

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 6:00 p.m. on October 12, 2022 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser, Larry Spangler and Ricky Kradel. 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.

Steinheiser stated the **COMMENT PERIOD** would be first before reviewing the minutes.

Brendan Linton stated his concern with the unapproved draft minutes before the board for consideration tonight. Mr. Linton stated there has been township staff copying and pasting remarks from the public directly into the minutes. Mr. Linton stated parts of these current draft minutes are attacking his personal character and reputation. Mr. Linton asked the board to remove the whole section of these remarks, per discussion with board before meeting, before approving.

Joe Huth stated letters to homeowners of Brandywine, Sonoma Valley and Vineyards were sent in September updating on township sewage plan and 72% of residents' do not want it. Mr. Huth presented the letters to the board for their records. Mr. Huth mentioned in the August 3rd supervisor minutes he saw it stated that the Brandywine Master Community Association which has an executive board that has 5 members and they have the right to give the Brandywine sewage plant to Connoquenessing Township and agreed to do so if the township would waive the residents tap in fees. Mr. Huth does not feel they have this right as a board. In the rules and regulations of Brandywine Master Community Association, Article 2 section 2.1 the Association shall consist of all of the owners acting as a group in accordance with the Act, Declaration and Bylaws. Also, Mr. Huth stated Article 2.7D states that the owners of more than 50% of the aggregate number of votes in the Association, voting in person or by proxy, should meet at where a quorum is present to adopt any decisions of the Association.

REVIEW MINUTES

Steinheiser made a motion to accept the September 7, 2022 supervisors meeting minutes with removing the comments Brendan Linton mentioned which starts after first paragraph on page 6 which says "feasible for them" and continues through page 8 where it ends with "within our township again". Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$290,097.96 but after deposits of \$305,648.60 and checks in the amount of \$303,685.77 are approved tonight, the ending balance will be \$292,060.79. Lee Kradel noted the deposits are high because they include a deposit of the ARP funds that went into general fund and the checks amount is high because it also includes the \$203,805.29 ARP funds being cut back out of the General Fund to the ARP fund. Ms. Kradel noted the \$203,805.29 doesn't show as a deposit to the ARP account yet until it is signed. Lee Kradel stated the beginning Escrow account balance is \$57,315.84 but with deposits in the amount of \$1,039.00 and checks in the amount of \$40,575.77 being approved tonight, the ending balance will be \$17,779.07. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance is \$34,191.86 with interest of \$1.41, leaving the ending balance at \$34,193.27. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance was \$476,085.51 but with interest of \$919.56, the ending balance is \$477,005.07. Lee Kradel said the Act 13 CD balance remained at \$731,030.83 for a grand total of \$1,208,035.90. Lee Kradel stated the American Relief Plan had a beginning balance of \$204,349.91 but with interest in the amount of \$394.70 the ending balance is \$204,744.61 which is before the \$203,805.29 deposit from general account to the ARP funds. Spangler motioned to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

BIDS

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

IA Construction	McClymonds Supply & Transit
\$34.30/ton	\$18.35/ton

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. reviewed and approved both bid bonds. Kradel motioned to award the Anti Skid (AS1) bid to McClymonds Supply & Transit in the amount of \$18.35/ton. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

REQUEST TO BE HEARD - three minute limit

Joe Huth stated he had no other comment.

Mark Williams was present but had no comment.

OLD BUSINESS

Steinheiser asked for any updates on the Act 537 sewer design plan. Kradel stated we are waiting on a confirmed date to meet with the DEP.

Steinheiser apologized that the meeting today was postponed a week because he was out of town.

Kradel stated the EADS Group held a Comprehensive Plan meeting on September 21st and the public was invited and had a great turnout and residents could give their comments. Kradel stated a questionnaire (survey) is out and waiting on responses before we move forward. Ken Dambaugh asked how many responses have been received. Brenda Davis said 6 paper copies were received but would not have a count on the actual amount because they are keyed into the survey monkey and EADS Group will get the information.

