

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 6:00 p.m. on August 5, 2020 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser, Ed Rupert and Ricky Kradel. Also attending was Solicitor Andrew Menchyk, Jr., Engineer Bill Braun, Treasurer/Asst. Secretary Lee Kradel and Secretary/Asst. Treasurer Brenda Davis to take the minutes. Ten people signed in on the public sign in record on file. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

REVIEW MINUTES

Reviewed minutes of July 1, 2020. Rupert motioned to accept the minutes of July 1, 2020. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$346,543.86 but after deposits of \$103,700.09 and checks in the amount of \$100,782.80 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$349,461.15. Lee Kradel stated the Escrow account beginning balance is \$55,071.65 but with deposits of \$3,313.75 and checks in the amount of \$1,562.25, the ending balance is \$56,823.15. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$217,386.02 but with interest in the amount of \$9.23, the ending balance is \$217,395.25. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$402,651.02 but with interest in the amount of \$85.49 the ending balance is \$402,736.51. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 CD balance stayed the same at \$524,487.38 for a grand total of \$927,223.89. Kradel motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Lee Kradel stated our Act 13 CD which matures on August 9, 2020 is up for renewal. Ms. Kradel said she discussed rates with the bank and received a rate of .45% for one year (which they recommend), .50% for 17 months and stated going for less than 12 months would not yield anymore than our current checking account. Lee stated the board could sign in for a 12-month CD but if the rates go up the money could be moved without penalty. Rupert motioned to renew the CD for a 1-year term at .45% as long as the Township can early withdraw without penalty if needed. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

COMMENT PERIOD - Three minute limit pertaining to agenda
NONE

REQUEST TO BE HEARD - three minute limit

Bob & Jamie Fetter from 120 Fawn Dr. were present to talk about their ongoing complaints with their neighbors at 133 Fawn Dr. Mr. Fetter stated they have no electric, water or sewage and he sees the man outside going to the bathroom. Mr. Fetter stated their dogs have also attacked his dogs and in their yard frequently. Mr. Fetter said Sandi Cox, code enforcement officer and Eugene Henry, dog officer, have both been involved with trying to resolve but not getting fast enough results. Mr. Fetter also mentioned a neighbor Jeff Bester on lot beside them who was told by Sandi Cox last year to mow which he did but was to come back last Fall again to mow and hasn't shown up. Mr. Fetter went back to discussing the man at 133 Fawn Dr. saying he is tired of seeing the man defecate outside. Sandi Cox, who was attending stated she has witnessed the dogs defecating on the Fetter's property and the dogs running loose. Sandi also mentioned she had stopped to talk to the owner at 133 Fawn Dr. about how to proceed with getting his mobile home permit and was kicked off the property by his fiancée. Steinheiser told Sandi she has the approval of the Township that if she feels threatened to take a constable with her. Mr. Fetter agrees that Sandi should be careful. Sandi said the mobile home is set up but doesn't look level and is just sitting on cinder blocks. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he sent a letter about the mobile home permit on July 8, 2020 but not sure if it was received. Sandi suggested that Andy post on the property in the future. Sandi told Mr. Fetter he would need to write a new complaint on Mr. Bester. Mr. Henry who was also present said he has cited 133 Fawn Dr. owner five times about the dog issue. Mr. Fetter stated he has only received \$130.00 restitution thus far. Mr. Henry stated he was there twice earlier in the day but no dogs were out and he can't cite something he doesn't see. Kradel asked if he has checked at Courthouse to see if they are licensed? Mr. Henry said, "no". Kradel asked Mr. Henry if he finds out they are not licensed, can he pick them up and take them? Mr. Henry said, "no" dogs are personal property on private property. Mr. Henry said they have to be on someone else's property. Mr. Fetter said he sends videos to Eugene Henry twice a week. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said to contact the police and provide videos because if the neighbor is defecating or bathing outside he can be charged with open lewdness, nudity, indecent exposure and disorderly conduct. Mr. Henry told the board he feels Sandi Cox should take the State Police with her and not wait for a constable. Mr. Fetter said he is just asking for help because he and his wife are scared. Steinheiser told Mr. Fetter to contact the State Police.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. updated on whether the Brandywine island can be eliminated per discussion at last month's meeting. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said since the roads surrounding the island are now owned by the Township, the supervisors have the discretion to do whatever with the island. Kradel asked Larry Leroy from Brandywine if they were willing to contribute to the cost of removing the island? Mr. Leroy said, "no". Kradel said the four trees will need removed as part of the agreement with removing the island. Mr. Leroy thought the trees were a separate issue because the roots have not busted our road yet and they are going to remove the sidewalk where they have done damage. Mr. Leroy said the homeowners will not be happy about removing the trees. Kradel stated a nursery could move the trees back. Mr. Leroy tried talking the board into moving the curb and put a wedge curb in and let the trees stay but the board said the only way they will remove the island is if the four trees are removed. Steinheiser said the HOA needs to send a letter that the trees will be removed. Mr. Leroy asked if the work could be done by the end of year? Kradel said, "he could not guarantee but he would try". Rupert motioned to remove the island at the Township expense subject to getting a letter from the HOA that states the four trees will be removed. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Rupert stated the Connoquenessing Borough and Township celebrate Halloween each year together and the Borough asked for our opinion on whether to hold trick-or-treat or the Fire Company parade because of the Covid 19? Rupert feels they shouldn't be canceled and if residents don't want to partake they can leave their lights off and not attend the parade. Rupert does not want to cancel an important fund raiser for the Fire Company. The board agreed to continue with Halloween trick-or-treat and the parade. Rupert asked Brenda to contact the Connoquenessing Borough with the board's decision.

