

Connoquenessing Township’s Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 7:00 p.m. on May 3, 2017 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser, Ed Rupert and Ray Kroll. Also attending were Solicitor Andrew Menchyk, Jr., Treasurer/Asst. Secretary Lee Kradel and Secretary/Asst. Treasurer Brenda Davis was present to take the minutes. Engineer Bill Braun did not attend. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer. Eleven people signed in on the public sign in record on file.

**REVIEW MINUTES**

Reviewed minutes of April 5, 2017. Rupert motioned to accept the minutes of April 5, 2017. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$371,548.85 but after deposits of \$57,699.63 and checks in the amount of \$58,809.97 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$370,438.51. Lee Kradel stated the Escrow account beginning balance is \$56,259.58 but after deposits of \$100.00 and checks in the amount of \$3,440.00 are approved tonight, the ending balance is \$52,919.58. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$462,750.90 but with interest of \$17.75, the ending balance is \$462,768.65. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$545,900.31 but with interest of \$41.88, the ending balance is \$545,942.19. Kroll motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Lee Kradel mentioned the annual renewal for the Quickbooks Payroll Update is shown on the Financial Report in the amount of \$565.00.

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

Calvin Wonderly asked if anything has been done with the storage trailers that Mr. Harp has placed on his property which Mr. Baglier complained are blocking the view of some parts of his car dealership. Mr. Steinheiser stated he has discussed the issue with both Mr. Harp and Mr. Baglier and tried to get them to work together but to no avail. Andrew Menchyk, Jr. stated this is a private property dispute, not a Township issue.

**BIDS**

Following are the sealed bids that were publicly opened and read aloud by Brenda Davis for the letting of May 3, 2017:

**LIMESTONE**

| Tons  | Material | Sterlingwood<br>Price<br>per ton | Allegheny Mineral<br>Price<br>per ton | IA Construction<br>Price<br>per ton |
|-------|----------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3,000 | 2A       | \$21.20                          | \$17.90                               | \$27.70                             |
| 1,500 | 1B       | \$26.60                          | \$22.40                               | \$31.30                             |
| 1,000 | 2B       | \$21.70                          | \$18.40                               | \$28.80                             |
| 500   | 3        | \$22.80                          | \$18.65                               | n/a                                 |

**RIP RAP**

| Tons | Material | Sterlingwood<br>Price<br>per ton | Allegheny Mineral<br>Price<br>per ton | IA Construction<br>Price<br>per ton |
|------|----------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 250  | 4        | \$23.35                          | \$19.00                               | \$33.00                             |
| 250  | 6        | \$39.45                          | \$31.50                               | \$37.00                             |

**DUST OIL**

| Gallons | Material | Russell Standard<br>Price<br>per gallon | Suit-Kote<br>Price<br>per gallon | Midland Asphalt<br>Price<br>per gallon |
|---------|----------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 7,000   | CRS-2    | \$1.413                                 | \$1.349                          | \$1.71                                 |

All above bidders enclosed their bid bonds which were reviewed and approved by Andrew Menchyk, Jr.

Kroll made a motion to award Allegheny Mineral the limestone and rip rap bids. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Kroll motioned to table the dust oil bids until he can question each supplier to see if they will be using a Power Sprayer truck? Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Steinheiser stated Midland Asphalt wouldn't need contacted since they were the highest bidder. Mr. Ken Lavoie, resident, questioned if all bidders would need questioned in order to not cause a protest? Kroll stated he will contact all three bidders.

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

\*NONE\*

**OLD BUSINESS**

Kroll discussed the tabled bids for paving and milling opened at last month's meeting. Kroll said there was a great difference in bid costs so he asked each bidder to supply their design mix they used to calculate their bid because our bid requested them to bid on the mix called SRLG. Kroll stated he wanted this mix because it is a more abrasive asphalt which works well on our roads. Kroll stated Brenda contacted each contractor and received a copy of each one's design mix. Kroll stated Shields quoted on SRLG which is like a sand mix and Hawbaker quoted the SLRH mix which is used on state highways. Kroll stated Wiest was the only bidder that bid on what we advertised for. Therefore, Kroll motioned to award the paving bid to Wiest in the amount of \$368,588.61. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated that Shields Paving is a client of his so with a potential of a conflict of interest issue, he must recuse himself with respect to the awarding of the paving and milling bids since they bid on both.

