

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 7:00 p.m. on September 11, 2019 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser, Ed Rupert and Ray Kroll. Also attending were Solicitor Andrew Menchyk, Jr., Engineer Bill Braun, Treasurer/Asst. Secretary Lee Kradel and Secretary/Asst. Treasurer Brenda Davis was present to take the minutes. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer. Eighteen people signed in on the public sign in record on file.

REVIEW MINUTES

Reviewed minutes of August 7, 2019 supervisors meeting Kroll motioned to accept the August 7, 2019 minutes. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$441,729.41 but after deposits of \$99,980.69 and checks in the amount of \$120,230.46 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$421,479.64. Lee Kradel stated the Escrow account beginning balance is \$49,922.65 but with a deposit of \$200.00 and checks in the amount of \$2,228.75 are approved tonight, the ending balance is \$47,893.90. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$221,775.37 but with interest of \$9.11 and a check in the amount of \$220,000.00, the ending balance is \$1,784.48. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$500,511.57 but with interest in the amount of \$764.48 and a check in the amount of \$156,984.38, the ending balance is \$344,291.67 but Ms. Kradel added the Act 13 CD account balance of \$514,847.30 plus interest of \$2,919.82 for a total of \$517,767.12 leaving a grand total in the Act 13 account of \$862,058.79. Rupert motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Lee Kradel explained the Central Pension Fund requires her to report by September 30th of each year at a public meeting what the MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation) would be so the dollar amount can be listed on the 2020 budget. Mrs. Kradel said it would be \$15,052.50 which is calculated by taking 3 road crews 2080 hours per year x \$2.25 (\$14,040.00) plus estimating 450 hours of overtime x \$2.25 (\$1,012.50).

COMMENT PERIOD (Three minute limit pertaining to agenda)

Calvin Wonderly asked Lee Kradel why the Township stays with CD's when money market accounts are alot higher? Mrs. Kradel stated the Act 13 regular money is in money market but the surplus Act 13 monies are in a CD. Steinheiser stated the board chose to go with the 6-month Act 13 CD at last month's meeting because it was the best option.

REQUEST TO BE HEARD - three minute limit

Barb Rader, Connoquenessing Borough resident, brought up the Connoquenessing School Rd. constant draining problems that come onto her family's property from the road. Mrs. Rader said she attended the Borough meeting and Francis Smith who was on counsel back when this was first discussed said a vote was approved by the Borough to pay 50%. Kroll stated that the Township only owns 430 ft. back Connoquenessing School Rd. and paved further than we maintain. Kroll agreed there is a problem with the runoff from Rt. 68 and the Connoquenessing School. Bill Braun said an easement might be needed from the property owner or Borough before the Township can repair. Steinheiser asked Bill Braun and Ray Kroll to determine who owns it and then split the cost evenly to get the road corrected.

Jim Dunham questioned if the Township's position is saying video taping at our public building is against the law? Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated it is the Township's position. Steinheiser asked why he is filming? Mr. Dunham said he is doing a story on the Right-to-Know act. Mr. Dunham said if you work in a public place you have no right to privacy. Mr. Dunham asked who is the Right-to-Know officer? Brenda Davis said she was the official one but Lee Kradel was appointed as an alternate during her absence. Mr. Dunham asked Brenda Davis why she sends the Right-to-Know requests to Mr. Menchyk, Jr. when she can supply the information directly to him? Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said they needed legal review.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Ronald & Joy Charlane Rimer from 2246 Shannon Mills Dr. were present to request a second driveway that would come off Dick Rd. Mr. Rimer said they received approval for a minimal use driveway from PennDot since Dick Rd. is a state road but needed the Township's approval because our ordinance only allows one driveway per residential parcel. Mr. Rimer stated the driveway would be used to park their 24' camper. Kroll felt that the camper should be at least 25 ft. from the road so neighbors could see when pulling from their driveways. Mr. Rimer said he would keep the camper 25 ft. back. After discussing, the board told them to put in a modification request form requesting a second driveway be approved at next month's supervisors meeting and state they will keep the camper 25 ft. back.

Kroll motioned to advertise for 1,000 tons "more or less" of "anti-skid". Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert stated he was at a meeting with PennDot and found out that Butler County is paying about \$5.00 more a ton for salt than Erie and is being shipped in from New Jersey. Rupert said PennDot suggests calling Governor Wolf. Rupert asked Brenda Davis to call.

PLANS

Ron Bole was present representing Robert & Rita Hilliard's R & R Irrevocable Trust Plan. This plan was approved on May 2, 2018 contingent on them receiving final DEP approval of their Sewage Planning Module which was received on August 12, 2019. Steinheiser motioned to approve the R & R Irrevocable Trust Subdivision Plan as final since all contingencies have been met. Kroll seconded. Roll call: Steinheiser, yes. Kroll, yes. Rupert, abstained.

