

CONNOQUENESSING TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL HEARING MINUTES
OCTOBER 1, 2014

A special public hearing was held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 to consider the Agricultural Security Area Proposal of Donald Reedy. Present were Chairman, Terry Steinheiser, Vice-Chairman, Scott Longdon and Supervisor Ray Kroll. Solicitor Andrew Menchyk, Jr. was present to conduct the hearing and Brenda Davis was present to take the minutes. Mr. Donald Reedy and wife Marsha Reedy were present to represent the applicants. The special meeting was called to order by Chariman, Terry Steinheiser at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated we are here this morning for the hearing that we are required by statute to convene on the Donald Reedy Agricultural Security Proposal.

Andrew Menchyk, Jr. presided over the public hearing to consider the Agricultural Security Area proposal of Donald Reedy. Donald and Marsha Reedy were sworn in by Mr. Mechkyk, Jr.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated that the format for the hearing will be as follows: he will review the history of the postings and the notes and go over the provisions with Brenda, then he will ask Donald Reedy some questions and if the supervisors have any questions for Mr. Reedy, then the supervisors will vote.

Andrew Menchyk, Jr. asked Brenda if there was a proposal of the Ag Security submitted by the applicant and if Mr. Reedy's request to join Ag Security was mentioned in the next meeting's minutes? Brenda Davis stated, "yes" and it was in the July 2, 2014 minutes. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. noted this as exhibit 1.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. verified with Brenda that the proposal was posted, the date it was posted and advertised on July 8, 2014. (exhibit 2). Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked if any comments were received on the original proposal? Brenda Davis stated, "no".

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked when the proposal was submitted to the Township Planning Commission, the County Planning Commission and the Township Agricultural Security Advisory Committee? Brenda stated "yes" to all and they were notified on July 25, 2014, (exhibit 3). Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked if any comments had been received? Brenda Davis stated the County Planning Commission sent a letter dated July 31, 2014 (exhibit 4) stating no comments and Evelyn Hockenberry from the Ag Security board called and stated she had no problem with Mr. Reedy joining Ag Security. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked if today's hearing was advertised? Brenda Davis stated it was advertised on September 23, 2014 (exhibit 5). He asked if the notice of the public hearing was posted? Ms. Davis stated on September 26, 2014. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked Brenda if any comments were received after posting? Brenda Davis said, "no".

Andrew Menchyk, Jr. continued by asking Mr. Reedy if he was the owner of the property or was Mrs. Reedy also? Mr. Reedy stated he is the sole owner. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked what he uses the property for? Mr. Reedy stated for cattle, crops, farming and rents out space to Soergel Orchards for crops. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked if Mr. Reedy could describe any farm related improvements? Mr. Reedy mentioned barns, fences and out buildings. Mr. Reedy stated he already has a parcel with 90.05 acres in Ag Security but is requesting to add his additional 4 parcels that add up to 76.545 acres.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. asked for supervisor comments. Steinheiser questioned the commercial business on one of the parcels. Mr. Reedy stated he does have a tractor repair business and also his personal house on this 10.95 acre parcel but stated half of the land is still used for farming.

Longdon mentioned the new building he just applied for a permit was on this property and stated Mr. Reedy went through regular residential permitting because the building is to be used for personal storage. Longdon stated if any future buildings were applied for under Ag Security, a disclaimer would have to be signed but if later it was determined to not be Ag related, Mr. Reedy would be required to apply for a change of use permit. Mr. Reedy agreed.

Kroll stated he feels Ag Security can sometimes alleviate a farm owner from doing the proper stormwater procedures. Mr. Reedy stated all his buildings runoff goes to a retention pond.

Steinheiser made a motion to approve Mr. Reedy's application of 76.545 acres to join Ag Security. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mr. Menchyk stated the statute also requires him to send a letter to Mr. Reedy within the next week of today's decision.

Steinheiser motioned to adjourn the meeting. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.