

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2024

The meeting of the Pine Grove Township Supervisors was held on Friday, February 23, 2024 at 8:30 AM at the Town Hall. Supervisors present were Douglas Smith, Robert Nelson and Linda Farnsworth via telephone. Others present were Ted Smith and Julie Parmenter.

Doug Smith opened the meeting at 8:34 a.m.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag.

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

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2024 meeting by Bob Nelson. Linda Farnsworth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Ted Smith attended to review any information that may have been obtained regarding the 106 Cottage Place property since the last meeting. The Supervisor's advised Mr. Smith that the secretary had spoken with the City concerning the liens on the property. The Supervisors are willing to work with Mr. Smith on the township liens for sewer as long as they have an agreement in place addressing what work is planned and when it would be completed. Mr. Smith asked if we could provide him with any data on the school and county taxes that may be owed. The secretary will try to get contact information for him relative to the school and county taxes owed. Mr. Smith mentioned that his current plan is to acquire the property this year and get it cleared by the end of the year and hopefully start building in 2025.

Next was some discussion on the Pine Grove Township Quit Claim Deed to Kopf. Some questions came up about this issue and the solicitor was contacted. He is checking into this and will get back to the Supervisor's. Bob Nelson made a motion to table this until they hear back from the solicitor. Doug Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

The Supervisors are considering moving some funds out of the current bank and redirecting them to another institution with a better investment rate. They reviewed rates from three separate entities and noted that PLGIT has the best investment rate. Doug Smith made a motion to move the General Fund Reserve funds out of Northwest Bank and into the PLGIT/PRIME program and to list Julie Parmenter, Secretary, as the authorization person on this account. Bob Nelson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

In respect to the collection of unpaid sewer charges, the solicitor advised that the Supervisors could pass a Resolution which would require all township utilities to be paid by the land owner and not the tenants. The Supervisor's agreed that this may help in the collection of unpaid debt and may make it easier in the future to keep the utilities current. Bob Nelson made a motion to have the solicitor draft a Resolution stating that payments for utilities will now be the responsibility of the land owners. Doug Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

There was some talk on funding for equipment. Bob indicated that he has spoken with Dave regarding this. Dave has been considering different options but has not come to any decisions as to what might be the best thing to purchase. Until a decision is made on what equipment would be the most useful, funding cannot be applied for.

The secretary advised that the salt contract with COSTARS has been renewed for the 2024/2025 Season with an amount of 50 tons of salt.

The secretary reported that the Fire Department swore in 12 Fire Police at their last meeting. The secretary attended the meeting in order to swear them in.

A request was received from ROAR for the Pine Grove Days. The Supervisors reviewed this request and gave their approval. The secretary will send a letter to ROAR advising them.

There was some discussion on recent sewer repairs. A question regarding who is responsible to pay for certain sewer repairs has come up. There have been a couple of incidents where a sewer leak was in a place that was controversial as to who is liable for the repair costs. These repairs were made between the main and the grinder and it was determined that this location is a Township responsibility.

Doug Smith informed the other Supervisors that he had spoken with Greg from Warren Websters about the discovery of damage to the sewer system by way of cameras from some time ago and the repairs that need to be made. The Supervisors would like to get these repairs taken care of so that they can eliminate the water infiltration into the system.

The Willow Lane lift station needs a back-up pump. Cody with Warren Websters called with a price of 9,200 for a new one. Doug Smith made a motion to purchase a new pump and it was seconded by Linda Farnsworth. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Next was an email received from Planning and Zoning regarding the request from a property owner to review and consider a change to the setback requirements for housing livestock. Michael Lyon sent the current regulations governing agriculture and explained the request he received. He is asking each zoned municipality to review and comment on this issue. The supervisors discussed this and would like to keep the setback requirements the same but are willing to look at individual requests if they come up.

The newsletter was discussed and noted that they are changing the printer to JRSC. An email was sent to Steve Horsley advising him of this.

Bob Nelson made a motion for adjournment at 9:56 am. Doug Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Sincerely,


Secretary