ENGINEER REPORT

Bill Braun stated #1 Cochran is addressing some of the Township's comments in reference to buffer trees and stormwater. Mr. Braun stated #1 Cochran has put stakes up for planting more buffer trees on the Isaac Lane and Buttercup School Road sides of their property. Mr. Braun said they have supplied a revised Stormwater Plan to take care of the surface water that is being diverted to other properties and to catch the extra runoff that was created when they turned a grass area into gravel. Bill Braun stated the lighting complaints in the past seem to be taken care of.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked the board if they had reviewed the draft policy he prepared for HOA's, etc. to use our building for meetings. Steinheiser said he was not in favor of it because someone would have to be here to open and shut the building and the garage/equipment would not be locked up. Rupert was concerned with the liability if someone got hurt and security of our office files. Kroll agreed with Steinheiser and Rupert. The board asked Mr. Menchyk, Jr. to write a letter to the person that requested using the building, stating the supervisors were not in favor of allowing outside groups to use the building.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said the ordinance #96-19 to organize the "Connoquenessing Township Sewer Authority" is ready to be advertised if approved tonight. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said the supervisors selected their first board members during executive session that followed last month's meeting and the board members will serve 5 year terms after the following set terms. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. read the members names and terms: Tom Barnett - first term - 5 years; Calvin Wonderly - second term - 4 years; Ray Kroll, Sr. - third term - 3 years; Brent Benoit - fourth term - 2 years; Terry Steinheiser - fifth term - 1 year. Rupert motioned to approve advertising ordinance #96-19. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he reviewed the Vineyards Development Plan since last month and found that sidewalks were not on the plan, therefore if the board chooses they could give the Vineyards approval to remove the sidewalk at 101 Silver Oak Dr. Kroll had no issue with removing the sidewalk but would like to see the 4 trees removed because they encroach on our road. Steinheiser said they are not wanting to remove the trees. Calvin Wonderly said if the sidewalk is removed no handicapped person can get from Sonoma Valley to the Vineyards. After much discussion the board tabled the decision until Bill Braun, Ray Kroll and Mr. Wonderly meet at the site.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he would like to have an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss pending litigation.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Motion to approve invoice for August 2019 in the amount of \$296.88. Report in packets.

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Kroll motioned to release Allegheny Wood Products .1 mile road bond on Whitestown Rd. in the amount of \$1,250.00. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kroll stated Moose Rd. is completed and the road crew has now moved onto Double Rd. for berming. Kroll stated a contractor will be replacing a culvert pipe on Whitestown Rd. and then Lindy Paving will pave Whitestown Rd. for PennEnergy which should start in 2 to 3 weeks.

Steinheiser told the board that he feels when the road crew are called in and get paid an automatic 2 hours, they shouldn't just come in for 1/2 hour to push a tree from the road and leave, they should work the 2 hours. Kroll stated it is not very often they don't stay out for two hours.

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

Steinheiser stated there were seven permits applied for this month. They were:

- 40-19 - Community Care Connections - Skyline Dr. - alterations - 8/8/19
- 41-19 - Mishell Potter - LeDonne Ln. - deck - 8/8/19
- 42-19 - Jordan & Krista Amigh - Silver Oak Dr. - new house - 8/8/19
- 43-19 - William Milcic - Lower Harmony Rd. - shed - 8/26/19
- 44-19 - Joseph Corrado - Reiber Rd. - addition/garage - 8/27/19
- 45-19 - Charlane Rimer - Shannon Mills Dr. - shed - 8/29/19
- 46-19 - Catherine Baker - Prospect Rd. - deck - 9/4/19

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

NONE

SEO REPORT

NONE

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

NONE

MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

Rupert motioned to release sewage escrow to Craig Buck in the amount of \$100.00. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kroll motioned to release Gass Lot Line plan escrow to Megan Gass in the amount of \$365.00. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to advertise Budget Workshop when date is determined. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to release Shelby "Lietem" Grosclaude Subdivision Plan escrow to Shelby Grosclaude in the amount of \$470.00. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the BCATO Annual Safety Seminar will be held at Michael Kosar Legion Hall 778, 150 Legion Memorial Lane, on October 9, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. Cost is \$10.00. Rupert motioned to pay for anyone interested in attending. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

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

Connoquenessing Volunteer Fire Dept. will hold their Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 27, 2019. Line up is 1:30 p.m. - Parade begins at 2:00 p.m. In addition, Connoquenessing Township will hold their Trick-or-Treat on Thursday, October 31, 2019 from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Received letter dated August 8, 2019 from Civil & Environmental Consultants (CEC) to inform that PennEnergy is applying to the PADEP for Chapter 105 General Permits for Utility Line Stream Crossings (GP-5) and Temporary Road Crossings (GP-8) for temporary impacts to wetlands, streams, and floodways associated with installation of the Little Connoquenessing Creek to Huff Well Development Impoundment to Bricker Well Pad Temporary Waterline Project. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated August 13, 2019 from XTO Energy to notify they are requesting Well Permit Renewals for 8 wells located in Prospect Borough. Information is on file at Township office.

Received copy of letter dated August 23, 2019 from PADEP to Farrington & Hepler Gas & Oil, Inc. stating they requested to transfer the subject NPDES permit from Vavco, LLC to Farrington & Hepler Gas and Oil, Inc. PADEP stated there are unresolved violation (s) and cannot proceed with the transfer until the violation (s) are resolved. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated August 27, 2019 from Civil & Environmental Consultants (CEC) to inform that PennEnergy is applying to the PADEP for Chapter 105 General Permits for Utility Line Stream Crossings (GP-5) and Temporary Road Crossings (GP-8) for temporary impacts to wetlands, streams, and floodways associated with installation of the Burr Well Pad to Huff Well Development Impoundment to Bricker Well Pad Temporary Waterline Project. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated September 6, 2019 from Gannett Fleming on behalf of Mountain Gathering, with an attached Notice of Termination (NOT) submitted to the PADEP for approval to terminate coverage of ESCGP permit number ESG16-019-0032A related to the Stein to Kyne Gas Pipeline in Franklin and Connoquenessing Townships. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated September 9, 2019 from Gannett Fleming on behalf of Mountain Gathering, with an attached Notice of Termination (NOT) submitted to the PADEP for approval to terminate coverage of ESCGP permit number ESG15-019-0037 related to the Cratty B Gas Pipeline in Franklin and Connoquenessing Townships. Information is on file at Township office.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Rupert motioned to adjourn to an executive session at 7:53 p.m. to discuss litigation issues. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.