Kroll stated he asked Shields if their low bid on the milling was bid knowing that the millings belong to the Township and delivery back to the Township was in their quote? Kroll stated he talked to Shields and they said they were aware of that and Kroll said he also asked Hawbaker and Wiest and they also knew this. Kroll stated the bids came in at \$1.43, \$1.77 and \$1.19. Kroll stated with respect to a conflict with paving he would think the Township should go with the Wiest (\$1.43) because scheduling Shields and Wiest at the same time would be difficult to get a road paved. Steinheiser asked if a safety issue could arise if the road was milled and then had to wait several days or longer for the other contractor to pave? Kroll said, "yes" and also it would be difficult for the pavers to work out the same schedule. Kroll stated you don't want to mill the road more than a day or two before paving it because it will change the surface of the road considerably. Rupert agreed with Kroll that he would not like to possibly create hazard with milling one week and then having to wait for the road to be paved. Kroll stated he feels paying the small difference of \$1.43 compared to \$1.19 and having all the millings to use is worth going with the same contractor for both. Rupert asked Kroll if the millings are all being delivered to the Township? Kroll stated the contractors know that half of the Township will come to the Township building and the other to Whitestown Rd. Ext. Kroll motioned to award the milling bid to Wiest in the amount of \$1.43 per ton. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

\*NONE\*

**PLANS**

\*NONE\*

**ENGINEER REPORT**

Bill Braun did not attend. Kroll stated he traveled around parts of the Township in reference to the Act 537 Sewage Plan because the report from our SEO on malfunctions did not have enough information for him. Kroll stated there are 12 small flow treatment facilities (SFTF's) and the four roads he went on had 39 sand mounds, 11 houses with sewage coming to the surface and spotted 15 pipes going to streams which most would be down spouts but said some could be septic. Kroll also stated there are 4 houses with experimental systems. Kroll just wants the public to know that sewage is needed in certain parts of the Township. Kroll stated he will continue to go around the Township to get a number to provide to the public showing all the septic issues. Kroll noted that he did not go onto any private property to gather his information.

**SOLICITOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

Rupert motioned to approve invoice for March and April 2017 in the amount of \$413.16 which includes hours and mileage. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes. Report in packets.

**ROAD MASTERS REPORT**

Kroll discussed hiring two summer help and paying them the same rate as last year's summer help. Kroll stated their names are Adam Smith and Nathan Turley and are college students and were interviewed by Bill Chuba. Kroll stated he is planning on them being flaggers and will get their certification through Pennsylvania shortly after they start working. Kroll stated it is an online class. Kroll stated hiring a flagging company is roughly \$760 a day so paying summer help \$13.00/hr is a considerable savings. Kroll stated they will also mow, paint, etc. Rupert stated that the Township's joint clean up day at Forward Township is on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> and was informed of a shortage of help and would like to offer the two summer help to work from 8-1 that day with pay. Kroll motioned to hire Adam Smith and Nathan Turley as summer help at the rate of \$13.00 per hour. Rupert seconded and added to allow them to start on May 13, 2017 to help at recycling day with pay. Roll call, yes. Kroll stated he has talked with the union representative and he had no problem with the Township hiring two summer help.

Kroll stated he has had a meeting with the gas companies to discuss what they will pay to fix the roads and he has heard back from all except Rex Energy and they are in agreement with the numbers. Kroll stated Bill Braun, Ed Rupert and Andrew Menchyk, Jr. were also in attendance. Steinheiser stated it was good that Kroll held off on doing any roads last year until this was settled and told the public this year there will be a lot of paving done.

