

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Larry Spangler at 6:00 p.m. on July 6, 2022 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Larry Spangler and Ricky Kradel. Terry Steinheiser was excused. 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. Twenty-three people signed in on the public sign in record on file. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer was done by Lambert Rosenbaum.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Spangler stated the Supervisors met immediately following the June 1, 2022 Supervisors' Meeting to consult with the Solicitor involving the collective bargaining agreement and condemnation of Township land.

### **REVIEW MINUTES**

Reviewed minutes of June 1, 2022. Kradel motioned to accept the June 1, 2022 supervisors meeting minutes. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$278,318.69 but after deposits of \$57,309.52 and checks in the amount of \$71,200.01 are approved tonight, the ending balance will be \$264,428.20. Lee Kradel stated the beginning Escrow account balance is \$57,696.50 but with deposits in the amount of \$1,410.00 and checks in the amount of \$2,364.66 being approved tonight, the ending balance will be \$56,741.84. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance is \$240,734.40 with interest of \$9.89 and a check for our 2022 paving project in the amount of \$206,558.17, the ending balance is \$34,186.12. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance was \$242,929.69 but with interest of \$193.68 and our annual distribution in the amount of \$231,558.92, the ending balance is \$474,682.29. Lee Kradel said the Act 13 CD balance remained at \$730,478.47 for a grand total of \$1,205,160.76. Lee Kradel stated the American Relief Plan had a beginning balance of \$203,570.73 but with interest in the amount of \$162.30 the ending balance is \$203,733.03. Kradel motioned to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Lee Kradel stated a budget amendment is needed on the 2022 budget to recognize the \$231,558.92 received from Act 13. Kradel motioned to approve Resolution #8-22 to recognize the \$231,558.92 Act 13 fees. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

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

Bill Long asked the board in reference to reviewing the upcoming new Act 537 Plan options that HRG will present at Sewer meeting not to rush. Mr. Long asked the board to look at cost and invasiveness of property and just take care of the Rt. 68 corridor. Mr. Long asked the board to use their judgment for the best interest of our residents.

Brendan Linton commented on the Rt. 68 PennDot project and stated PennDot got an NPDES permit in relation to stormwater affecting Butler Township but doesn't know if this covered Connoquenessing Township and suggests the board review the NPDES permit that is here at the Township office and make any comments now.

Secondly, Mr. Linton mentioned pedestrian access. Mr. Linton told the board they need to have PennDot pay for this now and not skip over any intersections or the Township will have to pay for later. Mr. Linton said PennDot needs to put in push buttons and ADA ramps at their expense. Mr. Linton stated

PennDot does not currently have these planned for Whitestown Rd. and encourages the supervisors to have PennDot put these in.

Bill Braun feels PennDot should also submit a Stormwater application to the Township. Mr. Braun stated this will show excessive run off and suggests them having an O&M Agreement. Kradel and Spangler agreed to have Bill Braun ask for a complete set of stormwater plans from GAI, PennDot's engineer, for him to review and also send a letter requesting the crosswalks and push buttons be put on the Plan at PennDot's expense.

Lambert Rosenbaum personally invited the supervisors to the Sewer meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup> and August 22<sup>nd</sup> at St. Conrad's Church. Mr. Rosenbaum said they are the ones that need to understand and hear the residents concerns and will ultimately make the decision on the direction of the Act 537 Plan.

Calvin Wonderly mentioned the Township paying a small amount (\$1,700.00) for Kriess Rd. and Rt. 68 in reference to push buttons in the past. Brendan Linton stated that was the portion (either 10% or 20%) of the Green Light Go ARLE grant that the Township paid. Mr. Linton stated that was a temporary fix until the new project is completed.

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

Jean Bianco, resident on Moose Rd., said she was there on behalf of her neighbors concerns with excessive speed on Moose Rd. and questioned supervisors if they could do anything. Spangler stated a lot of roads have the same problem. Ms. Bianco asked if the stop sign that was up for a short time could be put up again and possibly another one on the opposite side. Kradel stated he had that sign removed because the Township did not follow all the PennDot requirements, such as a traffic study, to approve the sign. Kradel stated he has his men working on getting the sign back up. Kradel also said he would have men check that the 35 mph signs are properly spaced and then he could ask Police to monitor the area. Ms. Bianco thanked the board for their assistance. Dave Dreher said Police could sit in his driveway when monitoring.

