.3, 616, 617 (Parking area lighting) 3) Section 615 (Landscaping requirements); Second by Hurley. Vote 3-0. Motion passed.

Discussion on paved vs. stone parking for the trucks. Schmoyer explains that the entrance and car parking lot will be paved but requesting the truck parking to only be stoned. Ahner motions to approve the truck parking be modified 2A stone; Second by Hurley. Vote 3-0. Motion passed.

Ahner motions to approve the final land development plan for Speed Transport Truck Parking; Second by Hurley. Vote 3-0. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Ordinance 2020-06 Park Rules & Regulations:** A few months ago, a letter was received from a gun activist lawyer stating the current Ordinance is in violation of State Laws. Fareri researched and drafted an updated Park Rules & Regulations Ordinance with #12 and #13 changed. The State can only regulate the procession of a firearm. The updated Ordinance now only regulates discharge of a firearm. Ahner motions to approve Ordinance 2020-06 Park Rules & Regulations; Second by Heckman. Vote 3-0. Motion passed.

- B. **Trach Dr & Lower Middlecreek Rd Paving Change Order:** After the paving contract was awarded, it was recommended to have additional work done to the Lower Middlecreek Bridge and swale work done on Trach Dr. The awarded contractor submitted a Change Order cost. Kresge prepared the Change Order document to be signed upon approval. Polk Twp's representative from PennDot met with Brian to inspect the work to be done. The work was approved by the PennDot rep.

- a. **Lower Middlecreek Bridge:** Blacktop will be milled off to reduce the weight; a waterproof membrane will be added and then blacktopped again for the additional cost of \$23,550.
- b. **Trach Drive Swale:** The shoulder work that was done by the Township turned into needing a swale. The paving of the swale will take more work to complete for the cost of \$10,896.

Ahner motions to approve the Change Order to the Trach Dr and Lower Middlecreek Rd Paving Contract in the amount of \$34,446; Second by Heckman. Vote 3-0. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Zoning Amendment- Forestry:** The review of the current Ordinance pertaining to Forestry happened when the Bethlehem Watershed Authority applied for a forestry permit. Fareri and Kresge drafted the revision and the PC recommended it. There are a few changes to the Zoning Ordinance and this change will wait until all amendments are completed before a hearing is scheduled.

- B. **SALDO Amendment- Streets:** The Amendment specifies only contractors that are pre-qualified by PennDot can work on Township roads. The Amendment will be added to the list to be approved at a later date.

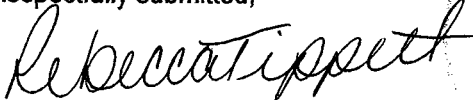
- C. **Resolution 2020-07 Tax Collector's Commission Rate:** Polk Township has agreed to 5% commission for the Tax Collector. A clarification of a commission rate is needed. Hurley motions to approve Resolution 2020-07 establishing a 5% commission rate for the Polk Township Tax Collector; Second by Heckman. Vote 3-0. Motion passed.
- D. **Resolution 2020-08 Notary Services:** A policy is needed for notary services at the Township. The policy does not allow for walk-in services. Services outside of the Township are on case by case basis and at the discretion of the Supervisors. Hurley motions to approve Resolution 2020-08 Notary Services; Second by Heckman. Vote 3-0. Motion passed.
- E. **Resolution- COVID19 Absentee Policy:** Discussion of a policy in the scenario that an employee contracts COVID-19 or has come in contact with a positive COVID19 person. Fareri drafted a policy to give one-time paid 2 week quarantine. Policy allows any time over 2 weeks, employee must use any time they have left or unpaid time off. Fareri will clarify the policy and testing requirements for next meeting.
- F. **CJERP:** At the 7/23/20 CJERP meeting, they discussed agritourism and medical marijuana. Fareri will bring sample language to the next PC meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- A. Mae & Terry Kline- Mrs. Kline requests the Supervisors to take action on regulations for fireworks. Her and her husband are having issues with the neighbors setting fireworks off all night on the weekends. T.Herman suggests using the Nuisance Ordinance to regulate the noise. Mrs. Kline will come see T.Herman during office hours to discuss the issue.
- B. Andrew Ames: Mr. Ames is requesting action against 171 Upper Greenhill Rd. The house is overgrown and has multiple holes in the roof. T.Herman will follow up with the property owner.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Ahner adjourned the meeting at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Tippet
Township Secretary

