

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 6:00 p.m. on October 7, 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. Four 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 September 2, 2020. Rupert motioned to accept the minutes of September 2, 2020. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$345,711.22 but after deposits of \$86,220.54 and checks in the amount of \$150,197.41 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$281,734.35. Lee Kradel stated the Escrow account beginning balance is \$23,352.82 but with deposits of \$1,900.00 and checks in the amount of \$2,583.00, the ending balance is \$22,669.82. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$47,746.79 but with interest in the amount of \$3.15, the ending balance is \$47,749.94. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$402,822.02 but with interest in the amount of \$82.77 the ending balance is \$402,904.79. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 CD beginning balance remained the same at \$526,470.37 leaving a grand total of \$929,375.16. Kradel motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

**COMMENT PERIOD** - Three minute limit pertaining to agenda

\*NONE\*

#### **BIDS**

Brenda Davis opened the bids submitted for 1,000 tons more or less Anti-Skid (AS1) which were as follows:

Glacial Sand & Gravel	McClymonds Supply & Transit
\$16.55/ton	\$16.14/ton

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. reviewed and approved both company's bid bonds. Kradel motioned to award the Anti Skid (AS1) bid to McClymonds Supply & Transit in the amount of \$16.14/ton. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

**REQUEST TO BE HEARD** - three minute limit

\*NONE\*

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

\*NONE\*

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Rupert motioned to renew the Township's TASC HRA agreement for one year effective December 1, 2020. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated it is Highmark insurance renewal time for union employees on December 1, 2020. The board stated this plan is in the union contract, which expires July 2022, so they will keep the same plan. Rupert motioned to stay with same plan per union contract and approve the increase of 8% over last year's rates through November 30, 2021. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

## **PLANS**

Matt Bricker was present representing the Estate of Randolph M. Bricker and Walter S. & Barbara J. Bricker Subdivision Plan. Kradel motioned to approve modification to waive the requirements of Section 245 Articles V & VI. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert motioned to approve the sewage facilities planning module if the sewage easement/maintenance agreement is approved by Mr. Menchyk, Jr. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated there are two different maintenance agreements - one for the private drive and one for the easement for sewage. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the agreement for the private drive does include a maintenance plan but the easement for sewer does not and asked the board if this should be included? After discussing, Steinheiser continued Rupert's motion of approving the sewage facilities planning module with the inclusion of stating that the grantee has the obligation to maintain the sewage easement. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert made a motion to approve the driveway maintenance agreement. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. The board discussed signing a non-building waiver. Bill Braun stated this is just to guarantee that no one can build on the parent tract without doing further sewage testing. Rupert motioned to approve the non-building waiver. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert noted this is the first time he has been asked to approve a sewage system that is actually not on the property. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated it has happened once in the past. Kradel motioned to approve the plan for preliminary and final approval. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Matt Bricker said he will contact his attorney Sarah Hancher to include the maintenance language in the sewer easement agreement.

## **ENGINEER REPORT**

Bill Braun stated he inspected #1 Cochran on Monday and the buffer trees are now in compliance. Bill Braun stated the stormwater pond has been enlarged but will not be complete until the spring when they can clean out sediment, limestone and pipe and convert the pond from temporary to permanent. In addition, Mr. Braun stated he looked at a new pipe that a neighboring resident mentioned #1 Cochran had just installed that runs into the wetlands. Mr. Braun stated it is just a french drain pipe placed 42" below grade and goes down 50 ft. and drains to handle water buildup around their septic system into the wetlands. Mr. Braun did not see any problem with this. Mr. Braun stated #1 Cochran will be submitting a request for a partial bond release. Steinheiser stated #1 Cochran has worked well with the Township on resolving issues.

## **SOLICITOR REPORT**

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the draft Ordinance in reference to the Sewer Authority debt that was discussed at last month's meeting has been advertised and ready for adoption. Kradel motioned to adopt Ordinance #97-20. Rupert seconded. Roll call, Kradel yes; Rupert yes; Steinheiser abstained. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he will send this to the DCED for approval and then once it is approved it will go with the closing documents and then the Guaranty Agreement will need to be signed.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the Sewer Authority has received quotes for Commercial liability & Public Officials insurance and stated Mr. Wonderly, Chairman of Sewer Authority, stated the lowest quote was received from First Commonwealth Insurance in the amount of \$759/yr. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said the Sewer Authority is requesting the Township to front the monies to pay this until the Sewer Authority has the funds to reimburse the Township. Rupert motioned the Township to pay the \$759.00 premium on behalf of the Sewer Authority. Kradel seconded. Roll call, Rupert yes; Kradel yes; Steinheiser abstained.

