

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 6:00 p.m. on September 6, 2023 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.

ANNOUNCE WHO IS RECORDING MEETING

Steinheiser asked who was recording the meeting. Three replied which included Brendan Linton, Angela Fleeher and Lambert Rosenbaum.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steinheiser stated the Supervisors met immediately following the August 2, 2023 Supervisors' Meeting to consult with the Solicitor concerning personnel and possible litigation.

Steinheiser stated the Supervisors held an executive session on August 30, 2023 to discuss a personnel matter.

REVIEW MINUTES

Reviewed minutes of August 2, 2023. Steinheiser motioned to accept the August 2, 2023 supervisors meeting minutes. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lee Kradel stated the required Central Pension Fund - Annual MMO amount is \$16,658.10. Mrs. Kradel stated it is figured by adding the 3 union mens hours per year (3 x 2080) plus estimated overtime total of 450 hours by \$2.49 (rate set by union). Mrs. Kradel stated this amount will be listed on the 2024 budget. Rick Kradel motioned to accept the MMO amount of \$16,658.10. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mrs. Kradel stated the Act 13 CD which matured on August 9, 2023 has been renewed for another 1 year term at 4.75%. Spangler motioned to ratify renewing this Act 13 CD. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Lee Kradel stated a new Act 13 CD in the amount of \$300,000 for a 6-month term at 4.75% has been purchased. Spangler motioned to ratify purchasing this Act 13 CD. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$367,360.19 but after deposits of \$558,232.16 (which included \$421,665.07 from the ARP account) and checks in the amount of \$123,177.66 are approved tonight, the ending balance will be \$802,414.69. Lee Kradel stated the Escrow account balance remained at \$17,479.00. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance is \$139,853.36 with 2 months interest of \$17.21, the ending balance is \$139,870.57. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance was \$489,352.73 but with annual deposit of \$306,608.10 and 2 months interest of \$4,803.40, check for sealcoating in the amount of \$141,389.76 and \$300,000 withdrawal to purchase a 6 month CD with interest of 4.75%, the ending balance is \$359,374.47. Lee Kradel said the Act 13 CD beginning balance was \$743,678.80 with interest of \$4,311.30 for a total of \$747,990.10 plus the new CD in the amount of \$300,000 for a grand total of \$1,407,364.57. Lee Kradel stated the American Relief Plan had a beginning balance of \$418,930.12 but with 2 months of interest in the amount of \$2,734.95 and a transfer of \$421,665.07 to the general account, the ending balance is \$0.00. Steinheiser motioned to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

COMMENT PERIOD - Three minute limit (PERTAINING TO AGENDA)

Brendan Linton encouraged the board to approve the BASA/PAWC resolution which is listed under "old business". Mr. Linton stated it is just a name change and if the board doesn't approve it the Township may be responsible to do a special Act 537 study to supply sewage to residents currently served by BASA.

Fred Hensel started to talk about something that was not pertaining to the agenda and Steinheiser stopped him.

CONNOQUENESSING VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Matt McConnell presented a draft of the latest drawing of the fire building and said it has been sent out for prebid to be used for budgeting purposes. Secondly, he requested the board consider another .5 mill fire tax increase at budget time.

Mr. David Cottington, president, still waiting to hear about grant. Mr. Cottington stated it is in appropriations and if there is a government shutdown, this will cause a delay.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

NONE

REQUEST TO BE HEARD - three minute limit

Brendan Linton was present to state he feels the CTSA board should be dissolved. Mr. Linton mentioned the CTSA did not post their agenda for the last meeting 24 hours in advance at the principal place of business which is the Township building. Mr. Linton stated he did a Right-to-Know request to Township asking when they received a copy of the agenda and it was only received at 12:30 p.m. on the day of meeting, August 28th. Mr. Linton stated he has prepared a citation against them which could be assessed a fine of \$1,000/day and will proceed on Friday, September 8th if the board does not resign. Steinheiser thanked Mr. Linton for his comment.

OLD BUSINESS

Duane McKee from BASA and Mason Miller from PAWC were present and requested the adoption of a resolution to adopt their Final ACT 537 Plan which was tabled at last month's meeting. Mr. McKee stated the exchange is moving forward and should have a decision by the PUC by November 15th. Steinheiser motioned to adopt resolution #4-23 to adopt BASA/PAWC's Final ACT 537 Plan. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated a response from DEP on notice of violation was received.

