

Connoquenessing Township's Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Terry Steinheiser at 7:00 p.m. on November 6, 2019 at the Connoquenessing Township Municipal Building. Present were Supervisors Terry Steinheiser, Ed Rupert and Ray Kroll. Also attending was Attorney Andrew Menchyk, Jr., Engineer Bill Braun, Treasurer/Asst. Secretary Lee Kradel and Secretary/Asst. Treasurer Brenda Davis was present to take the minutes. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer. Seventeen people signed in on the public sign in record on file.

REVIEW MINUTES

Reviewed minutes of October 2, 2019. Rupert motioned to accept the minutes of October 2, 2019. Kroll, seconded. Roll call, yes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lee Kradel reported the beginning balance in the General Fund is \$427,341.02 but after deposits of \$47,317.15 and checks in the amount of \$109,759.22 are approved tonight the ending balance will be \$364,898.95. Lee Kradel stated the Escrow account beginning balance is \$49,353.65 but after deposits of \$2,088.75 and checks in the amount of \$2,974.25 are approved tonight, the ending balance is \$48,468.15. Lee Kradel said the Highway Aide beginning balance was \$1,789.68 but with interest of \$.08, the ending balance is \$1,789.76. Lee Kradel stated the Act 13 Impact Fee fund beginning balance is \$344,945.20 but with interest of \$365.36 and a check in the amount of \$153,246.16, the ending balance is \$192,064.40. Lee stated the Act 13 CD remains at \$517,767.12 which brings the total Act 13 fund balance to \$709,831.52. Kroll motioned to approve the financial report and pay the bills. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

COMMENT PERIOD - three minute limit

Evelyn Hockenberry questioned Andrew Menchyk, Jr. about Resolution #5-19 on why real estate matters need discussed in Executive Session? Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated real estate issues related to the sale or acquisition involving the Township need to be confidential to protect the purchaser and seller's identity and negotiations.

REQUEST TO BE HEARD - three minute limit

Dennis & Laura Davis were present and stated they are currently under contract to purchase 24 parcels west of Crab Run Rd. which are located on the County Map in Lancaster Township but recently found out the taxes are going to Connoquenessing Township. Mr. Davis said he plans on building a new home on those parcels and wants to keep his children in Seneca Valley School district so he is asking the board to sign approval to relinquish the taxes on these parcels to Lancaster Township. Mr. Davis presented a letter to the board to sign stating Connoquenessing Township would relinquish the taxes. Mr. Rupert stated even if the board signed and approved this, the County Tax Assessor has the final say. After discussing, Steinheiser made a motion to relinquish the 24 parcels taxed in Connoquenessing Township to Lancaster Township and sign Mr. Davis' confirmation letter. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Lee Kradel asked the board if Mr. Davis will have to come through our Planning Commission when doing the Lot Consolidation Plan? Rupert said if the parcels that are being combined show any part in Connoquenessing Township, Mr. Davis will have to present the Plan in both Townships.

OLD BUSINESS

Kroll stated it has been determined that Connoquenessing Township does own half of Connoquenessing School Rd. the whole way to the bend. Kroll said the road crew will extend pipe down Connoquenessing School Rd. and put an inlet box in and cross over the road to drain into the Rader's pasture field and eliminate the pipe that goes across the road. Kroll also noted that when the road is paved, the road should lean towards the ditchline to eliminate water going onto Rader's property. Bill Braun stated there are utilities there that will need moved. Kroll stated PA One Call has already been called and once the utilities are moved the road crew will begin. Rupert mentioned Connoquenessing Borough had a meeting on November 4, 2019 and presented and signed a new agreement between the Borough and Township to replace a previous one dated in 1982. Rupert stated the old agreement just covered half the expense for ditching, grading, potholes, etc. but the new agreement includes paving. Rupert motioned to approve and sign the new agreement which was already signed by the Connoquenessing Borough on November 4, 2019. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

PLANS

Frank & Alison Calderone were present and consolidating 3 lots into one. Rupert stated there was an easement on the parcels and asked Mrs. Calderone if she had found out from her attorney what that easement was for? Mrs. Calderone said the easement was from 1964 but her attorney could not find what it was related to. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the easement doesn't go away even when they consolidate these 3 lots. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated they can still consolidate but the easement will remain. Rupert also noted that the Butler County Planning Commission requires them to create a new deed after the consolidation. Rupert motioned to grant the requested modification to waive requirements of Chapter 245-14 Articles V & VI. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes. Rupert motioned to approve the Frank & Alison Calderone Lot Consolidation Plan for preliminary and final approval. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

