Monday, June 19, 2017

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 was Supervisor, Wilbert J. Mowry, Jr. Supervisor Douglas A. Roth was absent.

Township Manager, Linda D. Zerfoss, Land Use Administrator, Clinton A. Bonetti, Sergeant, Cheryl A. Cranmer and 8 Township residents or visitors were also present.

Minutes – 05/15/17

Motion by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Mowry that there being no additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held Monday, May 15, 2017 be approved as presented. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Correspondence

Armstrong – Letter informing us their newest community effort called “Healing Heroes’ Project”. This is a partnership between Armstrong, Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs, Inc. and Veterans Cable. Guardian Angels rescues, raises, trains and donates medical service dogs to assist veterans struggling from disabilities. Armstrong has raised enough funds to support 5 dogs. They will continue their project for the rest of the year in the hope they can raise enough for 8 dogs. They are looking to identify veterans who would be good candidates for a service dog. They are requesting anyone that knows of a veteran who is “Danger Close” to Armstrong.

PSATS News Bulletin – Dated May 2017 on PSATS’ 95th Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show a Success! Capitol Roundup, Local Government Legislation Moves Forward, and This and That.

Penn Township Veterans Association – Thank you for the support and donation to the Penn Township Veterans Association Memorial Ceremony. They honored 17 veterans and their families.

South Butler Community Library – June 2017 Newsletter.

Penn Dot – Notice that the State Police Fines and Penalties in the amount of $2,315.29 will be paid on June 1, 2017.

PSATS – Submitted the 2017 Adopted PSATS Resolutions and a brief report of the resolution that were fulfilled or partially fulfilled in the last year. Also included was an Act 172 Guidance to assist in tax credits for volunteer first responders.

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Seminars

Accident Reconstruction Seminar, 10/31 – 11/02/17 in Gettysburg

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

Treasurer’s Report

Mrs. Zerfoss presented the list of invoices paid since the last report was given on May 15, 2017. Township Fund: $183,129.17, Fire Tax Fund: $2,673.62, Municipal Pension Fund: $324.08, Police Pension Fund: $240.09. Deposits into the various Township Funds totaled $185,876.17. Balances were read as follows: Township Fund: $1,027,343.42, Fire Tax Fund: $127,400.76, Act 13 Impact Fund: $529,606.89, Municipal Pension Fund: $494,072.32, Police Pension Fund: $1,065,467.96, State Fund: $351,718.77. Motion by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Mowry that the Treasurer’s Report be approved. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Zoning Department

Mr. Bonetti stated he talked to HRG, the Township Engineers regarding the Subdivision Ordinance and hopes to have something by the next meeting.

Police Department

Mrs. Zerfoss read the Police report for May 2017.

Mrs. Zerfoss also reported that Kiskiminetas Township Police Department contact the Township that they had 2 Tasers they would donate to our Police Department if we could use them. She stated she sent them a letter advising we would gladly accept them for our department.

Mrs. Zerfoss reported that the 2014 Police Ford Taurus vehicle was recently in an accident and it was deemed total by our insurance company. She is requesting authorization to purchase a 2017 Ford Interceptor Utility vehicle from Day Ford, Inc. at a price of $27,619.00. This vehicle would be like the other police vehicles with the exception of the SUV. Motion by Supervisor Mowry and seconded by Supervisor Ward that Mrs. Zerfoss be authorized to purchase a 2017 Ford Interceptor Utility from Day Ford, Inc. at a price of $27,619.00. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

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Police Department - Continued

Mrs. Zerfoss also requested approval to accept a quote from Ibis Tek to outfit the new police vehicle at a quote of $7,748.00. Motion by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Mowry that the quote from Ibis Tek to outfit the new police vehicle at a quote of $7,748.00 be accepted. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Supervisor Ward reported he contacted the police department to inquire if there was anything they needed to better do their job and to further protect them. He advised Cpl. Crawford submitted this request to purchase newer body armor in light of the upswing of the officer involved shootings and violence directed at the police. Butler County recently experienced two of its own gun related incidents. Cpl. Crawford has requested a “plate carrier” to offer added ballistic protection during critical incidents. They are capable of withstanding ballistic threats well in excess of the soft body armor currently worn. The “plate carrier” is easily donned over the current uniform during critical incidents and requires little training or upkeep and is rated for 20 years. There is a reputable vendor within Butler County who would be able to meet the request and to outfit each Officer within the Department at a cost of roughly $2,000.00. Sgt. Cranmer discussed the above referenced incidents that occurred in Butler County. Motion by Supervisor Mowry and seconded by Supervisor Ward that the Body Armor be purchased through the vendor in Butler County at a cost of $1,975.00. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Road Department