NEW BUSINESS

Ed Brewer, resident on Prospect Rd. was present to request a building setback modification. Mr. Brewer stated his current home sits 52 ft. from the middle of Prospect Rd. which has a 33 ft. right-of-way. Mr. Brewer stated the Township requires 50 ft. from right-of-way which his house already encroaches so he would like to build a garage even with the front of the house so he needs a modification. Mr. Brewer stated he attended the last Planning Commission meeting and they recommended giving him a 25 ft. modification from the right-of-way but stated Mr. Brewer needed proof of the right-of-way length per PennDot. Mr. Brewer showed proof that Prospect Rd. is a 33 ft. right-of-way. Steinheiser asked Brendan Linton, chairman of Planning Commission, to confirm Planning's recommendation. Mr. Linton confirmed recommending the modification of 25 ft. Mr. Linton said knowing the correct right-of-way was the issue. Mr. Linton stated the garage can not be any closer than 25 ft. from the road right-of-way. Steinheiser motioned to approve Mr. Brewer's modification of 25 ft. based on the road right-of-way of 33 ft. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the board received a resignation letter from Ed Tanski, secretary of sewer authority board. Steinheiser stated he does not like seeing board members resign. Spangler motioned to accept Ed Tanski's resignation. Kradel seconded. Roll call, Spangler, yes. Kradel, yes. Steinheiser, abstained.

Steinheiser stated two sewer authority members need appointed. Steinheiser stated the board has received several letters of interest but will need more time to interview before deciding who to appoint. Spangler stated he would like to review the resumes. Kradel stated he could wait until next meeting. The discussion was tabled until next meeting. Ken Dambaugh asked why Spangler did not have copies of the resumes like the other two supervisors? Spangler stated he does not have email and with his workload he hasn't been into office to obtain. Calvin Wonderly told Steinheiser that with only 3 current members if

one is sick next month, there won't be a quorum. Steinheiser said, "we'll hope for the best" and asked the public to be patient.

PLANS

NONE

ENGINEER REPORT

Bill Braun stated he did a final inspection of the new Custom Lawn Care Annex on Kriess Rd. and is satisfied to approve releasing their entire letter of credit. Spangler motioned to release Custom Lawn Care Annex letter of credit in the amount of \$298,728.00. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

SOLICITOR REPORT

NONE

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Kradel motioned to ratify approval for August 2022 in the amount of \$179.30. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Spangler motioned to approve invoice for September 2022 in the amount of \$173.15. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Both reports are in packets.

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Kradel stated Charles Yenick has retired.

Kradel stated the two men continue to widen Whitestown Rd. Ext. to prepare for paving this spring.

Kradel stated the road crew is mixing anti-skid with salt and keeping up with grass cutting.

Steinheiser stated the new road crew person started this past Monday and all three road crew went to a safety seminar today.

Road superintendent report for September 2022 in packets.

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

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

They were:

47-22 - Sherry Lynn - Eisler Ln. - fence/sound wall - 9/15/22

48-22 - Michael Conaway - Cupps Rd. - new house - 9/19/22

49-22 - Jonathon Cox - Woodlands Rd. - shed - 9/22/22

50-22 - Jonathon Cox - Woodlands Rd. - front & rear deck

51-22 - holding

52-22 - Steve Myers - Silver Oak Dr. - deck - 9/27-22

53-22 - Marlin Berry - Welsh Rd. - demolish mobile home - 10/7/22

54-22 - Greg Zdilla - Prospect Rd. - garage addition - 10/10/22

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

NONE

SEO REPORT

Kradel motioned to release Susan Simcic sewage escrow in the amount of \$1,000.00. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Spangler motioned to release Wayne Kaltenbaugh sewage escrow in the amount of \$175.00. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Final inspection is complete for Wayne Kaltenbaugh.

