

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Terry Steinheiser at 7:00 p.m. on December 4, 2013 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser and Scott Longdon. Jack Kaltenbaugh was not present. Also attending were Solicitor Andrew Menchyk, Jr., Engineer Bill Braun, Treasurer Lee Kradel and Secretary Brenda Davis was present to take the minutes. Twelve people signed in on the public sign in record on file. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW MINUTES

Steinheiser made a motion to approve supervisor meeting minutes of November 6, 2013. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$334,450.19 but after total deposits of \$50,151.25 and checks in the amount of \$41,986.00 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$342,615.44. The Escrow account beginning balance was \$22,753.25 but after deposits in the amount of \$6,000.00 and checks in the amount of \$2,208.78, the ending balance is \$26,544.47. Lee Kradel stated the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$61,199.25 but with interest of \$2.29, the ending balance is \$61,201.54. Ms. Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$258,935.96 but with interest of \$20.74, the ending balance is \$258,956.70. Steinheiser motioned to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Longdon stated the budget was done but knew an increase was coming from the Worker's Compensation that is paid for the Connoquenessing Volunteer Fire Department. Longdon stated the amount on the advertised 2014 budget was off by \$8,064.00 which now needs adjusted. Lee Kradel stated after reviewing she feels the Realty Transfer Taxes revenue account could be increased by \$5,000 and three expenses could be reduced. The expenses reduced were the Solicitor by \$1,000, Highway Maintenance Supplies by \$1,000 and Building Maintenance by \$1,064. Steinheiser thanked Lee Kradel for her effort in adjusting the budget. Longdon motioned to adopt the 2014 budget with the suggested general fund adjustments. Evelyn Hockenberry asked what the final budget amount is? Lee Kradel stated \$969,528.86. Tom Pawlowicz asked if this year's budget affects the residents real estate taxes? Steinheiser said, "no". Steinheiser then seconded Longdon's motion. Roll call, yes.

COMMENT PERIOD

Tom Pawlowicz said he is pleased that there is no millage increase in real estate taxes for the residents since the school taxes are going up and possibly the County. Pawlowicz stated this is the only salvation the taxpayers have. Steinheiser agreed. Steinheiser stated alot of issues need addressed which cost money for example the Act 537 plan but the number one priority right now is finding funds to widen Rt. 68 at the Kriess Road intersection which will cost approximately \$1.2 million. Steinheiser said even though we have the Act 13 funds to use, it can not cover everything.

REQUEST TO BE HEARD

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Steinheiser mentioned rejecting the Terrorism Coverage that is offered by C.W. Howard Insurance Co. which would cost an additional \$617.00/year. Hockenberry commented that the insurance company usually suggests the Township to reject. Longdon said when he met with the insurance representative he was told in order to collect on this type of policy, it would have to be proven it was a terroristic act by many levels of government. Longdon stated it is an expense that doesn't apply to the Township. Longdon made a motion to sign to reject the Terrorism Coverage. Steinheiser, seconded. Roll call, yes.

PLANS

NONE

ENGINEER REPORT

Bill Braun refreshed the board on the design proposal Senate Engineering submitted which included their sub consultant Trans Associates quote a few months back for the turning lanes on Rt. 68. Steinheiser stated the Township budgeted the cost of the design work in the 2014 budget and Mr. Menchyk, Jr. has discussed this cost with the Attorney for Honda North and feels since nothing can move forward without a design, Steinheiser feels we should move forward. Mr. Braun confirmed that you must have a design before applying for grants or an HOP permit. Steinheiser made a motion to retain Senate Engineering to prepare the drawings and obtain the HOP permit. Longdon asked Mr. Braun if this amount included the Part 1 of preliminary and final design of the project. Mr. Braun said, "yes" but it does not include the right-of-way costs or construction costs. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes. Steinheiser thanked Bill Braun and Trans Associates for all their time and effort in preparing the design proposal. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked what the amount Honda North is obligated to? Bill Braun thought it was \$87,500 minus any bills they have already paid toward the project. Lee Kradel stated Honda North has not been billed thus far. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated now that we have committed the funds and expending the monies for the design, we can bill Honda North per their agreement with the Township which should cover the amount of this initial phase. Tom Huff questioned if other businesses on the road could help out with the costs? Steinheiser said we can't go back on those businesses. Tom Pawlowicz mentioned receiving tax information related to 84 lumber possibly building on Kriess Road and questioned Steinheiser if a new business comes in could they help pay? Steinheiser thanked Mr. Pawlowicz for the information but said we would have to look at that at the time. Steinheiser asked Mr. Braun what the time frame for completing the design process would be. Mr. Braun stated we should have Penn Dot approval in approximately 3-4 months, around late spring.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. mentioned it was recently brought to his attention that the board had concerns relating to the "Temporary Holding Tank" ordinance he had prepared over a year ago in relation to making sure the ordinance states it is for temporary holding tanks and only allowed for

commercial businesses. Mr. Menchyk, Jr stated he will review and revise based on the board's comments and re-submit another draft for review at next month's meeting. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated if accepted, it can then be advertised. Longdon asked about the ordinance stating annual inspections but also requiring tank receipts being submitted and asked if the receipts should be turned in when tank is pumped or annually. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the tank pumping receipts should be turned in when pumped and actually the annual inspection statement can be replaced with stating that permits only have a 18 month time period. Mr. Braun asked if the DEP has any jurisdiction over these holding tanks? Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated they always do, however they will have the municipality enforce. Lee Kradel asked if the DEP should review this ordinance? Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated, "no" as long as it doesn't conflict with the "Sewage Facilities Act" and/or the provisions of the "PA Code - Chapter 73". Steinheiser said Section 7 - F states when the pumping receipts need submitted and also under section 7 - G it states that our sewage enforcement officer must also receive the receipts. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated there is an agreement which goes with the ordinance which also needs modified and he will draft for next meeting.

