Tuesday, February 9, 2021

The Penn Township Board of Supervisors held a virtual meeting this evening at 5:45 p.m. 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 2 Township residents.

**Minutes – 01/04/21**

Supervisor Ward made a motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion that there being no additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held Monday, January 4, 2021, they be approved as presented. The motion carried.

**Correspondence**

PA DEP – Notice they issued a Solid Waste Permit General Permit #WMGR123NW009 to RES Water-Butler, LLC for the beneficial use of oil and gas liquid waste for use as liquid to develop or hydraulically fracture an oil or gas well.

Penn Township Board of Auditors – Minutes of their meeting held Tuesday, January 5, 2021 where they set the wages for a working Supervisor at $33.94 per hour.

Animal Legal Defense Fund – Sent a booklet summarizing each applicable Pennsylvania animal cruelty statute, organized by type of crime. It also outlines relevant procedural rules, ranging from investigatory and seizure issues, to applicable criminal penalties, to bans on future animal possession.

South Butler Community Library – Summary for Municipalities on their Library Board of Trustees Meeting held January 13, 2021.

Butler County Bureau of Elections – Notice that the following people are up for re-election. Douglas Roth, Andraya Gealey and Cheryl Ramsey. Mrs. Zerfoss reported she notified all individuals involved.

PSATS News Bulletin – January 2021 on Capitol Roundup, Recognize Township Leaders with PSATS Awards, COVID News, Be Sure to Register for PSATS; 2021 Conference & Exhibit Show and Centennial Celebration, Don’t Miss PSATS Training Opportunities and This and That.

The Kecks – Thank you card to the Police.

Arlene Cleeland – Thank you to the Police Department and a donation of $50.00 to the Police Department.

Armstrong Cable – Notice of another rate increase.

PennDot – Moving Forward quarterly newsletter dated Winter 2021.

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**Seminars**

None.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Mrs. Zerfoss read the list of invoices paid since the last report was read on January 4, 2021. Township Fund: $150,388.91, Fire Tax Fund: $2,768.86, Act 13 Fund: $405.02. Deposits into the various Township Funds totaled $180,427.86. Balances were read as follows: Township Fund: $121,655.23, Fire Tax Fund: $59,230.06, Township Savings Fund: $311,977.64, Act 13 Impact Fund: $530,183.58, Municipal Pension Fund: $780,439.84, Police Pension Fund: $1,510,979.65, State Fund: $36,870.41. Supervisor Mowry made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion that the Treasurer’s Report be approved as presented. The motion carried.

**Zoning Department**

Mr. Bonetti presented his Zoning report for January 2021. The following have been issued: 1 Zoning Permit, 17 Lien Letters, 1 Land Development Application. Total Zoning fees for January 2021 were $555.00.

Mr. Bonetti also reported on the approval letter exemption that was received from PA DEP on A. McCay Subdivision. They confirmed that the project is exempt from the requirement to revise the Official Plan for new land development.

**Police Department**

Mrs. Zerfoss read the Police report for January 2021. She also submitted the annual report for 2021.

Mrs. Zerfoss read the Animal Control Report for December 2020.

**Road Department**

Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion to purchase 2A concrete from Mekis at $12.00 a ton and that Phil Hay Trucking will deliver the concrete at $85.00 a load. The motion carried.

Supervisor Roth also reported that Mekis will remove the old concrete pipes from the Township when they drop off the crushed concrete. Phil Hay Trucking will take these concrete pipes to Mekis to be crushed.

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**Road Department – Continued**

Supervisor Roth reported he received approval at the last meeting to purchase 2 extra cameras. The cost exceeded the $500.00 he was authorized to spend. The extra cameras will cost approximately $2,000.00. Supervisor Ward made the motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion that Supervisor Roth be authorized to purchase the 2 cameras at a cost of approximately $2,000.00. The motion carried.

Supervisor Roth reported the John Deere tractor keeps quitting and he is having Land Pro service the tractor.

Supervisor Roth stated Truck #8 broke down and had to have the alternator replaced. He stated that truck #6 is having possible fuel related issues. A Cummings representative will review this issue and advise.

Supervisor Roth advised that Solicitor Lope wrote a letter to Glassmere advising that Penn Township will hold them responsible in the future if there is damage to any of the vehicles as a result of their actions.

