

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 7:00 p.m. on December 6, 2017 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser and Ed Rupert. Ray Kroll did not attend. Also attending was Julie Anderson filling in for our Solicitor Andrew Menchyk, Jr., Engineer Bill Braun, Treasurer/Asst. Secretary Lee Kradel and Secretary/Asst. Treasurer Brenda Davis was present to take the minutes. Thirteen 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 November 1, 2017. Steinheiser motioned to accept the minutes of November 1, 2017. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated Planning Meeting minutes for the month of September are in supervisor packets and the October Planning Meeting was canceled.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$460,641.66 but after deposits of \$98,684.07 and checks in the amount of \$56,752.24 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$502,573.49. Lee Kradel stated the Escrow account beginning balance is \$52,689.33 but after deposits of \$420.00 and checks in the amount of \$1,338.75 are approved tonight, the ending balance is \$51,770.58. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$14,128.95 but with interest of \$.58, the ending balance is \$14,129.53. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$195,430.69 but with interest of \$14.75 and checks in the amount of \$29,918.43, the ending balance is \$165,527.01. Lee Kradel said with the balance in the Act 13 CD of \$500,000, the total ending balance is \$665,527.01. Steinheiser motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

**COMMENT PERIOD** - three minute limit pertaining to agenda

\*NONE\*

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

\*NONE\*

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Steinheiser said the board needed to discuss Brett Schultz's request of return of Brandywine Curb escrow that was tabled at last month's meeting. Bill Braun stated he had looked over the curb work and stated it looked satisfactory but wasn't there when it was raining so couldn't say if there could be possible erosion later. Bill Braun suggested releasing the bond but receive a maintenance bond from them. Brenda Davis said Ray Kroll was in yesterday and told her and Lee Kradel that he was planning on releasing the \$12,000 and retaining the \$1,800 maintenance bond that was already submitted from their bank. Rupert motioned to release the \$12,342.00 LOC and accept the \$1,851.30 LOC maintenance bond. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated a motion needs made to send the forms for the new lane name "Agape" Lane (discussed at last month's meeting) into the 911, Mapping and Assessment for their approvals. Rupert made a motion to approve sending the Agape Lane forms. Calvin Wonderly questioned where this lane is located. Brenda Davis said between 127 and 129 Silver Oak Drive. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser said the Township received a letter from Penn Dot in reference to our letter with concerns on the sink hole on Dick Rd. Steinheiser said he was upset that they stated they will not be doing anything to correct the situation. Steinheiser told the public to contact PennDot with their concerns because it is out of the Township's hands. Steinheiser said PennDot told him a topcoat (tar chip) is being planned in 2019. Steinheiser said the public needs to contact your State Representatives and maybe the squeaky wheel will help. Mrs. Melberg said she has no success with results from Brian Ellis and questioned if a petition could be left here at the Township to be signed because she said Representative Ellis' secretary said a petition will get better results. Steinheiser asked Julie Anderson, solicitor, if this was permitted? Ms. Anderson stated it would have to be done by the citizenry, not by the Township. Calvin Wonderly suggested everyone calling 1-800-FIX-ROAD. Bob Cichra stated the sink hole causes a major drop for the school buses and asked if this could be a safety issue? Rupert said the school bus safety was mentioned in the letter to PennDot without any avail. Mr. Cichra said maybe the Butler Area School District

would have more say. Steinheiser asked the residents to call in to request a count be done on Dick Rd. because he feels there is much more traffic on the road than PennDot is aware of. Mrs. Melberg, who lives above Dick Rd. in that area, said she hears truck traffic on the road all the time. Steinheiser said it is out of the Township's jurisdiction, because it is a state road, but stated he had really tried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Steinheiser stated he needed to announce the change of times for organizational and first supervisor's meeting that was approved at last month's meeting. Rupert motioned to advertise organizational meeting to be held January 2, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert motioned to advertise first supervisors meeting in January will be January 2, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes. Brenda Davis stated there will be no meeting on Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Steinheiser stated our old generator does not work for the building and would like to advertise to sell it and purchase a new diesel generator. Steinheiser stated this generator would be used for the public safety since this building is used in an emergency situation. Rupert motioned to advertise to sell the old generator and advertise for a new diesel generator. Calvin Wonderly asked what is the matter with natural gas? Steinheiser said Kroll requested diesel for some reason but did not know why. After discussing, Steinheiser revised the motion to advertise for either a natural gas or diesel generator and purchase the best choice for the community. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser asked for the public input on discussing whether a resolution needs prepared for prohibiting category 4 casinos within our boundary. Julie Anderson explained that if a municipality chooses to prohibit the category 4 casino, which is a smaller scale casino, a resolution needs done. Rupert felt these casinos would mainly be in truck stops in the lobby. Ms. Anderson said the casino is defined as "not less than 300 but more than 750 slot/table games. The public and board agreed this is bigger than in a truck stop. Steinheiser said he didn't know if the Township would receive monies from this? Ms. Anderson stated we would receive 50% of the 4% local assessment fee. The other 50% would go to the state. Brenda Davis said the decision/resolution must be submitted by December 31, 2017. Lee Kradel asked why PSATS supplied us with the sample resolution and said they must be in favor of the resolution. Ms. Anderson doesn't feel they are voicing an opinion, only making sure municipalities are aware of this and knows the time restraint. Steinheiser asked Ms. Anderson if we could prohibit them now by doing the resolution and then after more discussion, we could rescind it later to accept them? Ms. Anderson said we could but if we did and then decided later after we rescinded we could not rescind again. Steinheiser asked for Rupert's opinion. Rupert stated he is not against the casino and feels it would only add revenue to the Township. Mr. Rodgers stated casinos may not even consider being in a community without sewers and city water. Rupert agreed stating we are not a prime location for a casino. After more comments from the public, Steinheiser tabled the decision until our "Close of Business" meeting on December 28, 2017.

