

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 7:00 p.m. on December 3, 2014 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser, Scott Longdon and Ray Kroll. Also attending were Solicitor Andrew Menchyk, Jr., Engineer Bill Braun, Treasurer Lee Kradel and Secretary Brenda Davis was present to take the minutes. Twelve people signed in on the public sign in record on file. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

### **REVIEW MINUTES**

Steinheiser motioned to accept the "supervisors meeting" minutes of November 5, 2014. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$289,681.46 but after total deposits of \$71,132.10 and checks of \$70,576.42 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$290,237.14. The Escrow account beginning balance was \$28,099.00 but after deposits in the amount of \$185.00 and checks in the amount of \$850.00, the ending balance is \$27,434.00. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$50,047.10 but with interest of \$1.61, the ending balance is \$50,048.71. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$403,902.41 but with interest of \$30.98, the ending balance is \$403,933.39. Steinheiser motioned to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Kroll, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Secondly, Lee Kradel mentioned the 2015 budget has been advertised and posted for 20 days. Kroll motioned to adopt the 2015 budget as resolution #1-15. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes. Ms. Kradel stated the total budget of \$1,014,658 consists of the general fund (\$851,465) and liquid fuels (\$163,193).

### **COMMENT PERIOD**

\* NONE \*

### **REQUEST TO BE HEARD**

Evelyn Hockenberry asked if the board had a response to her letter from last month? Steinheiser stated Mr. Menchyk, Jr. had extensively went through the file and wrote a four page letter which Mr. Steinheiser feels should bury this subject. Steinheiser told Ms. Hockenberry the letter is here for public review.

Pam Kormick read her written concerns about the traffic speed on Eagle Mill Road and the damage to her house she gets from the debris. She feels the trucks over 10 ton should be driving 15-20 mph. Ms. Kormick also stated when she calls the State Police to enforce, they tell her the Township needs to call. Mr. Longdon stated the State Police enforce the speed and any resident is permitted to call and get on list that is discussed at their "shift change" meeting. Longdon also said speed reduction does not decrease safety concerns. Longdon feels the speed limit on the road is correct and told Ms. Kormick she does not have a measuring device to calculate speed. Steinheiser agreed with Mr. Longdon that she needs to call the State Police about the speed. Tom Pawlowicz stated there are not enough troopers and asked the board, "aren't you the government"? Longdon stated again that it is not the supervisors responsibility to contact the State Police, any resident can contact them. In addition, Longdon stated the Township can not tell the State Police what to do. Steinheiser said the discussion was well over the three minutes. Secondly, Ms. Kormick mentioned her driveway is hidden and requests a Hidden Driveway sign. The board felt there was no problem with this request.

Ed Gilliland requested leaving a driveway where MarkWest had a temporary driveway on his property on Reiber Rd. Kroll stated the gas company will need to be signed off on it first. Mr. Gilliland stated he had talked to them and they said if the Township accepted Mr. Gilliland taking responsibility for it, it was

fine with them to leave it in. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated a permit has to be applied for through the Township. Mr. Gilliland had brought in a letter releasing the Township responsibility if there was an accident but Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the Township would still be responsible if someone ran into Mr. Gilliland pulling out of the driveway because the driveway had not been properly permitted. Mr. Gilliland stated he was told all he needed to do was submit this letter. Longdon stated he feels the permit should be approved and issued to Mr. Gilliland before he would approve releasing the temporary driveway from MarkWest. Kroll feels the sight distance was good but had a problem with the culvert size because the pipe is undersized for a permanent driveway permit. Steinheiser told Mr. Gilliland to apply for a permit A.S.A.P. So the board can review.

Secondly, Mr. Gilliland mentioned back in 1999 when he subdivided the property and only had a 10 ft. road access the board placed a restriction that he could not replace the mobile home. Mr. Gilliland stated now that he has 50 ft. (XTO sold him 40 ft.) he feels there should be no restrictions and wants to know how to handle. Kroll stated Mr. Gilliland had 2 houses and a mobile home back in 1999 when it was subdivided and remembered that the mobile home didn't meet some ordinance but could not remember why the restriction was placed on the plan. Kroll told him to come to a Planning Meeting to discuss since he has 50 ft. now. Longdon stated a new plan may need done. Steinheiser stated it needs to go to Planning.

Lastly, Mr. Gilliland's son, John Gilliland, asked Mr. Longdon when the mailboxes were going to be put back? He said they were only to be there 6 months and the time has lapsed. Longdon stated XTO will put back before their bond is released. John Gilliland also asked when they will correct all the damage to the roads? Kroll stated before the bond is released. Steinheiser told John Gilliland he needed to be on the agenda to voice his comments and the meeting needed to proceed.

