

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF AUGUST 12, 2020

The meeting of the Pine Grove Township Supervisors was held on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. Supervisors present were Carmen Ferranto, Douglas Smith and Linda Farnsworth. Others present were Rich Barrett, Greg Senyo, Daniel Cable, Dick Cable, Darren Schott, Jim & Bev Seder, Bill & Sioux Cole, Dave McJunkin and Julie Parmenter.

Carmen Ferranto opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag.

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

Jim Seder mentioned to the Supervisor's that he has many photos of the construction of the new bridge on Liberty Street. He offered some of these to the Township if they would be interested. The Supervisor's would be willing to take a look at the photos.

Next, was discussion on the possible closure of the Big Four Road. Jim Seder inquired about this and the Supervisor's advised that they are currently reviewing this matter due to the liability issues among other things. They noted that, if possible, the road could be turned into a bike/hike path and would still be maintained to some extent. Access to the road would also be available for emergency purposes. There were questions as to what kind of time frame there is on the closure. The Supervisors noted that they are moving forward with a road survey and there are several other items that would need to be taken care of before this could happen. It was suggested that a cost estimate be acquired on bringing that section of the road up to specs. Several visitors expressed their opinions on the closure issue. It was mentioned, more than once, about the high speed of traffic and the garbage that is dumped in that area. The Supervisor's stated that there would most likely be an open public meeting regarding this. The Supervisors did note that they will maintain an objective stance but they have to look at it from a liability standpoint.

The next item discussed was the use of the Big Four Road by trucks hauling out of Cable's pit. The Supervisors do not want to hamper the business nor do they have any intentions of bonding the road. Some residents have complained about the amount of truck traffic and the speed. The Supervisor's suggested that possibly someone could meet with Dan Cable to work out a compromise for this problem.

Jim Seder informed the Supervisor's that at the end of Big Four where the turn around is, the water is washing out that bank. The Supervisor's will take a look at this.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2020, meeting by Douglas Smith. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Linda Farnsworth made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report dated August 12, 2020. Douglas Smith 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 \$45,507.31 for the general fund, \$33,087.12 for the sewer fund, \$6,701.62 for the sewer II fund, \$147,670.72 for the state

fund and \$18,580.96 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 Carmen Ferranto. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Dave reported that they are finished on Reynolds Run and Cidermill Hill and State Street are sealed. They are currently working on Egypt Hollow and oil is scheduled for Friday. They also have scheduled more oil for August 25th.

Rich Barrett inquired on a time frame for oil and stone work on Perigo Lane and the Fire Hall parking lot. The Supervisor's will check into a date on this. They noted that this could be done after the roads were completed.

Greg Senyo asked about the ATV issue on Reynolds Run and Hultberg Roads. He mentioned that these roads are currently designated as ATV roads and requested that this be changed. The Supervisor's discussed that the Ordinance could possibly be rescinded. They decided to table this until the next meeting so that they could take a look at the Ordinance.

Next discussion was on the current sewer rates. The Supervisor's reviewed the current rates and commented on the recent upgrades to the North Warren Treatment Plant and the financial affect it will have on the sewer system. The Supervisor's decided to table this until the next meeting to review the financial information so that they can make an informed decision.

There was some discussion on overtime management for the employees. The Supervisor's agreed that overtime will need to be authorized in advance.

The Ordinance update was the next item for examination. The Supervisor's discussed property maintenance and enforcement of such. It was noted that the International Property Maintenance Code or parts thereof would need to be adopted in order to enforce this.

Next was **Ordinance #8-12-20** regarding the Municipal Pension Plan. Every six years this plan is required by the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law to be reviewed. Carmen Ferranto made a motion to approve **Ordinance #8-12-20** amending the Non-Uniform Pension Plan administered by the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System. Douglas Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Linda Farnsworth advised the employee ID badges are almost ready to be ordered. The policy will be for employees to have these badges visible if they need to go on private property. She noted that the cost for 10 badges with clips from Quick Solutions would be \$95.73. A motion for payment of badges at the cost of \$95.73 was made by Carmen Ferranto and Douglas Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Carmen Ferranto inquired as to whether or not PennDOT is open for CDL licenses for Nathan. Rich Barrett advised that the Warren office is not open for this but he knows that the Bradford office is. He will get Dave the information on the CDL testing.

Requests from residents for tree removals within the right of way was examined. The Supervisor's determined that they should avoid this, if at all possible. If the road foreman receives a request for this service, it is to be presented to the Supervisors who will make a final decision.

Rich Barrett spoke on the NIMS paperwork he received from the secretary for assistance. He advised that each of the Supervisors should take the NIMS training in order to be compliant. The Supervisor's are all willing to take this training. Rich will get the information to the secretary as soon as he receives it.

Carmen Ferranto adjourned the regular meeting at 8:28 to go into executive session to discuss employee issues.

Carmen Ferranto reconvened the regular meeting at 8:41.

It was noted that Nathan and Dave have both completed their probationary period and the Supervisor's agreed on a wage increase for both employees. A motion was made by Carmen Ferranto to increase Nathan Markham's wage by \$2.00 per hour starting with the next pay period. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Douglas Smith made a motion for Dave McJunkin's pay rate to increase \$1.00 per hour starting with the next pay period. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. Carmen Ferranto abstained from this vote.

Carmen Ferranto made a motion for adjournment at 8:42 pm. Douglas Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Sincerely,


Secretary