ENGINEER REPORT

Bill Braun stated there are still two issues with #1 Cochran. Mr. Braun said they had submitted a new stormwater plan and per Mr. Braun's letter of September 24, 2019 #1 Cochran needed to submit an amendment to their NPDES permit to the Conservation District which they did but has not been approved yet so they can not start the work. The second issue was the buffer trees. Mr. Braun stated the board had reviewed and approved their buffer plan months back but #1 Cochran has only staked out about 90%. Mr. Braun stated the engineer of #1 Cochran contacted him today requesting a letter from the Township stating the buffer plan is approved before they move forward with planting. Bill Braun suggested the approval be contingent on he and the Township agreeing on the placement of the trees prior to planting and the work is completed within 30 days or the approval is null and void. Rupert motioned to approve the revised landscape plan per Bill Braun's suggestion. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Cliff Pickerd from Buttercup School Rd. stated the #1 Cochran lights are still shining brightly on his residence. He said he was told the lights would be dimmed at night but that has not happened. Mr. Pickerd showed pictures of the lights shining on his house. Mr. Braun stated he could check to see if they are meeting our ordinance in relation to the foot candles off the neighbors property line. Mr. Pickerd said if #1 Cochran could just turn off 3 lights at the back of their building that shine directly onto his property, the others would be fine. Mr. Braun found in the ordinance that no light in excess of 1/2 ft. candle should emit within 15 ft. of the property lines. Mr. Braun stated he can have them do a Photometrics study to prove if they meet our ordinance. Mr. Braun stated the buffer trees will also help. Mr. Pickerd said he would just like to live like he's not in the middle of Chicago. Kroll motioned to have Mr. Menchyk, Jr. write a letter to #1 Cochran addressing both issues. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated we currently have a Solicitation Ordinance for peddling from door to door that requires a permit. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the Township recently granted a permit to an entity and their peddlers used aggressive tactics that lead to the Township receiving complaints from our residents. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. told the supervisors, if they wish they can suspend PAG&E Company permit. Kroll said he had contacted the leader of the solicitors for PAG&E and said he was arrogant and said they solicit in a community until they are asked to leave and they were not in our area presently but were planning on returning in November. Steinheiser motioned to suspend PAG&E permit. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes. Steinheiser asked Mr. Menchyk, Jr. if their permit fee needs refunded? Mr. Mench, Jr. stated "no". Mr. Menchyk Jr. said the Township had administrative charges related to issuing the permit and they were granted a privilege and abused it. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. suggested reviewing the current ordinance and possibly restricting or streamlining this type of solicitor and put in stricter provisions to regulate these type of solicitations. Steinheiser said the board could consider a "no solicitation ordinance" but that would prohibit political candidates, girl scouts, track teams, etc. which he would not like to do. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. agreed and said he would review the ordinance and prepare a draft for the supervisors to review.

Secondly, Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated he received information from Sandi Cox in reference to property at 123 Fawn Drive which she had sent a letter to the property owners on August 12, 2019 about a burned up trailer and garbage on the property and asked them to abate the nuisance. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated she sent them a second letter on September 30, 2019 and still no response so she asked him to ask the supervisors if they would like to have him file a citation against the property owners. Mr. Menchyk, Jr. stated the property is a health and safety issue. Kroll motioned to have Mr. Menchyk, Jr. proceed with a citation and enforcement. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Kroll motioned to approve invoice for October 2019 in the amount of \$410.27. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Report in packets.

ROAD MASTER REPORT

Kroll mentioned that 2 of his road crew have vacations that run January through December and 1 runs from November to November. Kroll said he would like to have all of their vacations run from January to December so there is not this overlapping of vacation in the Fall and employees competing for time off. Kroll motioned to change the 3 road crew vacations to run from January to December. Kroll stated he discussed this with the Union and they are fine with it. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Secondly, Kroll told the supervisors he is planning on working on Welsh Rd. and using free millings that were brought into the Township from gas companies or Penn Dot. Kroll stated he will hire a couple trucks to haul the millings and use the road crew to grade. Steinheiser said that was a good idea. Kroll also stated Connoquenessing School Rd. will be the next project.

BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

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

- 50-19 - Amanda Mitchell - Mirage Ct. - shed - 10/14/19
- 51-19 - Halie Newpher - Meadow Dr. - shed - 10/17/19
- 52-19 - George Hindman - Hindman Ln - garage - 10/21/19
- 53-19 - Richard DeFranciscis - Sahara Dr. - inground pool - 10/22/19
- 54-19 - Jonathan Kasing - Fassinger Rd. - garage - 10/23/19

TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

NONE

SEO REPORT

Steinheiser stated there were four sewage final inspections done this month:

Michael Pospisil

Thomas Double - Rupert motioned to release \$375.00 sewage escrow. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Edward Stone - Kroll motioned to release \$150.00 sewage escrow. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kenny Newpher - Rupert motioned to release \$475.00 sewage escrow. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

NONE

MOTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

Rupert motioned to release sign permit escrow in the amount of \$50.00 to Rick Kradel. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

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

Rupert motioned to advertise to appoint a certified public accountant to audit Township financial records for 2019. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kroll motioned to advertise appointed positions. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes. Lee Kradel asked for clarity on what positions should be advertised? Brenda Davis asked if the road superintendent should be advertised? Kroll stated the road superintendent is controlled under the Union. Brenda Davis said, "that is not what we have been told". The board could not comment on this until further review is done by our solicitor.

Rupert motioned to advertise proposed 2020 budget. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Kroll motioned to advertise end of year meeting to be held Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Rupert seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to advertise organizational meeting which will be held January 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to advertise first supervisors meeting of 2020 will immediately follow the organizational meeting held on January 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Rupert motioned to advertise elected auditors meeting which will be January 7, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.

Steinheiser stated the below is for information:

Received thank you note from Meals on Wheels for our donation of \$1,200.00.

Received thank you note from Butler County Humane Society for our donation of \$500.00.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Rupert motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Kroll seconded. Roll call, yes.