Mark Williams echoed Bill Long and Lambert Rosenbaum's earlier comments that the upcoming Sewer meeting is important and as a resident would appreciate all the supervisors attend.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Kradel stated the Act 537 sewer design plan update with seven options will be presented at the Sewer Authority meeting on July 25, 2022. Kradel and Spangler stated they both plan to attend.

Kradel presented a draft of the Township Flag that Wise Business Forms provided and asked for public input. Kradel stated the Flag will have 4 themes representing the Township's history and hopefully be used as our Township seal. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. noticed the word "along" on the Flag needs to be two words - "a long". Kradel said he would lay a copy on the desk tonight for the public to look at and give their suggestions. Kradel wanted to thank Wise Business Forms employees Mac McNeely, Galen Piovesan and Robin Blose for their efforts and stated they have done a great job. Brenda Davis asked how the survey will be handled since there will be different ideas for the 4 sections. Kradel took a few verbal votes on whether people wanted the Township building or the Airport/Farmshow and whether they wanted a scene of farmers in the field or change it to a Tractor. The majority wanted the Airport/Farmshow because our Township building could change and most said the tractor but couldn't agree on the model. Kradel stated it won't be finalized until next meeting and told the public to give him feedback.

Spangler questioned Mr. Menchyk, Jr. about not receiving the \$49,000 for the land that PennDot is condemning. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the money is in the court records but the board can get appraisals to see whether they want to try and get more. Spangler tabled this discussion until Steinheiser is at next meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Spangler stated Charlie Yenick will be retiring the end of August so we need to hire a new road worker. Kradel motioned to advertise for a road worker. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kradel stated at the last Comprehensive Plan meeting with the EADS Group and committee members, the EADS Group asked how the Township plans to advertise that they are developing a Comprehensive Plan and having a meeting for the public's input. It was decided mailers would work the best. Kradel stated it will roughly cost \$1,000 for the mailers. Calvin Wonderly mentioned the mailers should have the person's name not just say "occupant". Ken Dambaugh seconded Mr. Wonderly by saying he did not get the Sewer letter before that was addressed to "occupant" and feels a complete list should come from the tax collector. Kradel motioned to spend up to \$1,000 for the mailers for the Comprehensive Plan. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kradel motioned to approve the rates and renew the United Concordia Dental insurance for Union employees through August 31, 2023. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kradel motioned to approve the renewal of 3 webpage domain names in the amount of \$44.48. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Spangler stated the Township received two ASA proposals from Kevin & Denise Ozimek and Aaron & Ryan Kradel requesting to join Ag Security. Bill Long asked what this has to do with the Township. Brenda Davis stated they have to go through a process through the Township to join Ag Security and get this listed on their deeds. Kradel said qualified residents join this to protect them from complaints due to farming (noise, smell, etc.). Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked if this was advertised? Brenda Davis said it has been posted 4 places on the properties and on the outside door. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated it also needs advertised. Brenda Davis said she would advertise immediately.

### **PRE-APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

Paul Frederick at 121 Double Road stated he moved in last September and installed another parking spot on his property for his camper and car trailer but the Township said since this touches the Township road it is considered a 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway and needs approved because our ordinance only allows one driveway per parcel. Bill Braun asked if the gravel goes to the Township road. Mr. Frederick said, "yes". Mr. Frederick said he recently traveled Double Rd. and found at least three other residents that have multiple driveways. Ken Dambaugh said he has seen the spot and it is nothing more than a parking spot and the site distance is perfect. Brendan Linton stated Mr. Frederick did attend the Planning Commission meeting and they recommended the supervisors approve. Kradel said the only problem approving this is everyone will want a second driveway. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked if Mr. Frederick has a permit. Brenda Davis said, "yes" and Kradel said Bill Chuba, road superintendent, has already approved it for site distance. Kradel motioned to approve the second driveway. Spangler, seconded. Roll call, yes.

### **PLANS**

\*NONE\*

### **ENGINEER REPORT**

Bill Braun stated #1 Cochran has reached out to him after Mr. Menchyk, Jr.'s letter and said they agree that the outflow with their stormwater pond doesn't have the proper elevation or right size of pipe.

