

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 6:00 p.m. on December 7, 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-nine people signed in on the public sign in record on file. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

REVIEW MINUTES

Spangler made a motion to accept the November 2, 2022 supervisors meeting minutes. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Steinheiser stated that the Supervisors met immediately following the November 2, 2022 supervisors meeting to discuss litigation and real estate issues.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$259,227.90 but after deposits of \$106,389.63 and checks in the amount of \$103,356.32 are approved tonight, the ending balance will be \$262,261.21. Lee Kradel stated the beginning Escrow account balance is \$18,378.32 but with deposits in the amount of \$1,116.00 and checks in the amount of \$1,244.00 being approved tonight, the ending balance will be \$18,250.32. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance is \$34,194.72 with interest of \$1.41, leaving the ending balance at \$34,196.13. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance was \$478,159.68 but with interest of \$1,211.77, the ending balance is \$479,371.45. Lee Kradel said the Act 13 CD beginning balance was \$731,030.83 but with interest in the amount of \$4,237.98 has an ending balance of \$735,268.81 for a grand total of \$1,214,640.26. Lee Kradel stated the American Relief Plan had a beginning balance of \$409,347.85 but with interest in the amount of \$1,037.39 the ending balance is \$410,385.24. Kradel motioned to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Lee Kradel stated the proposed 2023 budget has been advertised and available for viewing for 20 days.

COMMENT PERIOD - Three minute limit pertaining to agenda

Brendan Linton stated the township is lucky to have a dedicated fire company and he is in favor of funding them and increasing the fire tax .5 mill for 2023.

REQUEST TO BE HEARD - three minute limit

Lambert Rosenbaum mentioned the budget will need to reflect the interest payments the township promised to pay on behalf of the Sewer Authority if they receive the Butler Co. infrastructure loan. Mr. Rosenbaum stated he would submit the numbers to be added onto the budget.

Mr. Rosenbaum stated the current loan with First Commonwealth Bank is due on March 15, 2023.

Mr. Rosenbaum stated he is having a meeting with the bank one hour before the Sewer Authority meeting on December 19, 2022 to discuss funding issues with the bank in case the Sewer Authority doesn't get the infrastructure loan.

Mr. Rosenbaum mentioned the upcoming meeting with the DEP which will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the township building. Mr. Rosenbaum stated the supervisors and sewer authority board will have a virtual meeting with DEP and public is not invited. Mr. Rosenbaum stated DEP is really interested in meeting with the supervisors and asked supervisors to please attend. Mr. Rosenbaum said DEP is very gracious in having lots of their representatives attend this meeting. Steinheiser thanked Mr. Rosenbaum for all his efforts and said he will attend the meeting but only listen

and let him run the meeting. Mr. Rosenbaum said this is just an informational meeting to see what the DEP is open to in regards to changing the ACT 537 Plan.

Laura Mason thanked Lambert, the sewer authority members and supervisors for their help getting the DEP PowerPoint presentation ready for the DEP meeting.

Mrs. Mason stated while researching information for the upcoming DEP meeting she found a letter in reference to a meeting back in 2005 with Connoquenessing Township, DEP and BASA to put in a plan for Winterwood sewer to affect around 22 residences. Mrs. Mason noted that none of the current supervisors were on the board then but when the Winterwood sewer plan was presented at the supervisor meeting it did not pass because two supervisors voted, "no" and only one voted, "yes". Mrs. Mason feels this history will be good to discuss at the DEP meeting and said KLH Engineers had done a complete study back then to address Winterwood issues and the sewer board could possibly use some of their footprint instead of starting fresh. Mrs. Mason also feels it would be good to talk to BASA/PA American Water about these past findings to open communication between them and the sewer project so we can all work together in the future to solve issues related to sewage. Mrs. Mason supplied a copy of her research to the board. Mrs. Mason stated Winterwood was discussed a lot from 2005 to 2007 but then the discussions ended. Brenda Davis asked if the minutes reflected why? Mrs. Mason said, "no". Brenda Davis said the meeting was full of Winterwood people screaming that they wouldn't pay. Kradel stated that is the story he heard. Mrs. Mason said it did not reflect this in the minutes.