PLANS

Connie Gregor and Brenda Vesel were present asking for approval of the "Connie F. Gregor and Brenda K. Vesel as Co-Executors of the Estate of Peggy Irene Double, deceased." Subdivision Plan. Rupert motioned to grant the modification to waive the requirements of Articles V & VI of Section 245. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he had reviewed and approved the right-of-way agreement. Rupert motioned to accept the right-of-way agreement. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Kradel motioned to accept the "Request for Planning Waiver & Non-Building Declaration" form and have Chairman Steinheiser sign. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert motioned to approve the "Connie F. Gregor and Brenda K. Vesel as Co-Executors of the Estate of Peggy Irene Double, deceased." Subdivision Plan for preliminary and final. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Benedict Fallecker was present asking for approval of the Benedict Fallecker Lot Consolidation Plan. Rupert motioned to grant the modification to waive the requirements of Articles V & VI of Section 245. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert questioned Mr. Menchyk, Jr. as to whether the Recorder of Deeds would record this plan when some parcels are outside Connoquenessing Township? Rupert did state that Lancaster Township by email said they do not need to review the plan. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. was not sure but told the board to proceed with recording the plan just with Connoquenessing Township signatures. Rupert motioned to approve the Benedict Fallecker Lot Consolidation Plan for preliminary and final. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser started to discuss the Lawrence D. Spangler and David R. Spangler Lot Line Revision plan. Brenda Davis asked if they needed a separate Maintenance Agreement between them and the new owners of the newly created lot? The board's discussion was deferred to later in the meeting.

ENGINEER REPORT

Bill Braun stated he stopped at #1 Cochran on Monday to see if they have planted the buffer trees or completed the Stormwater pond. Mr. Braun stated neither has been done and suggests a letter be sent by Mr. Menchyk, Jr. Rupert made a motion to have Mr. Menchyk, Jr. send letter stating they need to complete these two items. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

Bill Braun stated Boy Scout Rd. paving was inspected by their inspector and feels Shields Paving invoice should be approved. Steinheiser told Kradel Boy Scout Rd. is a little rough but looks so much better and Rupert said the wedge curbs turned out nice. Kradel made a motion to pay Shields Paving in full for the paving on Boy Scout Rd. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Lee Kradel confirmed with the board that the invoice would be paid from Liquid Fuels.

Kradel stated he reviewed Bill Braun's letter in reference to the Lower Harmony storm water pipes. Kradel asked how long they will last. Mr. Braun said possibly 4 years. Mr. Braun suggested to replace them with a single waterway opening structure. Mr. Braun suggests putting a box culvert in and keeping it under 20 ft. Steinheiser asked if a permit needs applied for? Mr. Braun said, "yes". Steinheiser asked how long the permit would be good for? Mr. Braun said, "usually indefinite, but if it expires the Township can ask for an extension". Kradel stated he talked to the County earlier about getting grant funds for this and they would like to have a meeting with the Township and include their County Bridge engineer. Kradel suggested holding off on a permit until after the meeting. Steinheiser said the permit will be needed regardless. Kradel made a motion to have Bill Braun apply for the permit. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he received information from the County that there are funds available to Townships for expenses incurred by the Corona Virus. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he will forward the Power Point presentation to the Township for their review.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Rupert motioned to approve invoice for July 2020 in the amount of \$330.94. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Report in packets.