NEW BUSINESS

Steinheiser stated the Township received an estimate from General Code to codify current ordinances which will cost between \$1,475.00 and \$1,880.00. Brenda Davis stated six currently need codified. Spangler motioned to approve paying General Code to codify ordinances at a cost between \$1,475.00 and \$1,880.00. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the contracts through Paris and Cintas will be expiring and need to advertise for new Uniform/Textile rental agreements. Steinheiser motioned to advertise for Uniform/Textile rental agreements. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

PLANS

Greg Cosnotti representing Northcor Dev. Inc. requested an approval of their Subdivision Plan. Mr. Cosnotti stated the plan is taking off 1.09 acres (which contains a retention pond) from the current

9 acre lot. Bill Braun stated it went through Planning Commission and was recommended to approve. Steinheiser motioned to approve their modification for providing contours on the plan. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Steinheiser motioned to approve the Northcor Dev. Inc. Subdivision Plan for preliminary & final approval. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

ENGINEER REPORT

Bill Braun stated the bids were received for the Lower Harmony Rd. culvert project and awarded to Sure Shot Excavating in the amount of \$183,875.00. Mr. Braun stated the other bidder was Fossil Rock with a bid of \$297,718.00. Steinheiser motioned to ratify the bid award to Sure Shot Excavating in the amount of \$183,875.00. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kradel stated the plan to start the Lower Harmony Road culvert project is by April 2024. Bill Braun stated the pipe will be delivered to Lane Enterprises and they have agreed to store at their facility at no additional charge. Mr. Braun mentioned PA American Water still needs to move their pipe before starting and told the board he would continue to check the status.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Andrew Menchyk, Jr. stated Armstrong has come back with a new franchise agreement that he has reviewed and feels it is good to approve. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the supervisors had an issue with the term of 5 years being automatically renewed and Armstrong agreed to remove the automatic language. Steinheiser made a motion to sign and approve the revised Armstrong Franchise Agreement. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated a Fee Resolution needs approved and the Application Form to be used for someone applying for a Solar or Wind Energy farm. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. prepared both drafts for review. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. feels the application fee should be \$100.00 with an escrow in the amount of \$1,000.00. After discussion, Spangler motioned to approve the draft application form with a \$100.00 application fee and escrow of \$1,000.00. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Secondly, Spangler motioned to adopt Fee Resolution #5-23. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated a letter was received from Mr. James McGraw, CTSA solicitor, requesting the CTSA board be listed as an agenda item so either one of their board members or a supervisor could read their monthly updates to the public. After discussion, Spangler motioned to approve this as a line item on the agenda. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Steinheiser requested a 3 minute time limit. Lambert Rosenbaum, chairman of CTSA, was present and read the CTSA summary from their August 28th meeting. The board asked Mr. Menchyk, Jr. to send response letter to Mr. McGraw. In addition, Steinheiser asked Mr. Rosenbaum that after the CTSA meeting with their engineer on September 19th, he wants the engineer to provide detail of what each alternative will cost. Mr. Steinheiser stated he wants labor cost, removal of sludge cost, maintenance cost of the plant, etc. Mr. Rosenbaum agreed.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Steinheiser motioned to approve invoice for August 2023 in the amount of \$381.12. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes. Report in packets.

ROAD MASTERS REPORT

Kradel stated the men are berming Whitestown Rd. Ext. and Lower Harmony Rd., put pipe in on Rose Haven Dr., mixed salt and antiskid and preparing hoppers for winter.

Kradel motioned to advertise for 1,000 tons "more or less" of "anti-skid". Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

Road superintendent report for August 2023 in packets.

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

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

They were:

- 41-23 - David Schultz - Cupps Rd. - pool - 8/2/23
- 42-23 - Nicholas Mike - Cupps Rd. - shed - 7/28/23
(used wrong # last month 41-23)
- 43-23 - T. Hartley Const. - Shannon Mills Dr. - new home - 8/1/23
- 44-23 - Robert Cotherman - Crab Run Rd. - pole barn - 8/8/23
- 45-23 - Rebecca McElhattan - Easy St. - porch - 8/9/23
- 46-23 - Michael Hibbs - Kriess Rd. - inground pool - 8/9/23
- 47-23 - Paul Lombardo - Winterwood Dr. - shed - 8/16/23
- 48-23 - Benjamin McChesney - Evans City Rd. - garage - 8/21/23
- 49-23 - Anthony Calahan - Reiber Rd. - demo house - 8/21/23
- 50-23 - Raymond Atkinson - Eagle Mill Rd. - carport - 8/31/23

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

NONE

SEO REPORT

NONE

MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

Steinheiser stated the below was on the agenda for information.

Steinheiser stated BCATO 39th Annual Safety Seminar will be held on Wednesday October 11, 2023. at the Herman Fire Hall. Cost is \$20.00/each. Steinheiser motioned to pay for any eligible Township personnel to attend. Spangler seconded. Roll call, yes.

Connoquenessing Volunteer Fire Company will hold their Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 29, 2023 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 Tuesday, October 31, 2023 from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Note: September is Emergency Preparedness Month - "Be Prepared"

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Spangler motioned to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. to an executive session to discuss possible litigation and personnel and stated the board would not return. Kradel seconded. Roll call, yes.