

# Clifford Township Supervisors Meeting October 8, 2019

**Supervisors Present:** Dennis Knowlton, Barry Searle, Chris Marcho

**Solicitor:** Joseph McGraw

**Secretary:** Joan Hertzog

Business meeting held on Tuesday, October 8, 2019. Chairman Dennis Knowlton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Greenfield resident, Mike Mazza, queried last month's minutes. Motion to amended minutes by Mr. Marcho seconded by Mr. Searle. All in favor. See September 10, 2019 for revision. Treasurer's report reviewed and will be put on file. List of bills reviewed. Mr. Knowlton made a motion to pay all bills except Clifford Home and Auto. Second by Mr. Searle. All in favor. Mr. Searle made a motion to pay Clifford Home and Auto. Seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor. Mr. Marcho abstained due to potential conflict of interest. Mr. Mazza stated that he feels the township doesn't disclose the townships funds or allows people to follow township expenses. Atty. McGraw stated annual budget is available for review. Mr. Mazza also submitted two Right To Know Requests for 1/2013 Organization minutes, 1/2013 meeting minutes, 5/2013 meeting minutes and 8/2016 meeting minutes.

**Guest speakers** from the Susquehanna County Library and Historical Society; Diane Junior, Forest City Library, and Jim Opecko, Board Member, gave an oral history of the Forest City Library, financial position and what the library system has to offer residents. Donation envelopes and flyers were offered.

Fire Company: EMC Price discussed Fire Prevention Week activity taking place at Mountain View School next week and that Tax Collector, Jan Price, has collected 87%, which is more than what was collected in the past. Due to other commitments Mr. Price had to leave early.

## **Old Business –**

Snow Plow Bids: One bid received – Barhite Excavating \$75/hr. 5500 single axle dump 8-10 ton capacity \$135/hr. Graders/wheel loader

Bid reviewed. Motion made by Mr. Searle to accept the bid. Seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor.

Dundaff Complaints: Atty. McGraw stated the property of 1914 SR 247 is now up for tax sale waiting for finalization. Violation regarding property 1974 SR 247 has been addressed and corrected. No further action to be taken.

Water Testing/Water Operator: Mr. Marcho made a motion to assign JHA Associates to act as township's Water Operator at \$135 per hour. Seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor.

Marketing Proposal: Supervisors will continue with marketing research with Kimmel-Bogrette.

Wind Turbines: Atty. McGraw will contact Tom Shepstone, compiler of the townships Comprehensive Plan, to assure residents rights are being protected if or when wind turbines, solar and or geothermal development should occur within the township. Mr. Marcho will review ordinances from other townships.

## **New Business –**

Township Driveway Permit/Paving: Mr. Marcho informed JHA Associates are to do a hydrolic study of the township parking lot to rectify drainage issued before perusing paving in the spring.

904 Recycling Grant: \$496.00 was awarded for first time grant application.

PA Hardwood Development Council Letter: After Atty. McGraw's review, no action is needed as Clifford Township does not have any forestry ordinances. The letter was in response to townships being made aware that ordinances cannot supersede state laws.

Community Bank Proposal: Mr. Searle made a motion to send a letter to Community Bank for their proposal but the township will not be switching from FNB. Seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor.

Opiates Class Action: Item will be put on next months agenda giving Atty. McGraw time to review.

Resident and Board Member of Rail Trail Council, Jim Opecko: is willing to work with supervisors to gain access to the Rail Trail off of SR 2010 to become a trail town. The trail passes through Clifford.

Protect Property Values: Atty. McGraw will research other township ordinances in hopes of deterring absentee landlord issues. Resident, Joe Laguzzi, offered a copy of the Carbondale Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance for review.

SR 106: Resident, Justin Fletcher, inquired about the lack of pavement markings on the recently resurfaced SR 106. Road Master Booths was asked to inquire about the markings, mowing and the installation of Children at Play signs at intersection SR 106 and SR 2008

## October 8, 2019 continued

### **Township Representatives –**

Road Report: Road Master Booths reported sending a request to PennDOT for permission to install a blind child sign on SR 2067. Contractors are assigned to work on Welsh Hill potholes. Resident, Joe Laguzzi complemented Road Master stating that he is doing a great job monitoring and preventing road issues.

Planning Commission: Chairperson, Sally Fischbeck, reported that after missing items are provided a minor subdivision of Fern Hall will be sent to the county for review.

Parks & Recreation: Mr. Marcho reported that the Trunk or Treat sponsored by the Mazza Foundation was a huge success. Thank you to Adams Cable for providing Wi-Fi to the park. Inquiries were made to Pleasant Mt. Welding about designs of the pedestrian bridge.

Permit Officer: Joan Hertzog reported six Building, five Sewer and one Land Use permits were issued.

Historical Society: Mr. Knowlton reported how much he appreciated the work done to the Children's Garden including the paving and log cabin. Jim Opecko agreed. Sally Fischbeck commented on the new sign making it more welcoming and seeing more use.

