

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF AUGUST 14, 2019

The meeting of the Pine Grove Township Supervisors was held on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. Supervisors present were Charles Morrison, Carmen Ferranto and Douglas Smith. Others present were Jeanne English, John Bortz Jr., Vance Lauffenburger, Linda Ferry, Pete Ferry, Ken Klakamp, Dan Hanson, Nathan Hanson, Levi Mitchener, Kenneth Porter and Julie Parmenter.

Charles Morrison opened the regular township meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag.

Charles Morrison read over the agenda and asked if there were any comments from visitors or residents.

Jeanne English was at the meeting to request some help from the Township with mowing the banks at Warner Park as the growth has become more than they can take care of with their mowers. The Supervisors were in agreement that once the road work is completed, we would be able to help. Next, she inquired about getting the parking area at Warner Park tarred and chipped. Charlie Morrison advised that we would not be able to do tar and chipping this year due to the fact that we have already bid out our road materials. He advised her to come back at the beginning of the year with this request and the road foreman could figure how much oil would be needed and an agreement could be worked out.

Jeanne also inquired as to whether they could get millings from PennDOT through the Township. Charlie Morrison advised that currently the Township cannot get millings. She asked if they could acquire millings from PennDOT, would the Township be willing to haul them to the Park. Mr. Morrison advised that the Township would not be able to do that at this time because of their work schedule.

There was a short discussion with Jeanne English on Warner Park becoming affiliated with the Township in order to help them get grant funds, if anything is available. The Supervisors advised that because the Park was donated to the Russell Volunteer Fire Department, she would have to get a legal review on that.

Next to speak was Linda Ferry on the condition of Woodland Drive. She advised the Supervisors that the water run off coming across Rt. 62 is causing damage to the edges of the roadway and eventually she is concerned it could damage the road itself. Ken Klakamp also spoke and advised the Supervisors that he has a short video of the water running down the road. He will forward the video to the secretary at the office and the Supervisors advised they will get in touch with a PennDOT representative to see if there is something that can be done to correct this problem.

A motion was made by Carmen Ferranto to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2019, meeting and it was seconded by Douglas Smith. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Douglas Smith made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report dated August 14, 2019. Carmen Ferranto seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Carmen Ferranto made a motion to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$225,194.57 for the general fund, \$26,311.32 for the sewer fund, \$6,746.62 for the sewer II fund, and \$12,461.24 for the

water fund. Also, approval for payment of any utilities that may come due before the next regular scheduled meeting. The motion was seconded by Douglas Smith. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Next on the agenda was the bid opening for the salt building. Mitchener Builders Inc. was the only bid submitted. The total amount of the bid was \$138,950.00 with a start date of late September and a completion date around the second week of December. The Supervisors reviewed the bid and after some discussion Carmen Ferranto made a motion to accept the bid from Mitchener Builders in the amount of \$138,950.00 and it was seconded by Douglas Smith. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Ken Porter reported they have been oiling various roads and ditching on Gouldtown. He noted that they have ordered another truckload of cold patch. They replaced a pipe on Cidermill Hill and spent some time on one calls for the water line replacement project

The Supervisors discussed the extension of the road projects that were bid out earlier this year. The water line replacement project will be going on a couple of the streets that are scheduled for paving. Since the water line project has not started yet, the Supervisors have decided to extend the paving contracts. In order to pay for these road projects with Liquid Fuels Funds, the work must be completed by certain dates. The seal coat has to be completed by September 15th and the paving by October 1st. Carmen Ferranto made a motion to extend the seal coat contract until September 15th and the paving contract until October 1st. Douglas Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

There are a few streets within the Township that need some spot patching. Ken Porter acquired some telephone quotes for the following streets, North & South Terrace, Williams Street, Cidermill Hill and Shady Ridge. The Supervisors reviewed the quotes received, one from Kingsview Paving with a total of \$7,500 and one from Huber Blacktop with a total of \$9,000. Douglas Smith made a motion to hire Kingsview Paving with a cost of \$7,500 and Carmen Ferranto seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Next on the agenda was the LERTA Program, which is a tax relief and redevelopment act. This program will provide relief for properties in deteriorated areas and also provide tax abatement for commercial and business properties and for residential construction and improvements within the township. Carmen Ferranto made a motion to approve **ORDINANCE #8-14-19** for the LERTA Program and it was seconded by Douglas Smith. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Carmen Ferranto advised on the meeting that he and Douglas Smith had attended at the North Warren Municipal Authority for the financing of their new treatment plant. Due to the fact that Pine Grove Township has wastewater treated at their facility we will have to pay for a portion of the upgrade to the plant. Pine Grove Township's portion of this will be just a little over 1 million dollars. Carmen and Doug spoke with representatives from North Warren Municipal about the terms for repayment of this loan. Their solicitor presented a few different options for repayment to our attorney. Since these plans were just received today, Carmen Ferranto advised that the Supervisors table this issue until the next meeting so that they could have time to review the options.

There was some discussion on an abandoned building within the village and what could be done. The Supervisors will contact the city building inspector to come and take a look at the property in question and determine if it needs to be condemned.

The Curtis agreement was the next item discussed. At a previous meeting Mr. Curtis inquired about building a road to some property he had recently acquired. The Supervisors advised they would have an agreement drawn up relative to this. The agreement was received from our solicitor and Mr. Curtis has reviewed this and signed. The Supervisors also signed the agreement and a copy will be forwarded on the Mr. Curtis.

The agreement with the Russell United Methodist Church relative to them purchasing the materials to tar and chip their parking lot and the Township donating the work was also signed by the Supervisors and a copy will be sent to the Church.

Next item was the legal beverage status that Mr. Bortz presented to the Supervisors at the previous meeting. At the last meeting, Mr. Bortz handed out a Resolution for the Supervisors review. The Supervisors have reviewed the Resolution and under advisement from the solicitor they do not see any need to pass this Resolution. The solicitor noted that the Resolution has no bearing on changing the Township from dry to wet. Mr. Bortz talked about the process on how to get this on the ballot for an upcoming election and agreed that the Resolution would not be a factor in that process. Although, he did state that the Resolution may be helpful in getting signatures on the petition if residents know that the Supervisors are on board with this change. Mr. Bortz advised that they are hoping to get this on the 2020 fall election ballot. The Supervisors decided to table this until the next meeting so that they have time to review this issue further with the solicitor.

The Curtis subdivision located along Valentine Run Road was next. This proposal severs Tax Parcel WN-2-777 (Parcel 1) into four lots, Lot 1 (32.12 acres), Lot 2 (20.56 acres), Lot 3 (33.51 acres), leaving the residual tract at 168.46 acres. Carmen Ferranto made motion to approve the Curtis subdivision and it was seconded by Douglas Smith. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Carmen Ferranto wanted to mention that the audit has been completed and is available if anyone wants to review it.

There was talk on the PNC accounts and the analysis fees the Township is still receiving. A meeting has been set up with PLGIT to see what they have to offer. The secretary can also check with other banking institutions to see what is available.

Carmen Ferranto made a motion for adjournment at 8:00 PM. Douglas Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Sincerely,

Secretary