Secondly, Mr. Menchyk, Jr. discussed Resolution #7-13 to adopt the "Agricultural Building Permit Exemption" form that was tabled at last month's meeting to review. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated an application charging a fee was also mentioned in section 4 of the resolution but he has changed that section by stating no fee would be charged based on learning that the supervisors are not in favor of charging a fee. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he presented a sample application but it would need changed to reflect removing the fee line. Mr. Longdon told Mr. Menchyk, Jr. there was another form supplied which could be used as an application. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the resolution can still be adopted without specifying tonight what application will be used. However, Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said the resolution states the application must be on a form that is supplied by the Township. Mr. Pawlowicz asked how spelled out the rules are on whether the building is a farm building? Steinheiser read some of the resolution and told Mr. Pawlowicz that the resolution is very spelled out. Steinheiser stated it has limitations to assure that the buildings under this exemption are for agricultural purposes. Mr. Longdon also said if the building changes use, the resident needs to come in and apply for the appropriate "change of use" permit. Mr. Pawlowicz asked who is going to police this? Longdon said if the property owner fails to come in and a complaint is received, the Township will send Leyne Lokhaiser out to investigate. Mr. Pawlowicz asked if the complainer has to pay \$50.00? Longdon stated, "no" fees are only charged on sewage complaints. Steinheiser made a motion to approve Resolution #7-13, however stating that there may be modifications to the application form that will be supplied by the Township. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. mentioned there are two SFTF residents who are not paying their fees for annual inspections. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked Brenda Davis if the resident, Rachel Lazaro ever received a letter from him before? Ms. Davis said, "no". Mr. Menchyk, Jr. suggested he send a letter to Ms. Lazaro. However, Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the other resident not paying are the Kelosky's and they already have violations against their property from the Township and told the supervisors they could enforce. Longdon asked what enforcement Mr. Menchyk, Jr. would take? Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said he could initiate a civil action with respect to the current fees or taking the current judgment we have against them and take some enforcement action. Longdon asked

if we just went after the current fees would a separate action have to be filed? Mr. Menchky, Jr. stated, "yes" because the first one is already filed against them. Mr. Menchky, Jr. stated he could send them interrogatories requesting all their assets to be listed and if it was not answered he would file a judgment and the courts could send a sheriff out to tag their items for a Sheriff sale. Longdon feels the Township should enforce. Steinheiser agreed by stating when someone has a SFTF they have signed an agreement to have it tested each year and are aware they are not in compliance.

Lastly, Mr. Menchky, Jr. stated the final codification review and corrections should be sent to General Code by the end of the month. Steinheiser thanked Longdon and Menchky, Jr. for all their time and effort on the codification.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Steinheiser motioned to approve invoice in amount of \$182.90. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes. Steinheiser stated Mr. Lokhaiser's report is on file at the Township if anyone wishes to review.

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Longdon stated the road superintendent reports for October and November 2013 are in packets. Longdon stated the project on Reiber Road is complete and the road crew has cut the ditches on Woodlands and Rex Energy came in and rebuilt the shoulders. Longdon said the crew has been cleaning culverts and has all the equipment set up for plowing snow. Steinheiser told Longdon he appreciates how fast the road crew moves when snow comes. Longdon said the road crew does an excellent job and said Bill Chuba is out checking roads at all hours of the morning.

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

Steinheiser stated there were two building permits applied for this month. They were:
Nancy Sabadish - Prospect Rd. - pool house
Mary Morrow - St. James St. - mobile home

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

Tom Pawlowicz stated all taxes are in the penalty phase until the end of year. Secondly, Mr. Pawlowicz asked the supervisors for their assistance in getting more people to pay the per capita tax. Longdon asked Mr. Pawlowicz how the supervisors could help? Mr. Pawlowicz stated he feels the supervisors could allow the solicitor to write letters enforcing this. Longdon stated a list of names and addresses would need to be obtained first. Longdon told Mr. Pawlowicz to start gathering a list and submit. Longdon agrees that all residents need to pay their fair share.

SEO REPORT

NONE

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

Longdon stated he attended last month's required training and stated he feels this is the last one for this year.

MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

Longdon motioned to release XTO road bonds on Boy Scout Rd. (.6 mile), Rose Haven Dr. (.5 mile) and Whitestown Rd. (.9 mile). Steinheiser, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to release Mountain Gathering/Gilliland lot line revision escrow in the amount of \$442.50. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to release SFTF escrow to Jeffrey Domhoff in the amount of \$45.00. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to release SFTF escrow to Glenn Thompson, Sr. in the amount of \$45.00. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to release SFTF escrow to Early Years (Josh Bergdahl) in the amount of \$45.00. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser said the below, which was on the agenda, is for information:

Rec'd letter dated November 11, 2013 from Rex Energy to notify that Permit Applications for Drilling or Altering a Well are being submitted to the PA DEP for the Bell Properties Unit's 2H, 4H, 6H, 8H and 10H natural gas wells located in Jackson Township. Information is on file at Township Office.

Rec'd letter dated November 18, 2013 from Rex Energy to notify that Permit Applications for Drilling or Altering a Well are being submitted to the PA DEP for the Bell Properties Unit's 4H, 6H, 8H and 10H natural gas wells located in Jackson Township. Information is on file at Township Office.

Steinheiser motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. to an executive session to discuss Western Pennsylvania, LTD litigation and stated the board would not return.