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

Kradel motioned to approve invoice for September 2020 in the amount of \$435.88. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Report in packets.

**ROAD MASTERS REPORT**

Road superintendent report for September 2020 in packets.

Kradel stated the road crew finished up oiling, tarring and chipping the problem areas around the Township. Kradel stated the crew has been brush cutting and shoulder mowing. In addition, they set 2 catch basins on Graham Drive and removed and replaced the culvert on Whitestown Rd. Ext. Kradel stated they raised the Whitestown Rd. Ext. about 2 feet to help eliminate the flooding.

**BUILDING PERMIT REPORT**

Steinheiser stated there were ten building permits applied for this month.

They were:

42-20 - Ronald Anthony - Whitestown Rd. - porch roof - 9-2-20

43-20 - Kenneth McDonald - Evans City Rd. - addition - 9/8/20

44-20 - Chris Hatcher - Harmony St. Ext. - garage - 9/9/20

45-20 - VOIDED

46-20 - Linda Strawser - Boy Scout Rd. - porch roof - 9/14/2020

47-20 - Brennan Group, LP - Fassinger Rd. - new home - 9/14/2020

48-20 - Kathy Westerman - Rolling Valley Ln. - addition - 9/16/20

49-20 - J & J Developments - Shannon Mills Dr - new home - 9-23-20

50-20 - William Spangler - Eagle Mill Rd. - carport - 9/23/20

51-20 - Greg Michaels - Double Rd. - deck - 9/28/20

52-20 - William Fisher - Prospect Rd. - garage - 9/29/20

**TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**SEO REPORT**

Steinheiser stated a final inspection was done for Robert Hilliard.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT**

Rupert stated the Township received a proposed budget from Connoquenessing Valley Regional Emergency Management Agency (CVREMA) that needs incorporated into the Township budget.

Rupert said the Evans City Borough and Evans City Water Authority donated a natural gas generator and trailer to the CVREMA to be used for a disaster.

Rupert stated the CVREMA is still looking for deputies.

**MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION**

Kradel motioned to release Travis Keene sewage escrow in the amount of \$700.00. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to advertise Budget Workshop. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

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

BCATO 2020 Fall Convention has been canceled due to Covid 19.

Woodlands Meadow Mobile Home Park has been inspected and operating permit was issued.

West Park Manor Mobile Home Park has been inspected and operating permit was issued.

Connoquenessing Volunteer Fire Co. will hold their Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 25, 2020. Line up is 1:30 p.m. at the Connoquenessing Park. Parade begins at 2:00 p.m. In addition, Connoquenessing Township will hold their -Trick-or-Treat on Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Mary Grace Ruediger, Connoquenessing Borough resident and council member, stated there will be food trucks, raffles, popcorn and hot drinks and stated it will be a fun time.

Received letter dated September 18, 2020 from R.A.R. Engineering Group, Inc. to inform they applied for an application for coverage under a GP-5 Utility Line Stream Crossing in order to replace a 8" ductile iron water main on Reiber Rd. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated September 11, 2020 from Rettew to inform that on behalf of ETC Northeast Pipeline, they are applying for a new permit under the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP-3) for Earth Disturbance Associated with Oil and Gas Exploration from the DEP for the Constellation to Breakneck 24" Pipeline Project located in Oakland, Center, Butler, Connoquenessing, Forward and Jackson Townships. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated September 30, 2020 from Gannett Fleming stating PA American Water is applying to the PADEP for a renewal of a surface water withdrawal from the Connoquenessing Creek & its Tributaries, the Allegheny River, Thorn Run, and the interconnect with PA American Water Ellwood. Information is on file at Township office.

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Rupert motioned to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. to an executive session to discuss litigation issues and stated the board would not return. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.