#1 Cochran said a remedy would be a 1-1/2 inch hole in the outlet structure (bottom hole) which they say would meet the ordinance requirements but Mr. Braun thinks it would be a maintenance nightmare. Mr. Braun recommended a 3 inch hole and waiting to hear back if that will work. Bill Long questioned the supervisors why they had the solicitor write the letter to them stating if it wasn't corrected the Township would use their escrow and fix themselves and still paying the engineer to work with them. Mr. Long asked, "why not act on this". Kradel asked Mr. Menchyk, Jr. what would be the next step if Township would correct the problem. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said bids would have to be advertised. Spangler asked if the Township could go onto their property and fix. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said, "that could possibly be an issue". After discussing the costs to the Township which could be higher than the actual \$33,000 escrow being held, Kradel motioned to have Mr. Menchyk, Jr. write another letter stating the stormwater has to be done according to the approved plan. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

### **SOLICITOR REPORT**

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated there are no new updates on the Armstrong Franchise Agreement.

Secondly, Mr. Menchyk, Jr. presented a draft letter addressed to the Secretary of PennDot that was requested by the Supervisors at last meeting stating the Supervisors are not pleased with District 10's refusal to warrant a traffic light at Rt.68/Stevenson/Double roads. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked the supervisors to review and advise him of any changes and then he will mail.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the Township has been working on a collective bargaining agreement with the Union employees for several months and it is in draft form to be finalized and then ratified retroactive to July 1, 2022. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. said this will be on the August supervisor's meeting for final approval.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

\*NONE\*

### **ROAD MASTERS REPORT**

Kradel stated sealcoat was done on Kniess Rd. by Suit-Kote last year and one of their trucks blew a hydraulic line and oil went all over the road and now the road is falling apart. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated they are under contractual obligations to correct this and this will be discussed in executive session this evening to give them formal notice.

Kradel stated Eagle Mill Rd. paving has been completed. Kradel stated he would like to paint double yellow lines because of the heavy traffic and speeding. Kradel received two quotes. Calvin Wonderly asked if the Brandywine entrance lines that he asked for last year can be painted. Bill Braun stated PennDot will probably do that after the paving project is done. Kradel stated he would like to hold off on painting there now because PennDot might destroy it when they come through. Kradel stated the Williams & Willman quote came in the lowest at \$3,896.00. Kradel made a motion to have Williams & Willman paint double yellow lines on Eagle Mill Rd. for \$3,896.00. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kradel stated Camp Fatima Rd. has a sink hole and in some areas it's a foot deep. Kradel stated he received a quote from a company that can core under the road and find out what is causing it. Kradel stated it has been determined that it is not a mine. Kradel stated the cost would be \$13,970.00. Bill Braun stated this would include a remedy solution. Spangler feels the cost is high and to just repair it and watch it. Kradel said limestone will need to be brought over and hole filled. Kradel stated he currently has "bump" signs on the road. Spangler asked Mr. Braun's opinion. Mr. Braun stated he has not been at the site but feels having a geographical study done is a good idea. Mr. Braun stated he could supply other company names for additional quotes. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. feels this should be done. Kradel tabled the discussion until more information is gathered.

Road superintendent report is in supervisor packets.

**BUILDING PERMIT REPORT**

Spangler stated there were nine building permits applied for this month.

They were:

- 30-22 - Thomas Norris - Fassinger Rd. - new home - 6/6/22
- 31-22 - Jordan Lumley - Fassinger Rd. - new home - 6/8/22
- 32-22 - Brennan Group - Timberlee Dr. - new home - 6/9/22
- 33-22 - Paul Frederick - Double Rd. - porch roof - 6/13/22
- 34-22 - Brenda Davis - Prospect Rd. - pool - 6/14/22
- 35-22 - Matthew Krchnak - Shannon Mills Dr. - new home - 6/14/22
- 36-22 - Butler Co. Humane Society - Evans City Rd. - gazebo - 6/20/22
- 37-22 - Kevin Ozimek - Prospect Rd. - horse barn - 6/29/22
- 38-22 - T. Hartley Constr. Co. - Shannon Mills Dr. - new home - 6/29/22

**TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**SEO REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT**

Matt McConnell from the Connoquenessing Volunteer Fire Company presented an engineered draft design of the new Fire Dept. Building. Mr. McConnell left a copy on the table for the public to review but stated it is subject to change.

**MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION**

Kradel motioned to release Cable Hardwood bond for Upper Harmony Rd. in the amount of \$16,500. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Kradel motioned to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. to an executive session to discuss personnel, litigation and real estate issues. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.