Jenley Birch questioned the status on the Act 537 plan. Mr. Braun stated DEP has not responded on the submitted draft yet. Ms. Birch felt they have until February. Steinheiser stated he is not sure but told her she could call the DEP.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

\*NONE\*

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

\*NONE\*

#### **PLANS**

Mr. Sedwick, engineer for Brian Pitell, was present to request approval of Mr. Pitell's lot line revision. Mr. Braun stated all past comments were addressed, however the Butler County Planning Commission had not signed the mylar yet and he suggested approving contingent on them signing. Steinheiser motioned to approve the Pitell plan for preliminary & final approval contingent on Butler County Planning Commission signing the mylar. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.

#### **ENGINEER REPORT**

Bill Braun questioned if PennDot has set a meeting to discuss the ARLE grant we received? Brenda Davis said, "no".

**SOLICITOR REPORT**

Andrew Menchyk, Jr. discussed the Golden L Mobile Home Park's violation of not applying for an occupancy permit. He stated he mailed them a letter giving them until December 15, 2014 to comply.

Andrew Menchyk, Jr. mentioned when the sign ordinance was adopted it did not include a separate application for temporary signs therefore he presented the board with a resolution 6-14 relating to temporary sign applications and a sample of the application stating the fee will be \$30.00 but also include a \$50.00 escrow to be paid until all the signs are removed after advertising. After the board discussed a temporary sign should have a date for them to be removed, the board agreed on 90 day limit. In addition, Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated since the code enforcement officer is the one who approves and permits all signs, if he feels they need more time, he can have them apply for an extension. Longdon motioned to adopt resolution #6-14 for temporary sign permitting with the revision to the application stating a ninety day limit. Kroll, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. mentioned PSATS is requesting the Township to adopt an ordinance to reaffirm our participation in the PSATS UC Trust. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated PSATS had supplied a draft ordinance which he will review and put in final form to advertise in order to adopt at our January 5, 2015 supervisor's meeting with the board's permission. Steinheiser motioned to have Mr. Menchyk, Jr. finalize ordinance #91-14 and advertise for adoption. Kroll, seconded. Roll call, yes.

Lastly, Mr. Menchyk, Jr. mentioned being called by an attorney representing residents on Dick Rd. wanting to have the road name changed. Very simply, Steinheiser stated that is a State Road, therefore, it is not a Township issue.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

Steinheiser motioned to approve invoice in amount of \$142.00. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes. Report in packets.

**ROAD MASTERS REPORT**

Kroll stated the equipment and men are all ready for snow. In addition, Kroll stated the new truck is really nice.

**BUILDING PERMITS**

Steinheiser reported the following building permit applications have been received for the month:  
78-14 - Ricky Kradel - Eagle Mill Rd. - shed

**TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

Tom Pawlowicz noted the taxes are now in penalty and he will only accept cash or certified checks after Dec 17, 2014 for payment of these taxes.

**SEO REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION**

Steinheiser tabled releasing the road bond on Moose Rd. to XTO until Kroll approves. - \$16,500

Steinheiser tabled releasing the road bond on Reiber Rd. to XTO until Kroll approves. - \$ 2,875

Steinheiser motioned to pay Connoquenessing Borough for Township's share of 2015 Automobile and Workers' Compensation Insurance Premium in the amount of \$13,075.63. Kroll, seconded. Longdon, yes based on if the calculation is correct based on population.

Longdon motioned to advertise that supervisors will be appointing the following positions at their January 5, 2015 organizational meeting: Solicitor, Engineer, Planning Commission Board, Sewage Enforcement Officer and Code Enforcement Officer. Kroll, seconded. Roll call, yes.

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

Received thank you note from "Meals on Wheels" for our donation of \$1,200.

Received thank you note from "Butler Area Public Library" for our donation of \$800.00.

Received letter dated November 3, 2014 from Gannet Fleming to notify XTO Energy's intention to submit a Water Management Plan amendment to the PA DEP for approval to purchase water from PA American Water for use in oil and gas exploration and development. The withdrawal point is located on Dick Rd. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated November 4, 2014 from "Butler Residents for Quality Schools" who are a coalition of concerned parents and community members interested in working with our elected members of the Butler Area School District Board of Directors and Administration as they consider school consolidation options for the 2015-2016 school year. A complete brochure on their study is at the Township office.

Received letter dated November 4, 2014 from Rex Energy to notify that Permit Applications for Drilling or Altering a Well are being submitted to the PA DEP for the Sharlow Unit's 1H and 2H natural gas wells located in Penn Township. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated November 18, 2014 from Rex Energy to notify Permit Applications for Drilling or Altering a Well are being submitted to the PA DEP for the Fleeger Unit 2H natural gas well in Center Township. Information is on file at Township office.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Kroll motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Longdon, seconded. Roll call, yes.