Monday, February 15, 2016

The Penn Township Board of Supervisors met this evening at 6:00 p.m. at the Penn Township Municipal Building, 157 East Airport Road, Butler, PA 16002 with the Chairman, Samuel M. Ward, presiding. Also present were Supervisors, Douglas A. Roth and Wilbert J. Mowry, Jr.

Township Manager, Linda D. Zerfoss, Land Use Administrator, Clinton A. Bonetti and six residents were also present.

Minutes – 01/18/16

Motion by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Roth that there being no additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held Monday, January 18, 2016 they be approved as read. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Correspondence

Penn Dot – Notice that the Road Turnback Annual Maintenance payment in the amount of $41,080.00 will be paid on March 1, 2016.

PSATS Township Legal Defense Partnership – Newsletter on ‘PornGate” Emails not Public Records under RTKL, Implementation of Affordable Care Act’s ‘Cadillac Tax’ Delayed Until 2020, Permanent Ban from Attending Public Meetings Violates First Amendment-Court Rules and Supreme Court Upholds Business Privilege Tax on Businesses Generating Income from Real Property Leases.

Butler County Veterans Services – Announced Butler County’s first 1,000 Veteran March on June 14 at 6:30 p.m. on Main Street. Cost is $10 a person.

AK Steel Corporation – Annual notification to downstream municipalities and water users inventory of regulated substances stored in ASTs at Butler Works.

Lope, Casker & Casker – Copy of letter sent to Liberty Mutual Insurance Company making a claim against the bond of their principal, Suit-Kote Corporation for the Single and Double Bituminous Seal Coat SLR G work it performed on over 20 miles of roads throughout the Township this past summer.

Local Government Academy – Announcing the 2016 Municipal Intern Program.

PA DCNR – Letter congratulating the Township on receiving a grant in the amount of $270,000 from the Community Conservation Partnerships Programs administered by DCNR.

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Correspondence - Continued

Nixon United Methodist Church – Reporting they will host a 5K fundraiser on Saturday May 14, 2016 with a 9 a.m. start.

Saxonburg Area Authority – Inquiring about planned paving projects for 2016 in their sanitary sewer service area.

Seminars

The following seminars have been scheduled:

Mandatory TAC Update Training and Clean Basic Operator Training, 04/19 at the FBI Auditorium in Greensburg

Butler County Stormwater Ordinance, 04/14, 10 a.m., Butler county Courthouse public meeting room

Building and Fire Code Academy, Means of Egress, 02/18

Motion by Supervisor Roth and seconded by Supervisor Mowry that all involved be authorized to attend. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report

Mrs. Zerfoss read the list of invoices paid since the last report was read on January 18, 2016. Township Fund: $96,852.59, Fire Tax Fund: $4,944.65, Municipal Pension Fund: $324.08, Police Pension Fund: $240.09. Deposits into the various Township funds totaled $47,961.07. Balances were read as follows: Township Fund: $619,748.84, Fire Tax Fund: $40,053.50, Act 13 Impact Fund: $417,921.84, Municipal Pension Fund: $420,525.10, Police Pension Fund: $954,135.57, State Fund: $124,809.83. Motion by Supervisor Mowry and seconded by Supervisor Ward that the Treasurer’s Report be approved. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Zoning Department

Mr. Bonetti submitted the Fraser subdivision on Royal Oak Drive for approval. He stated the planning commission recommended the shared driveway be recorded. Motion by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Roth the Fraser subdivision on Royal Oak Drive be approved and that the shared driveway be recorded. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Mr. Bonetti also submitted the Dawson subdivision on Dinnerbell Road for approval. Motion by Supervisor Roth and seconded by Supervisor Mowry the Dawson subdivision on Dinnerbell Road be approved. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

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Zoning Department - Continued

Mr. Bonetti stated the Butler County Planning Commission reviewed the Fraser, 1 Lot and Residual Plan #16033 and had no comments.

Police Department

Mrs. Zerfoss read the police report for January 2016.

Road Department

Supervisor Roth reported the ditcher needs repairs and he received a quote of $3,791.73 from Walsh Equipment. Motion by Supervisor Mowry and seconded by Supervisor Ward the ditcher be repaired at a cost of $3,791.73 from Walsh Equipment. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Supervisor Roth also reported dump truck #7 had the rear springs break 2 years ago and now the truck is leaning to one side and the spring is bad. He got a quote from Hunter’s to replace the springs at a cost of $2,570.00 and a quote from Keystone Springs for $1,686.00 and for an extra $200.00 on each side heavy duty springs would be installed. Motion by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Roth to have the heavy duty springs installed by Keystone Springs at a cost of $2,086.00. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Recycling Report

Mrs. Zerfoss submitted a letter from Sheryl Kelly dealing with electronics recovery and Pennsylvania’s Act 108.