Lastly, Kroll stated the grass was not mowed because our 20 year old John Deere tractor died and he said the parts to fix would be \$1,100 plus labor and suggests getting a new mower. Kroll stated he solicited 3 written bids from Turner Tractor, Ritenour and West Central Equipment and Turner Tractor had the best offer of \$6,000 for a 60" zero-turn. Rupert asked if it was a commercial mower? Kroll stated, "yes". Rupert stated you could get a cheap mower for \$4,000 but would rather spend \$6,000 for a better mower. Rupert also said he looked into hiring a lawn service to mow, weed, etc. but feels it is a better benefit to purchase the mower. Kroll motioned to purchase the Bad Boy 60" - zero-turn mower from Turner Tractor in the amount of \$6,000. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Charlotte Grimme asked if she could ask a question from the Engineer Report section? Steinheiser said, "yes". Mrs. Grimme asked if the Township heard from the DEP if they accepted the Township's request in delaying our submittal of the Act 537 final draft? Steinheiser stated, "no". Steinheiser said the Township is taking their time to look into all areas before submitting. Kroll asked the board to consider looking into

having a part-time police force. Rupert stated if the Township has to start paying \$25.00 per person for the State police coverage he thinks looking into part-time would be a good idea. Steinheiser told the public how Gov. Wolf is trying to pass a law where municipalities that solely depend on the State police will have to pay \$25/per resident per year which is costly based on 5,000 people. Steinheiser stated Lee Dyer from the Evans City Police approached him and said they would consider covering our area. Steinheiser asked for some public comment. Mrs. Grimme said she would love having someone local to call. Ken Lavoie stated mailboxes were damaged in Brandywine and the State police were called and they never did show up and the homeowners had to deal with the insurance companies on their own. Kroll said people use our stop signs as yield signs. Ken Lavoie asked what services can part-time officers offer for the price? Steinheiser said he will have to look into and talk further with Mr. Dyer. Mr. Bob Cichra said if the State expects this extra money the municipalities should have an officer come to at least quarterly meetings who would be the contact for the residents. Steinheiser said, "Good Luck". Mr. Cichra feels the municipality should be able to tell the State police what the Township expects for this additional \$25.00 fee. The board said "that won't happen". Steinheiser stated he will gather more information for next months' meeting.

#### **BUILDING PERMIT REPORT**

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

22-17 - Tracy Mitchell - Plateau St. - swimming pool - 4/6/17  
 23-17 - Shannon Mills Partners - Kenlee Dr. - duplex - 4/10/17  
 24-17 - John Hanna - Eagle Mill Rd. - garage - 4/11/17  
 25-17 - Dan Rearick - Cupps Rd. - swimming pool - 4/13/17  
 26-17 - Timothy Duffy - Silver Oak Dr. - shed - 4/17/17  
 27-17 - Bruce Edwards - Silver Oak Dr. - shed - 4/17/17  
 28-17 - Benjamin McChesney - Evans City Rd. - swimming pool - 4/24/17  
 29-17 - Mark Hoffer - Fassinger Rd. - garage - 4/27/17  
 30-17 - David Buchholz - Spring Valley Rd. - deck - 5/3/17

#### **TAX COLLECTOR REPORT**

\*NONE\*

#### **SEO REPORT**

Steinheiser stated the final inspection is complete for Ben Kramer on Pine View Circle.

#### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT**

Rupert stated there is talk at the Emergency Management meetings to have one regional coordinator instead of one at each municipality. Rupert said if there is a disaster such as a tornado or flooding, the regional coordinator would be the contact for several municipalities. Rupert gave an example of having one coordinator for Forward Township, Evans City Borough, Connoquenessing Borough, Connoquenessing Township instead of having four and would only have to pay for one to get all the certifications required to be a coordinator.

#### **MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION**

Kroll motioned to release temporary holding tank escrow to XTO for the Lesney/Pawlowicz gas well in the amount of \$2,800.00. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kroll motioned to release Whitestown Rd. bond from Dick Rd. to Rt. 528 for MarkWest - 1.33 miles - in the amount of \$16,625.00. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kroll motioned to release Welsh Rd. bond from Shannon Rd. to Gilliland for MarkWest - .91 mile in the amount of \$11,375.00. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the office will be closed May 18, 2017 for office personnel to attend the Butler County Association of Township Officials 102nd Annual Spring Convention.

Steinheiser also stated that Connoquenessing Township, Connoquenessing Borough, Evans City Borough and Forward Township will have their joint annual "Clean-up/Recycling Day" on May 13, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A list of items and fees are posted at the Township office. Brenda also said it is posted on the website.

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Rupert motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Steinheiser seconded. Roll call, yes.