Ken Dambaugh asked if there are reports that make the supervisors comfortable to release these escrows? Steinheiser stated the SEO has been out and releases these. Ken Dambaugh asked why the SEO is not here to give the report. Steinheiser said he would have to be compensated. Kradel said there is no need when the Township gets his reports and then states it on the agenda. Mr. Long would like Mr. Ice to be here to answer other questions about failed systems. Kradel said those tests are in the past and now part of the Act 537 Plan that has been approved. Brendan Linton stated every municipality is required to have a SEO. Mr. Linton said every report he does should come to the Township and some are required to be sent to the DEP. Mr. Linton stated these are public records on file. Mr. Linton said the Act 537 Plan is the job of the engineer, not the SEO and feels he shouldn't have to come to meetings. Ken Dambaugh feels since the sewage issue is so controversial at the Township, the SEO should be at each meeting. No action was taken.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

Matt McConnell stated the Halloween Parade will be on October 30th at the Connoquenessing Park and this year will include a "not too spooky walking trail" put on by Eerie Acres Farm.

Secondly, Mr. McConnell stated he is asking for another increase of .5 mill fire tax for next year then possibly another .5 mill in 2024. Steinheiser told Mr. McConnell that when they got the increase last year you were supposed to supply a report of where the fire tax revenue was being spent. Mr. McConnell stated it is currently going towards the new building with design and engineering costs. Mr. McConnell said the estimated cost of the building is between 3-5 million. Steinheiser stated he would like to have some kind of report to show the residents where their fire tax money is being spent. Steinheiser said the Township has expenses they may have to cover for the Sewer Plan that need retained and does not want to raise taxes. Steinheiser stated this .5 mill request needs digested. Mr. McConnell understood. Bill Long reminded Steinheiser that when the fire company got their millage increase last year the Township reduced local services tax from 75% to 25% but public was told the board would discuss giving them more next year. Ken Dambaugh said the fire building hasn't changed in his 46 years as a resident and the board needs to support the Fire Company. Steinheiser said, "we do". Kradel asked when the tax increase deadline would be for it to be on the 2023 tax cards. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. didn't know exact date but said it would have to be on the agenda as a line item for the tax levy for next year. Steinheiser told Mr. McConnell he wants a progression report stating what engineers he is working with and expenses incurred towards the building. Kradel supports another .5 mill. Steinheiser said he needs feedback from the public. Joe Huth suggested Mr. McConnell show a report with a percentage breakdown of where fire tax increase money is going and show why they need an increase so the public will understand. Ken Norman, resident, suggests a yearly financial report showing where the funds are going. Kradel asked Mr. McConnell to do six month reports. Mr. McConnell said, "ok".

Steinheiser stated the proposed budget from Connoquenessing Valley Regional Emergency Management Agency (CVREMA) was received and will be reviewed during the Township's Budget Workshop.

MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

Spangler motioned to release Gateway Engineers (Anita Gilliland) escrow in the amount of \$217.75. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the Township received letters from the Butler County Tax Claim Bureau stating they have received an offer of \$601.00 for each of the below 3 parcel's that are currently on the Butler County

Repository unsold property list and requests the Township to sign off on each parcel either by consenting or **not** consenting to the sale of these parcels. Below are the parcels:

120-S4-A1255 - Quail Rd.
120-S4-A1373 - Mink Rd.
120-S5-A1128 - Fox Dr.

Kradel motioned to consent to the sale of the above properties. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kradel motioned to advertise for the Budget Workshop, date to be determined. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the BCATO 2022 Fall Convention will be held at the Slippery Rock Township Municipal Center on October 26, 2022. Registration is at 5:30 p.m. Brenda Davis stated four are attending this year. Spangler motioned to approve and pay for any eligible Township Officials to attend for \$25.00/each or \$100.00. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Bill Long asked what BCATO stands for? Brenda Davis said "Butler County Association of Township Officials".

Steinheiser stated the below was on the agenda for information.

Connoquenessing Volunteer Fire Company will hold their Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 30, 2022 at the Connoquenessing Park. 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 Monday, October 31, 2022 from 6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.

Representative Marci Mustello invites all veterans and one guest to a Veterans Luncheon to be held at Lyndora American Legion Post 778, 150 Legion Memorial Lane, Butler on Wednesday, Nov. 2nd from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. RSVP is required by Oct. 26th. Information is posted on bulletin board.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Kradel motioned to adjourn to an executive session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and litigation issues and stated the board would not return. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.