Carol Christner stated there was an Act 537 plan in affect during the time Mrs. Mason mentioned (2000) which was done by Dakota Engineering and then KLH Engineering came in around 2003 and did a minor Act 537 Planning Module for the Winterwood area. Ms. Christner stated DEP gave the Township the exception to the ACT 537 Plan in order to take care of Winterwood. DEP even gave BASA the approval to take sewage from the Winterwood area at this time. Ms. Christner stated Tomissa from DEP was present during this time and is still working there so she would be able to fill the sewer board and township in. Ms. Christner stated she contacted KLH to see what happened to this Winterwood plan and they said they had mailed a letter to Township in 2008 in reference to what needed done and never heard from the Township again. Ms. Christner asked Bill Braun, who was engineer at the time, if he knew what happened. Mr. Braun stated he had attended the meeting with DEP and BASA and the plan was to use grinder pumps at each residence and BASA would not permit this. Ms. Christner stated there is a letter on file at the Township from BASA stating grinder pumps were permitted but all grinder pumps would need installed by same contractor. Mr. Braun stated he was not aware of that comment. Ms. Christner hopes that since DEP was willing to adjust that Act 537 Plan that they would be open to changing the current one.

Bill Long stated the sewer board should have known all this information before. Kradel said that is old information and we currently have a new Act 537 Plan in affect. Lambert Rosenbaum said the current Act 537 Plan is what the sewer board has to follow. Mr. Long asked if the old one was still out there? Kradel stated, "no" the new one replaced it. Steinheiser told Mr. Long no changes will be made until after the DEP meeting on December 13, 2022.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

PLANS

Dave Benson presented his lot line revision plan. Mr. Benson showed he is giving 1.3 acres from his current lot to his son's adjoining 11.2 acre parcel because his current property line goes through the corner of his son's mobile home and for the home to meet the correct setbacks, this was needed. Steinheiser asked Bill Braun if planning had approved. Mr. Braun stated, "yes" but the plan needs two modification waivers. Spangler made a motion to waive the requirement of SALDO 245-15-A to allow plan to be drawn at a scale of one-inch equals 150 ft. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Secondly, Kradel motioned to approve a modification to not provide contours listed in section 245, Articles V & VI because they are subdividing 3 lots or less. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes. Spangler motioned to approve Dave Benson Lot Line Revision Plan for preliminary and final approval. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

ENGINEER REPORT

NONE

SOLICITOR REPORT

Andrew Menchyk, Jr. presented Resolution #12-22 which is for a tax levy increase of .5 mill fire tax for 2023. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated all taxes have remained the same on the Resolution except the fire tax increased from 2.0 mill to 2.5 mill. Kradel motioned to adopted Resolution #12-22. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Spangler motioned to approve invoice for October 2022 in the amount of \$346.70. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kradel motioned to approve invoice for November 2022 in the amount of \$220.14. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes. Both reports are in packets.

ROAD MASTER REPORT

Kradel stated 1. road crew getting ready for winter (mixing anti-skid & salt); 2. men have been doing maintenance on the Roller for summer; 3. put 2A on Camp Fatima where road is sinking; 4. did a lot of shoulder work from storm this month and 5. keeping leaves out of ditches and catch basins to keep drainage open

Road superintendent report for November 2022 in packets.

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

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

They were:

59-22 - Pete Lindewirth - Fassinger Rd. - shed - 11/23/22

60-22 - Lezzer Martin - Shannon Mills Dr. - new home - 11/29/22

61-22 - Carolyn Wincer - Silver Oak Dr. - addition - 12/5/22

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

Kradel motioned to approve invoice for postage expenses in the amount of \$122.24. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

SEO REPORT

NONE

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

Matt McConnell thanked the board for the .5 mill fire tax increase effective January 2023.

Mr. McConnell stated their fire department has been taking mutual aid classes and will have joint training with Prospect and Evans City Fire departments so knowledge and learning is combined. Mr. McConnell stated a building site plan proposal has been signed with Gateway Engineers. Mr. McConnell said the "Santa Run" (Santa Claus on a fire truck throughout the Township & Borough) will be the night of Dec 17, 2022 starting at 4:00 p.m.

MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

Spangler motioned to release PennEnergy road bonds on Double and Moose Roads in the amount of \$30,375.00. Kradel asked if Bill Chuba had inspected? Brenda Davis said, "yes". Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the below was on the agenda for information.

Close of Business meeting has been set for December 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Organizational meeting will be held on January 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

First supervisors meeting of 2023 will be held immediately following the Organization meeting on January 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Elected auditors will meet on January 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Received letter from Moody and Associates dated October 31, 2022 to inform that PennEnergy is applying for a permit to drill and operate an Unconventional Well from PADEP for 6 wells located off of Upper Harmony Rd. Information is on file at township office.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Steinheiser motioned to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. to an executive session to discuss personnel, real estate and code enforcement issues and stated the board would not return. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.