

November 17, 2016

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 and David Fink, 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. Supervisor Rodney Schlauch Jr. was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recording of Meeting: Jennifer Bodish and Charlie Perich recorded the meeting.

Recognition of members of the press: Jennifer Bodish of Northwestern Press

Approve minutes of the October 20, 2016 special meeting and regular monthly meeting: David Fink made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2016 special and regular meetings as written. Steven Bachman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Executive session: None

Payment of bills: Motion by David Fink, seconded by Steven Bachman to approve the payment of the bills General Fund checks # eft2624 – eft2648 and 20971 - 21018 and no State Fund checks. Motion carried.

Monthly Reports

Regional EMS Steering Committee Report: no report

Fire Company: David Fink referred to Jay Scheffler who reported that he will be giving Kevin Huber a pager for snow emergencies, PPL is giving a safety class that they will be attending and he will give Kevin Huber the information on the class in case the road crew is interested. They will be having an appreciation dinner for all their volunteers on Saturday.

Ambulance Service: Mark Smith reported that although they have staffing challenges they are still able to provide coverage and hope to rectify it soon by filling vacancies.

Director of Office Operations: No report.

Director of Parks and Recreation: Steven Bachman said the Night in the Country will be August 17th next year. The NYWA is working on plans for a permanent batting cage to be built. There will be cameras installed in the Lions Pavilion to hopefully deter vandalism. Steckle and Stopp will be invited to attend the next meeting.

Director of Public Works: David Fink reported that there is plenty of salt for the upcoming winter, and 2 weeks ago he attended the real estate auction next door and unfortunately the competing bids exceeded the appraisal so the township did not purchase the property.

Road Superintendent: Kevin Huber reported that the road crew finished working on the drainage issues on Kistler & Waterfowl. Paving will be done next year. Working on crack sealing with the help of Lynn who they helped with their crack sealing. Working on winter maintenance on roads & trucks. Nothing new on Jones road from engineers, so will be correcting the issues by restoring the drainage ditches that had been there to catch the water before it gets to the road.

Township Administrator: Working on budget and year end reports.

Township Zoning Officer: Christopher Noll, from Keystone Consulting Engineers reported on current and on-going investigations of violations and permit application reviews.

Township Engineer: Christopher Noll, from Keystone Consulting Engineers reported that he reviewed the Final plan for the Northwestern Lehigh School District Addition land development plan. He is also working on the mini cell tower ordinance, zoning amendments for mixed use and home occupation. He is attending MS-4 meetings and updating information for a new report submission.

Environmental Advisory Council Report: None

Subdivisions/Land Development:

Harris Farms – Major subdivision, preliminary/final and sewage planning model review: Motion by David Fink, seconded by Steve Bachman to accept the preliminary/final plan pending receipt of fees and DEP approval. Motion carried.

Northwestern Lehigh School District – Land development preliminary/final review. Terraform Engineering, spoke on behalf of the school district and reviewed the plan and asked for approval for the Final plan. A variance was granted by the Zoning Hearing Board allowing for additional impervious cover. David Fink made a motion and Steven Bachman seconded the motion to approve the Final plan with stipulations in Keystone Consulting Engineers letter. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Accept proposed 2017 budget for advertising: Motion by David Fink, seconded by Steven Bachman to advertise the budget as discussed at the meeting with the township tax being .95 mills and the fire tax being .45 mills. Motion carried. Steven Bachman clarified that the fire tax is all inclusive and that the fire company would receive no additional funds from the township.

Animal control contract: The annual animal control contract was received and is the same as last year. Motion by David Fink, seconded by Steven Bachman to approve the animal control contract. Motion carried.

Request for addition to ASA – 5021 Irvin Road: Motion by David Fink, seconded by Steven Bachman to table the request. Motion carried.

Resolution #2016-9 – appoint alternate planning commission member. Defer to January reorganization meeting.

Public Comment:

Carl Brienerger asked if the township did anything for Ruben Bachman's passing? Steven Bachman said that nothing had been done yet, but that the township will do a donation in his memory. Motion by Steven Bachman, seconded by David Fink to donate \$60.00 in remembrance. Motion carried.

Phyllis Breininger said that the LCTO discussed changing the quarterly meetings to twice a year. New Jersey recently decided they will no longer cooperate with PA so NJ will be keeping all EIT taxes it collects from employees working in NJ regardless of where they live.

Charlie Perich said that he has been investigating and that he was told that Rodney comes in to the mill once a week and that he is not living in the township, he is living in Palmerton. Attorney Waters said that the board is looking into it, and that they are concerned. He has been unable to get in contact with

Rodney to get his input. The board agrees and is trying to Rodney to respond. Attorney Waters explained that legal residency can be hard to prove/disprove because it can be temporary. Charlie Perich asked what can be done?

Jay Scheffler said something needs to be done about the property on Central Road that has been an issue. The building and animals are disgusting and there are always cars parked on the road. Marc Smith said they get nuisance calls weekly for the ambulance at the same property. Teena Bailey said she has seen at least 10 dogs on the property. Chris Noll said we are aware of the issues, as is the humane officer, with this property and we will be sending a letter out regarding the violations.

Correspondence:

NWLSD zoning change request: The planning commission is to look at this at subdivision review and will look into changing the zoning.

Adjournment: A motion was made by David Fink, and seconded by Steven Bachman to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted as transcribed by Dawn Didra,

Janice M. Meyers
Secretary to the Board of Supervisors