

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 7:00 p.m. on November 2, 2016 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser, Ed Rupert and Ray Kroll. 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**

Reviewed minutes of October 5, 2016. Steinheiser motioned to accept the minutes of October 5, 2016. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser mentioned Planning Meeting minutes for the month of September are in the supervisor packets.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$392,221.79 but after deposits of \$29,608.05 and checks in the amount of \$70,828.76 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$351,001.08. Lee Kradel stated the Escrow account beginning balance is \$29,731.75 but after deposits of \$2,625.00 and checks in the amount of \$12,622.00 are approved tonight, the ending balance is \$19,734.75. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$260,295.75 but with interest of \$11.05, the ending balance is \$260,306.80. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$556,605.41 but with interest of \$48.09, the ending balance is \$556,653.50. Steinheiser motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

#### **COMMENT PERIOD** (Three minute limit pertaining to agenda)

Bob Cichra, resident on Boy Scout Rd., asked the supervisors to please revisit spending the estimated \$1.5 million more to relocate the sewage plant. Mr. Cichra stated that is only 10% of the total \$20 million that the current Act 537 Plan draft is planning to spend. Mr. Cichra also said a plan this significant should get a second opinion other than solely looking at Senate Engineering's plan. Mr. Cichra also noted that this \$20 million dollar plan doesn't even cover the whole community. The board thanked Mr. Cichra for his comments without responding.

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

Charlotte Grimme stated she is very disappointed. Mrs. Grimme stated she was told other sewage sites would be looked into but were not looked at seriously and also said she had withdrawn a right-to-know request in good faith and now after months of wasted time will have to resubmit. Mrs. Grimme said she anticipates the Township opening a public comment period on any plans so the public can participate with any comments before a final decision is made. Mrs. Grimme stated the current draft plan will disrupt her and all the neighbors quality of life and use and enjoyment of their properties. Mrs. Grimme went on about this ruining her retirement, smell, noise, polluting the creek, hurting the wildlife, etc. and asked the supervisors again to look at other alternatives. Mrs. Grimme stated she is giving her land to the Humane Society Wildlife Trust which is in her will but meeting with her attorney tomorrow to consider donating her land or putting a conservation easement on to her land right now. Mr. Steinheiser told her that her 3 minutes to be heard were exhausted. Mrs. Grimme told Mr. Steinheiser that he never lets her have time to talk.

Brett Schultz, representing Brandywine, Vineyards and Sonoma Valley Developments, stated he was there to formally ask the supervisors to adopt the Brandywine Roads. Mr. Schultz stated he has been working with Bill Braun since March to get three Brandywine roads adopted which are Brandywine Blvd., Silver Oak Dr. and Sonoma Valley Dr. so they would be adopted for the winter season. Mr. Schultz stated he was aware of three outstanding items which were the as-builts which he stated he just turned in tonight and the lines painted was done that afternoon and the maintenance bonds have been submitted to the Township and need signed off on and stated he just heard there is an issue with an inlet. Mr. Schultz said he is just hear to listen to what still needs completed to get the roads adopted. Kroll told Mr. Schultz the as-builts were just received and would need time to look over them. Kroll stated water is running behind the inlets and water is not going into the inlets. Kroll stated the plan showed there was to be curbing or berms with ditches which in some areas were not done. Kroll also said there are signage issues. Mr. Schultz said he has called the Township for months and wasn't told there were these issues and now it is November 2, 2016 and being informed of these problems. Mr. Schultz stated his pavers demobilized September 1, 2016 and his company paid a \$5,000 bill to the Township for Senate Engineering's inspector to watch that the roads were done correctly. Mr. Schultz asked if someone would please meet him at the site and show him what needs done? Mr. Schultz stated he has submitted \$150,000 worth of maintenance bonds that the Township can use to correct the roads after they are adopted. Mr. Schultz is very concerned for the residents not receiving the proper snow removal. Kroll told Mr. Schultz he would set up a meeting.

Tim Spangler was present to discuss his land development on Prospect Road. Mr. Spangler stated he had received a letter from Mr. Menchyk, Jr. in regards to still needing a bond and inlets were not completed. Mr. Spangler said he was unaware of this because his engineer Bob Swartz was handling this for him and he stated the plan was in two phases but he would just like to clear up Phase I first. Bill Braun stated Phase I still needs a stormwater pond, conveyance channels, etc. Steinheiser stated

Phase I should be completed first before moving on to Phase II. Rupert and Menchyk, Jr. stated the bond should have been in at the beginning. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. told Mr. Spangler a letter was sent to his home residence on June 9, 2015 requesting the bond. Mr. Spangler said he didn't recall receiving it. The board told him to contact the Township office to see what is needed for completion of Phase I and get the bond in place.

Tonya Edinger was on the agenda but did not attend.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

\*NONE\*

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

\*NONE\*

#### **PLANS**

Steinheiser mentioned that #1 Cochran is granting the Township an extension of time to vote on their Final Land Development Plan.

#### **ENGINEER REPORT**

Bill Braun stated Tomissa Kiscadden from the DEP had suggested more sewage surveys should be included in our Act 537 Plan, therefore Bill Braun requested the board to approve another 60 surveys at \$35.00 each. Mr. Braun stated more failed or suspected systems Mr. Ice finds will help with grant funding. Rupert motioned to approve advertising in the Butler Eagle that Dave Ice will be doing the surveys and authorizing the Township to pay Dave Ice up to \$2,100.00 for 60 surveys at \$35.00 each. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes. Mrs. Rodgers, a resident, asked which places would be tested? Mr. Braun stated the ones on the map in Phase I. Mrs. Christine Klink asked the board if Dave Ice, when he is going around, could see if the systems that are failing do have a secondary site to replace their system? Steinheiser stated Dave Ice is only going around to look for failed systems. Kroll stated all sandmounds or septic tanks done in the last 10 years have been checked for secondary sites and that information can be found in the Township office, not require Mr. Ice to report.

