

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors "Close of Business" meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 6:00 p.m. on December 28, 2017 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser, Edward Rupert and Ray Kroll. Also attending were Solicitor Andrew Menchyk, Jr., Treasurer/Asst. Secretary Lee Kradel and Secretary/Asst. Treasurer Brenda Davis was present to take the minutes. Engineer Bill Braun did not attend. Two people signed in on the public sign in record on file. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - The executive session was moved to the end of meeting.

REVIEW MINUTES

Rupert motioned to accept the "supervisors meeting" minutes of December 6, 2017. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the Planning Meeting minutes for the month of November are in packets

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$502,573.49 but after total deposits of \$38,014.30 and checks of \$60,972.39 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$479,615.40. The Escrow account beginning balance was \$51,770.58 but after checks in the amount of \$35.00 and deposits of \$250.00, the ending balance is \$51,985.58. Lee Kradel said the the Highway Aide balance remained the same since the December 6, 2017 meeting at \$14,129.53 and the Act 13 Impact Fee fund remained the same at \$165,527.01 and with the CD in the amount of \$500,000, the total Act 13 Impact Fee fund is \$665,527.01. Rupert motioned to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to adopt 2018 budget as resolution #1-18. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert noted there was no tax increase. Lee Kradel said the budget only reflects the General Fund and Highway Aid Liquid Fuels account.

COMMENT PERIOD (Three minute limit pertaining to agenda)

NONE

BIDS

Steinheiser stated bids were to be received and opened for the old generator but did not receive any bids. After discussing, Kroll motioned to re-advertise the old generator one more time and will be opened at February 2018 meeting. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Brenda Davis told the board she has not advertised for a new generator until Kroll gives her the what we are looking for. Rupert stated at last meeting the board decided to advertise for both a natural gas and diesel to compare. Kroll said he suggests going with a diesel because if there is a natural disaster the power companies will turn off the natural gas. Kroll said you could have a diesel tank right near the generator so the building would be ready to go immediately. Steinheiser said to still get bids on both diesel and natural gas to compare.

The board agreed.

REQUEST TO BE HEARD - three minute limit

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

Steinheiser said we needed to continue discussing whether our Township wanted to adopt a resolution to prohibit a category 4 casino within its boundaries. Rupert said he doesn't feel the Township is a prime spot but it would bring good income into the Township. Rupert did say we needed to either prohibit now and it needs completed by December 31, 2017. Brenda Davis said resident Sandra Cox called in and said she would like to see us prohibit now and then if we change our mind we can rescind. Rupert stated he read last week that 200 municipalities have prohibited out of 2,500 so far in the State. Steinheiser also agrees to prohibit now. Kroll stated he has nothing against casinos here but agrees to prohibit now because of the deadline. Kroll said the casino would help the Township with our infrastructure but said even if we prohibit it, the casino can still approach us and we can decide if we want to rescind. Ken Tressler stated the Farm Show had water and sewage so a casino with its funds could probably get it too. Steinheiser said they could definitely help with our infrastructure. Bob Cichra agrees to put in the resolution to prohibit; our putting in a prohibition is not going to stop a large business/casino from approaching the Township. Rupert motioned to approve Resolution No. 6-17 to prohibit the casino category 4 from entering Connoquenessing Township until further rescinded. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Rupert explained a resolution opposing HB 1620 which is in reference to Wireless Broadband Collocation Act. Rupert said this act allows wireless phone companies to set up satellites on our right-of-way (utility, gas, etc.) and only apply for one building permit for 60 satellites. He said they could mount them on any telephone pole or building in our right-of-way the whole way down Rt. 68 and Rt. 528 under one permit. Rupert said our State Association (PSATS) is suggesting that we pass a resolution to not allow this. Rupert said a pro to having all these satellites would benefit residents who don't have good cell phone service but the con is that the phone companies are using our current infrastructure at no cost to them. Kroll asked if existing poles are used.

Rupert said he has read that they pay whoever owns the pole about \$20.00 a pole but the Township gets nothing. Brenda Davis stated that Mr. Menchyk, Jr. had reviewed this and said since we do not have zoning, he considered this irrelevant. Steinheiser and Rupert said that PSATS is asking all the municipalities for their support to oppose this so when they go in front of the House they will have support. Rupert motioned to adopted Resolution No. 7-17 to oppose HB 1620 after it is reviewed by Mr. Menchyk, Jr. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated Bronder Technical Services is canceling their service with us and need to obtain different quotes from other vendors. Brenda Davis said they will help us if needed but they do not have enough technicians to cover 24/7. Kroll asked if Right Electric or Bruce & Merilees has responded. Brenda Davis stated she had received a quote from Right Electric which was enclosed in the supervisor's packets but did not get a response yet from Bruce & Merilees. Brenda Davis stated Connoquenessing Borough went with Right Electric. Steinheiser tabled this discussion until bids are received.

PLANS

Steinheiser stated the Township received Buddy Hindman's recorded Lot Line Plan that was re-approved at the December 6, 2017 meeting.

ENGINEER

NONE

SOLICITOR

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the Township received the county's annual Community Development Block Grant Program application for 2018. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated we had received this last year and it requires doing a needs based survey of residents. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. determined last year Connoquenessing Township was not eligible and feels not much has changed this year. Rupert also said 51% of our residents must be low income so the Township does not meet the criteria.

ROADMASTER

Kroll motioned to release road bond to Springfield Hardwoods for Whitestown Rd. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kroll stated the new rate for providing snow removal on Kennedy Road for Prospect Borough is \$17.61. After discussing how the cost was derived and the increase from \$5.20 in previous years, the board asked Mr. Menchyk, Jr. to discuss with Prospect Borough and see if they want to continue using our service at this new rate. The board tabled this discussion.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

NONE

SEO REPORT

NONE

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

NONE

MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

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

2018 Butler County Farmland Preservation Program Applications are accepted between January 1-31, 2018. Information is on file at the Township office.

Received thank you note from "Butler Area Public Library" for our donation of \$800.00.

Tim Spangler, owner of Voelker Paving on Fassinger Road said he had received a letter from the court about litigation with the Township and feels he has done everything on his land development plan except for putting in a drain pipe which he said Kroll had told him not to do. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the litigation against Mr. Spangler is filed and pertains to his land development plan not being complete. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he has talked to Mr. Spangler and they have discussed possible ideas to move forward and potentially resolving the litigation. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said this needs to be discussed in an Executive Session. Steinheiser told Mr. Spangler no decision will be made until after executive session. Steinheiser told Mr. Spangler the next supervisors meeting is January 2, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Rupert motioned to adjourn to an executive session at 6.42 p.m. to discuss real litigation issues and stated the board would not return. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.