Steinheiser stated the board has been working diligently on Rt. 68 improvements and he has been talking to PennDot and State Representatives to try and get three lanes put in on Rt. 68 but now is holding off to see what the State is going to do with Cochran Subaru coming in on Rt. 68. Steinheiser just wanted the public to know that he has not forgotten about Rt. 68 needing improved.

### **PLANS**

Steinheiser stated Buddy Hindman missed the deadline recording his plan within the 90 day ordinance requirement. Rupert motioned to re-approve and sign Buddy Hindman's Subdivision Plan which was approved as final on July 5, 2017 with today's meeting date but stated the Plan must be recorded within 30 days. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

Winona Spangler was present requesting approval on the Spangler/Krenitsky Lot Line Revision Plan. Rupert and Steinheiser stated they had looked at the Plan and had no problem approving. Bill Braun stated the plan had gone through the Planning Commission and he said all contingencies were met. Mr. Braun said the board would need to approve a waiver. Mrs. Spangler showed how the plan is adding some property from Bob Krenitsky's property and another house bordering their property which they had just purchased to make different lot sizes. Steinheiser motioned to waive the requirements of Articles V & VI in Chapter 245-14 since the Plan is a lot line revision. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert motioned to approve Spangler/Krenitsky Lot Line Revision Plan for preliminary and final. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.

**ENGINEER REPORT**

Bill Braun was going to update on the Act 537 Plan but Steinheiser said nothing is really settled yet and tabled the discussion.

Bill Braun stated the Township does have a contract for the ARLE Grant which states the Township is responsible to match \$20,000 if the \$200,000 is used. Mr. Braun said the ARLE and Green Light Go (GLG) grants are both to be used for the intersections of Rt. 68 and Eagle Mill Rd. Mr. Braun stated the GLG grant is also for \$200,000 but the Township agrees to match \$40,000. Mr. Braun stated the GLG grant can only be spent on signals and there is enough money from this to do the signals. However, Mr. Braun said the ARLE grant can be used on signals, roadway work, obtaining right-of-ways, etc. Mr. Braun suggests starting with the GLG grant money on the signals and then coming up with a plan on how to use the ARLE grant because Mr. Braun said we do not want to give any of the money back. Bill Braun said he will need to meet with Trans Associates and PennDot to design a plan that is accepted to use GLG grant money. Bill Braun said he would schedule the meeting.

**SOLICITOR REPORT**

Steinheiser stated Golden L Mobile Home Park paid their Occupancy Permit fee after receiving a notice from our solicitor.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**ROAD MASTERS REPORT**

Steinheiser stated since Kroll is not in attendance he is tabling the discussion of a new rate for providing snow removal on Kennedy Road for Prospect Borough.

**BUILDING PERMIT REPORT**

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

- 62-17 - Dale Barnett - Plateau St. - garage addition - 11/1/17
- 63-17 - Ray Mekis - Silver Oak Dr. - shed - 11/8/17
- 64-17 - Steve Calhoun - Dutch Ln. - garage - 11-14-17
- 65-17 - Charles Brandon - Whitestown Rd. - farm storage building - 11-14-17
- 66-17 - Sonoma Valley Partners - Silver Oak Dr. - house - 11-21-17
- 67-17 - Shannon Mills Partners - Kenlee Dr. - duplex - 11-22-17
- 68-17 - Shannon Mills Partners - Kenlee Dr. - duplex - 11-22-17
- 69-17 - Philip & Laura Mason - Kriess Rd. - house - 11-30-17
- 70-17 - Delores Nesky - Double Rd. - deck/ramp - 11-30-17

**TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

Rupert updated on the Act 511 delinquent taxes the office personnel have been attempting to collect before sending over to Statewide Tax Recovery. Rupert stated the Township mailed out 260 delinquent notices, received 62 payments and turned over 191 names to Statewide Tax Recovery. Steinheiser said this was a new move by the Township to collect these delinquent taxes and seems to be working.

**SEO REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION**

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

End of year meeting has been set for December 28, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Received letter dated November 6, 2017 from Rex Energy to notify that Permit Applications for Drilling or Altering a Well are being submitted to the PA DEP for the Hofer Unit's 1H and 3H natural gas wells located in Penn Township. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter dated November 16, 2017 from Rex Energy to notify that Permit Applications for Drilling or Altering a Well are being submitted to the PA DEP for the Bloom Unit's 1H, 2H, 3H, 4H, 5H, 7H, 8H, 9H, 10H and 11H natural gas wells located in Connoquenessing Township. Information is on file at Township office.

Received letter from PA Dept. of Transportation dated October 25, 2017 stating they will be contracting with Tri-State Traffic Data, Inc. to collect traffic data on municipally owned roads within our county and municipality. Traffic counters will be set in our municipality between October 2017 and February 2018 and are not being set for any road project or speed trap. Information is on file at Township office.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Rupert motioned to adjourn to an executive session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss litigation issues and stated the board would not return. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.