Bill Braun stated Brett Schultz is requesting Sonoma Valley's LOC be reduced from \$245,439.40 to \$132,038.40. Mr. Braun stated the only items left to do are the seeding/mulching, paving, buffer areas, signage, lighting on Brandywine Blvd. and the stormwater needs made permanent. Mr. Braun stated the \$132,038.40 that will be retained will be plenty to cover these items. Rupert mentioned a cement slab was removed from in front of a bench and not replaced. Calvin Wonderly stated a wheel chaired resident used that to get across to the sidewalk. Mr. Wonderly also said the catch basin near there was not completed either. Kroll stated the slab/ramp was probably removed because it wasn't ADA compliant. Bill Braun also stated there also was no ADA ramp on the opposite side before. Mr. Wonderly asked what is going to be done before someone trips in the hole? Kroll stated this is why he wants Brandywine to correct all the issues before the Township takes over and the residents end up paying for it. Steinheiser assured the residents that our Engineer and Kroll have worked diligently to get this issues corrected before adopting the roads. Rupert motioned to reduce Sonoma Valley's LOC from \$245,439.40 to \$132,038.40 for a reduction in the amount of \$113,401.00. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

#### **SOLICITOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

Steinheiser motioned to approve invoice for September and October 2016 in the amount of \$543.67. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes. Report in packets.

#### **ROAD MASTERS REPORT**

Kroll mentioned he would like to have Bill Braun go to inspect the drainage pipe on Mr. Gilliland's property on Powdermill Rd. Kroll stated the Conservation District was contacted and did inspect and thought it looked like our road crew had fixed correctly however Kroll would like Mr. Braun to report on the size of Rip Rap used and make a drawing so it can be reported to the Conservation District. Steinheiser said this didn't need a motion. Rupert stated the board only has to instruct Bill Braun.

Kroll mentioned a house on Isaac Lane that has had many complaints. Kroll stated he went over and it needs the doors and windows boarded up, the grass mowed and there is a well pit in the back yard that is covered with rotten wood and needs secured for safety. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated a nuisance notice was sent to the property owner and the property owner has not taken any action. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated that leaves the Township with two enforcement options: 1. cite the property owner through the District Court for not abiding by the nuisance ordinance or 2. the Township can go in and abate the nuisance and then take the expense and assess it against the property as a lien. After discussing, the board opted for the latter option. Steinheiser motioned to allow Kroll to get at least 3 bids on the boarding up and cleaning up of 117 Isaac Lane and move forward with correcting the nuisance property even if the bids exceed the \$4,000 limit allowed to be spent by supervisors without being approved first. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert made a second motion to find a contractor to repair it and have the solicitor file the proper paperwork to file the expense against the property as a lien and cite the property owner also. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mr. Bernie Baker asked how many road crew we have? Kroll said, "two". Mr. Baker asked if that is enough for winter? Kroll said the board is working on that too.

**BUILDING PERMIT REPORT**

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

- 46-16 - James Bier - Evans City Rd. - addition - 10/10/16
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- 48-16 - Daniel Green - Bryson Rd. - garage - 10/4/16
- 49-16 - Dale Lyons - Welsh Rd. - garage - 10/18/16
- 50-16 - George Hindman - Hindman Ln. - storage building - 10/19/16
- 51-16 - Christopher Ackerman - Woodlands Rd. - pole building - 10/25/16
- 52-16 - Maria Thiel - Daisy Ln Ext. - shed - 10/25/16
- 53-16 - Reed Soergel - Prospect Rd. - storage building - 10/25/16

Rupert stated he has noticed residents applying for building permits who have unpaid taxes and asked Mr. Menchyk, Jr. if the board decided to deny their applications based on this, whether a resolution would need made or an ordinance? Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he would have to look into and advise.

**TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**SEO REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION**

Steinheiser motioned to release H.C. Dumbaugh lot line revision escrow to Joan Ihlenfeld in the amount of \$460.00. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to pay PSAB's yearly dues of \$225.00 to continue Webpage service. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to advertise for Planning Commission members. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to advertise to appoint a certified public accountant to audit Township financial records for 2016. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to advertise proposed 2017 budget. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to advertise end of year meeting to be held Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kroll motioned to advertise organizational meeting which will be held January 3, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser motioned to advertise first supervisors meeting in January will be January 3, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to advertise elected auditors meeting which will be January 4, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

John Stokes asked if the Public will be able to comment again on the Act 537 Plan once Dave Ice goes out and does these new surveys? Steinheiser said, "definitely".

**Steinheiser said the below, which was on the agenda, is for information:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Budget Meeting will be held on November 10, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.

Received letter dated October 17, 2016 from Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) to inform that Penn Energy Resources, LLC is applying for a renewal of coverage for a Permit to Drill and Operate an Unconventional Well from the PA DEP for one (1) gas well (PER B34 Well Pad) located in Jackson Township. Information is on file at Township office.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Rupert motioned to adjourn to an executive session at 7:46 p.m. to discuss litigation issues and stated the board would not return. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