PLANS cont.

Cheryl Hughes from Land Surveyors arrived late so Steinheiser let her discuss the Lawrence D. Spangler and David R. Spangler Lot Line Revision plan. Brenda Davis mentioned her earlier comment about needing a separate Maintenance Agreement between them and the new owners of the newly created lot. Cheryl Hughes said "yes they do need one and I just handed it to Mr. Menchyk, Jr. to review. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said that agreement satisfied Brenda's concerns. Rupert motioned to grant the modification to waive the requirements of Articles V & VI of Section 245. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Kradel motioned to approve the shared right-of-way and Maintenance Agreement. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert made a motion to approve the non-building waiver on the remnant parcel and approve Chairman Steinheiser to sign. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert made a motion to approve the second easement and maintenance agreement. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Kradel motioned to approve the Lawrence D. Spangler and David R. Spangler Lot Line Revision plan for preliminary and final approval. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Road superintendent report in packets.

Kradel said paving and sealcoating are complete on Boy Scout Rd. Kradel said sealcoating is done on Eagle Mill Rd. Kradel said storm drainage improvements are being done on Whitestown, Smith, Connoquenessing School and Powder Mill Roads. Kradel said they are starting to berm Powder Mill Rd. and will continue to berm other roads that are needed. Steinheiser commended Kradel on the good job he is doing as roadmaster. Rupert agreed. Roy Gilliland stated a berm that was requested to be fixed on Smith Rd. over two years ago is finally fixed.

Mr. Wonderly, resident of Brandywine, asked Kradel if getting the catch basins fixed on Brandywine Blvd has been swept under the rug? Kradel said the bond on that had expired and now that the roads are owned by the Township, Kradel stated when the Township does resurfacing there they will work on the catch basins then. Steinheiser told Mr. Wonderly this issue is closed. Mr. Wonderly also noted that Kradel got the bottom of Donahue Dr. corrected that has needed done for 23 years.

Steinheiser stated PennDot still has Rt. 68 on the 2022 plan. Brendan Linton said PennDot changed their scope a little by only starting at Orchard Dr. (not Stevenson Rd.) and going to Benbrook Rd. Steinheiser said he will not sign off on any project if it doesn't extend to Stevenson Rd. Steinheiser asked Bill Braun to look at the new scope and advise the board. The board also asked Bill Braun to write a letter to PennDot requesting a traffic light be installed at Stevenson Rd.

Kradel motioned to advertise John Deere GT 275 mower and Target Blacktop Saw with a Wisconsin motor. Steinheiser asked if it was given to us by Wiest and wants to make sure it is not theirs before we put it up for bid. Rupert seconded based on finding out the status of the Target Blacktop Saw. Roll call, yes.

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

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

- 25-20 - Don Rimer - Silver Oak Dr. - addition - 7/9/20
- 26-20 - Don Rimer - Silver Oak Dr. - shed - 7/9/20
- 27-20 - Amy Stivison - Eagle Mill Rd. - shed - 7/15/20
- 28-20 - Erin Sellinger - Whitestown Rd. - garage - 7/20/20
- 29-20 - Daniel Haggerty - Evans City Rd. - deck - 7/20/20
- 30-20 - Missing Links Brewery - Evans City Rd. - porch roof - 7/30/20
- 31-20 - Alison Calderone - Cherry Blossom Dr. - new home - 8/3/20

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

NONE

SEO REPORT

NONE

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

Rupert stated the Fire Company is looking to purchase a used Pumper Truck but will need a new building to put it in. Rupert said this is just information on their future plans.

MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

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

REMINDER: Real Estate taxes are currently due at FACE. There is no penalty until December 1. Remember to pay correct amount when sending to tax collector.

Annual operating license applications have been mailed to our four mobile home parks. As they are received, Sandra Cox will go inspect and advise

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Kradel motioned to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. to an executive session to discuss litigation issues and stated the board would not return. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.