

September 17, 2015

The Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors held their regular meeting at 7:30pm at the Municipal Building, 6272 Route 309, New Tripoli, PA 18066. Present were Supervisors Steven Bachman, David Fink and Rodney Schlauch Jr., Administrator/Secretary-Treasurer Janice Meyers, Road Superintendent Kevin Huber, Zoning Assistant Dawn Didra, Township Solicitor Atty. Charles Waters from Steckel and Stopp Law Offices and Township Engineer Christopher Noll from Keystone Consulting Engineers.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recording of Meeting: None

Recognition of members of the press: Michele Kent from the Northwestern press

Approve minutes of the August 20, 2015 regular monthly meeting: Motion by David Fink, seconded by Rodney Schlauch Jr. to approve the August 20, 2015 regular monthly meeting minutes. Motion carried. Steve Bachman abstained due to not being present on the 20th.

Public comment on agenda items: Carl Breininger may have comments.

Executive Session: Steve Bachman, Rodney Schlauch Jr., David Fink, Janice Meyers, Kevin Huber and Atty. Waters met in executive session from 7:35pm to 7:50pm to discuss employment related matters.

Payment of bills: Motion by Rodney Schlauch Jr., seconded by David Fink to approve the payment of the bills General Fund checks # eft2216-eft2243 and 20273-20325 and no State Fund checks. Motion carried.

Monthly Reports

Regional EMS Steering Committee Report: No report was given.

Fire Company: No report was given

Ambulance Service: No report was given

Director of Office Operations: Rodney Schlauch Jr. reported that Dawn Didra had her 90 day review. A motion was made by Stephen Bachman and seconded by Rodney Schlauch Jr. to increase Dawn's pay to 13.50/hr. Motion carried.

Director of Parks and Recreation: Steve Bachman gave the recreation commission report stating that the Night in the Country was a huge success and trees will be planted. The commission is asking the road crews to look into paving the 6 foot walkways and if this is something the road crews can do, what would be the cost, etc. They also requested more large rocks/boulders or telephone poles be installed to discourage vehicles parking on the grass.

Director of Public Works: David Fink said that new backhoe costs were looked into for the 2016 budget. Daniel Watt had his 90 day review. A motion by David Fink, seconded by Rodney Schlauch Jr. to increase Daniel's pay to \$15.25/hr. Motion carried.

Road Superintendent: Kevin Huber reported that the road crew is working on sealing cracks, mowing and preparing for paving. Kevin said state refuses to take the trees down along Mountain Road between Blanche Court and Reservoir Road even though they are a safety hazard. The Board agreed they are a hazard and directed Janice Meyers to send letters to the property owners to take the trees down or the township will have them removed at the property owner's expense.

Township Administrator: Janice Meyers reported that the two new office computers are up and running, and a new higher capacity network switch will be installed. NOVA is working on getting a faster modem due to the slower speed because of the heavy usage.

Township Zoning Officer: Chris Noll, from Keystone Consulting Engineers. Quotes were received and the company selected will mow the two weed complaint properties. Todd Weaver was contacted regarding his concrete driveway that does not have a permit and is in violation of the driveway permit requirements.

Township Engineer: Chris Noll, from Keystone Consulting Engineers, Jones Road Culvert and Werley's Corner Road Culvert plans and application were revised utilizing elliptical pipe and have been submitted to D.E.P. for approval. Chris is working on a form to add to the zoning and UCC building permits regarding erosion and sedimentation control due to changes in state law.

Environmental Advisory Council Report: Dawn Didra, EAC secretary reported that September's EAC meeting was canceled because two of the members could not attend.

Subdivisions/Land Development: None

Old Business:

Planning Commission zoning uses review: The board agreed with the Planning Commission's recommendations and Chris said he will work with Attorney Waters on drafting changes to the zoning ordinance.

New Business:

Resident Arnold Metzger to address Board regarding weed complaint: Mr. Metzger questioned why the mowing of the property took so long when there were multiple complaints. Chris Noll said the ordinance procedure was followed.

Review of proposed 2016 budget: The Board held a budget workshop prior to this meeting and the next one is scheduled for October 15th at 6:30pm.

Resolution #2015-15 – appointment of NOVA as primary and Cetronia as secondary ambulance service: Motion by Steve Bachman, seconded by David Fink to adopt Resolution #2015-15. Motion carried.

Resident Todd Weaver request for driveway ordinance waiver: Todd Weaver, Chris, Kevin and the Board discussed the written waiver request. The driveway is paved with concrete and is 47 feet wide which are both ordinance violations. Placing bond and/or a signed agreement was discussed. It was decided that Mr. Weaver would fill out a driveway permit to reference what is there currently and what would need to be changed to comply with the ordinance. Mr. Weaver agreed to talk with his insurance agent about the cost of a bond that would cover any damage caused by his driveway to township equipment and the Board will continue to look at finding a solution that would best fix the problem to both the satisfaction of the township and Mr. Weaver. The Board tabled this discussion until the October 15th meeting.

Cell tower lease buy-out offer: The offer from Tower Point Capital was discussed and denied.

Public Comment:

Resident Arnold Metzger asked for a clarification as to why we need a secondary ambulance provider if NOVA is primary. Steve said they initially had Northampton Regional as the secondary but staging with Cetronia as secondary will be more centralized. The 911 Communications Center requires a primary and secondary ambulance service to be selected.

Resident Janet Henritzky asked if this change will affect membership. Janice Meyers will check with Cetronia for clarification.

Resident Dwayne Henritzky thanked the road crew for taking care of the pipe on Memorial Road. He expressed concerns regarding the amount of heavy truck traffic on the road which continues to cause pipes to crush.

Correspondence: None.

Adjournment: Motion by, Rodney Schlauch Jr. and was seconded by David Fink to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted as transcribed by Dawn Didra,
Janice M. Meyers
Secretary to the Board of Supervisors