Mrs. Zerfoss reported that Supervisor Roth requested approval to purchase an Ex Mark Mower for the Harcrest Park not to exceed $20,000.00. Motion by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Mowry that approval be given to purchase the Ex Mark Mower for Harcrest Park and not to exceed $20,000.00. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Mrs. Zerfoss stated the road department has been busy with storms the past week and the township had 2.5 inches of rain in 45 minutes and they have been busy cleaning up since with mud and trees coming down.

Recycling Report

No report.

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Parks and Recreation Department

Mrs. Zerfoss presented Supervisor Roth’s report. He is requesting approval to purchase 5 more benches. Supervisor Mowry asked how much each bench cost. Mrs. Zerfoss replied they were $1,000.00 each. Motion by Supervisor Mowry and seconded by Supervisor Ward that Supervisor Roth be authorized to purchase 5 more benches. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Mrs. Zerfoss requested a motion to allow Scott Gumto to help mowing Harcrest Park at a cost not to exceed $475.00 annually.

Mrs. Zerfoss reported the bathrooms are delayed as the company is falling behind on their orders. The bathroom for the park won’t be in until August. Also, she stated the contractor is falling behind due to the rains.

Mrs. Zerfoss announced that the Act 13 monies for the year 2016 will be $106,926.82.

Public Relations Department

No report.

Old Business

Ordinance #166, Penn Township Zoning Ordinance

Mrs. Zerfoss stated the public hearing was held prior to last month’s meeting and the Board decided to table the matter until tonight. Motion by Supervisor Mowry and seconded by Supervisor Ward that Ordinance #166, Penn Township Zoning Ordinance be approved. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

New Business

Mrs. Zerfoss stated that we have been reviewing our current junk ordinance and Solicitor Lope will prepare a new junk ordinance for the Board to review.

Mrs. Zerfoss also stated the Butler County Airport would like to have a Board member sit on their Board. Supervisor Mowry stated he would sit on their Board.

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Ordinance #167 – Police Pension

Mrs. Zerfoss read Ordinance #167 – Police Pension. She advised that Mockenhaupt Benefits Group prepared a new Ordinance combining all of the previous Police Pension Ordinances into one and amending some benefit changes that were negotiated with as part of the Police collective bargaining agreement for 2016-2019 years. She advised Solicitor Lope reviewed the Ordinance and advertised it for adoption. Motion by Supervisor Ward and seconded by Supervisor Mowry that Ordinance #167 – Police Pension be adopted. There being no questions or comments from the audience, the motion carried.

Act 537 – Saxonburg Authority

No report.

Audience Participation

Nancy Swisher – Asked what kind of bathroom is going into the park. Supervisor Ward said it was pre-cast concrete.

Linda Dawson – Asked who was reviewing the junk ordinance. Supervisor Ward stated Solicitor Lope was reviewing.

Jeff Anderson – Asked about the lines on Church Road. Sgt. Cranmer said it was for the Police to use Vassar for speeders.

Brian Felsing – Asked about speeding vehicles on Weckerly Road and possibly a No Thru Traffic Sign. Sgt. Cranmer said the Police could get the lines painted on the road for Vascar and the No Thru Traffic Sign would be handled by the Road department. Supervisor Ward said he would discuss this with Supervisor Roth. Mr. Felsing said he was also having a lot of wash out along the road. He asked if Supervisor Roth could call him to discuss the situation.

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Approved: Respectfully Submitted:

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Samuel M. Ward Linda D. Zerfoss

Chairman Township Manager

Board of Supervisors Penn Township