Recycling Report

Mrs. Zerfoss read a letter from Sheryl Kelly that Butler County has a state-required and approved Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan under Pennsylvania’s Act 11. As part of this plan, the County has contracts with many landfills that are permitted to accept municipal waste from haulers operating in Butler county and we have an “open” plan which allows permitted landfills to petition the county to be added to the plan. They have been petitioned by Evergreen Landfill, Inc. owned by Waste Management. They are now in the required 30-day period whereby Butler County’s municipalities may submit comments regarding the addition of this landfill.

Mrs. Zerfoss announced that PA DEP has completed their review of Penn Township’s registration to conduct a household hazardous waste and electronics collection event in conjunction with Environmental Coordination Services and Recycling at 157 E Airport Rd., Butler, PA 16002 on June 5, 2021.

**Parks and Recreation Department**

Supervisor Roth reported a Scout would like to install a GaGa pit at the Harcrest Park and another Scout would like to install a chimney swift tower. These are Eagle Scout projects.

Supervisor Roth stated Lance Welliver and James Feath are working on a Harcrest Park grant for LWCF. HRG will bill for time on the application.

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**Parks and Recreation Department – Continued**

Supervisor Roth reported eight benches arrived last week and are in the maintenance building.

Mrs. Zerfoss advised that the annual application for the Butler County Park Renovation/Development Program has been received.

**Public Relations Department**

Mrs. Zerfoss announced a certificate has been received from the United States Census 2020.

**Old Business**

Supervisor Roth reported on the stormwater committee proposal.

Mrs. Zerfoss reported back in August 2020 a vehicle destroyed the traffic lights at Route 8 and Dinnerbell Road. The total to permanently fix the lights are $73,241.50. The insurance company wants to settle for $72,614.83 a difference of $626.67. Mrs. Zerfoss recommends the Board agree to settle so that the light can be permanently repaired. Supervisor Mowry made the motion and Supervisor Roth seconded the motion that Mrs. Zerfoss be authorized to accept the settlement amount of $72,614.83 from the insurance company. The motion carried.

**New Business**

Mrs. Zerfoss stated an email was received from Wendy Leslie, Butler County CDBG Coordinator that the USDA is seeking applications for grants to support rural community development projects. This would be to improve housing, community facilities an community and economic development in rural areas. Mrs. Zerfoss stated she will post an ad on the Township web site and post notices throughout the Township with the following message:

Do you need help with paying\* your mortgage, rent or utilities

due to Covid-19 please contact:

Center for Community Resources at 724-431-3748

or if additional services are needed please contact:

United Way at 222

This information is provided to you by

Penn Township and the County of Butler

\*You must meet low to moderate income requirements

Supervisor Roth reported a small group would like to restart the Butler County COG and include the Stormwater Committee in the COG.

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**New Business - Continued**

Supervisor Roth reported he has received a request to honor Ken Scholter in some way. Supervisor Roth will draft a letter to the Airport Authority.

Mrs. Zerfoss reported 3 proposals for the replacement of the office HVAC (RTU #4) were received:

Armstrong Comfort Solutions $7,517

Peters Refrigeration $13,000

Fugh Refrigeration $9,900

Mrs. Zerfoss reported that Armstrong Comfort Solutions proposal expired January 31, 2021. Supervisor Roth made the motion and Supervisor Ward seconded the motion that Armstrong Comfort Solutions be authorized to replace the office heater/conditioner for the contract price of $7,517.00 provided they will honor their quoted price. The motion carried.

**Act 537 – Saxonburg Authority**

Supervisor Roth reported at the last meeting they elected officers and the Tower Road project is complete.

**Audience Participation**

Erma Mowry – Asked about when the office RTU replacement would be done. She hoped it would be done before election day. Mrs. Zerfoss replied the RTU replacement is for the offices. The heater and air conditioner in the meeting room is working. Mrs. Mowry also thanked the Road Department for their snow removal.

Will Burns – Discussed the issue with the gas/diesel fuel with the vehicles and the testing agency.

**Adjournment**

Supervisor Ward made a motion and Supervisor Mowry seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:34 p.m.

Approved: Respectfully Submitted:

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Samuel M. Ward Linda D. Zerfoss

Chairman Township Manager

Board of Supervisors Penn Township