Parks and Recreation

Supervisor Roth stated the Township was thrilled to receive the grant from DCNR and he wants to thank everyone involved especially Gary Pinkerton.

He also reported there will be a new sign at the corner of Route 8 and Airport Road for the Audubon Society and they will be showing a movie at the Succop Theater called “The Messenger”. It is a movie about life without birds.

Public Relations Department

No report.

Old Business

None.

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New Business

Mrs. Zerfoss announced that Maher Duessel will continue providing consulting services to the Township and to assist the Township with computer support at the same rate as last year.

Mrs. Zerfoss also reported she met with representatives of Armstrong Cable regarding the local cable franchise. This franchise is administered by the FCC and on January 21 the FCC issued a new order pertaining to the five percent cap on franchise fees. Armstrong has provided free or discounted services to municipal building, road department and the fire department. Mrs. Zerfoss reported the Township receives approximately $81,945.00 each year in franchise fees from Armstrong Cable. In light of the FCC order Armstrong has come up with the following plan:

1. Begin paying for services at the normal rate 2. Offset the value of the free or discounted services against the franchise fees or 3. Discontinue services

After discussing this it was decided to start paying for the services and therefore would still receive the 5% franchise fee quarterly. Motion by Supervisor Roth and seconded by Supervisor Mowry that the Township begin paying for services from Armstrong Cable and to continue receiving the 5% franchise fee. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Mrs. Zerfoss requested approval to order the new laptops for the police cars that were budgeted for. The quote from Maher Duessel for 4 lap tops was approximately $9,680 which includes the set up. Motion by Supervisor Roth and seconded by Supervisor Mowry that Mrs. Zerfoss be authorized to order the 4 lap tops for the police vehicles from Maher Duessel at an approximate cost of $9,680.00. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Supervisor Roth reported our current engineer was Veronica Bennett from KLH and she is no longer with KLH and with that in mind he would like to hire Jim Feath from HRG to serve as the Engineer for the park. Mr. Feath was the original engineer for the Harcrest Park Master Plan and would be great to have him back with this project. Supervisor Roth also suggested replacing KLH with HRG to serve as the Township Engineer for all projects if Mr. Bonetti has no objection as he deals with the engineers frequently. Mr. Bonetti said he has no problem switching to HRG. The Board discussed this for approximately 10 minutes. Motion by Supervisor Mowry and seconded by Supervisor Ward the Township replace KLH with HRG as Township Engineers. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

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Act 537 – Saxonburg Authority

Supervisor Roth reported at the last meeting they discussed the state of affairs and the hydraulic loading from 2011 is less than 2007 from 1,200,000 gallons a day to 900,000 gallons a day. From 2011 till now they are treating 300,000 gallons less.

Audience Participation

Ike Kelly – Butler Airport – Inquired if the Board made any decision on making Monroe Road a cul-de-sac. Supervisor Ward said the Board would like to see the revised master plan. Supervisor Roth asked what the difference was between a cul-de-sac and a tunnel. Mr. Kelly said he wasn’t sure but thought the tunnel would be more expensive. Supervisor Roth said there will be a lot of people impacted with closing the road including emergency services plus we currently get Liquid Fuels money so that mean a small loss to the Township. Mr. Kelly said if that was an issue he felt the airport could reimburse the Township for their loss. Supervisor Roth asked if the airport considered building a road around the runway instead of closing Monroe Road or building a tunnel. Mr. Kelly said that hasn’t been discussed much because of wet land concerns. Mr. Kelly also stated he has not been able to talk to anyone from Penn Valley Pool and if a tunnel was built, the Township would have to maintain it. Supervisor Roth said as of right now he is in favor of keeping the road open. Supervisor Mowry said we have residents that want the road to stay open. Supervisor Ward said he’s at a loss as to why we have to take action right now without reviewing a revised master plan. Mr. Kelly stated everything would be subject to Township approval. The discussion lasted approximately 10 minutes.

Marlene Lott – Stated she is representing State Representative Daryl Metcalfe.

Nancy Swisher – Asked what are the plans for the park. Supervisor Roth said a playground, pavilion and restrooms for now. Mrs. Swisher said that Butler was getting rid of some of their items and maybe the Township would be interested. Supervisor Roth said the park committee would like to get higher quality and try and keep everything the same. He advised the entire project was estimated to cost 4 million dollars. Mrs. Swisher asked how many people signed the petition to close Monroe Road. Mr. Kelly said he thinks 9 houses are on that road and 7 signed

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Audience Participation – Continued

Nancy Swisher – Continued - in favor of closing the road. Mrs. Swisher asked if anyone else was contacted about closing the road or just the residents. Mr. Kelly stated just the residents on Monroe Road were contacted and he has not been able to talk to anyone from Penn Valley.

Supervisor Ward seeing no further audience participation requested a motion to adjourn. Motion offered by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Roth. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Approved: Respectfully Submitted:

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