

July 21, 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, Township Solicitor Atty. Keith Strohl from Steckel and Stopp Law Offices and Township Engineer Christopher Noll from Keystone Consulting Engineers. Supervisor Rodney Schlauch Jr. and zoning assistant Dawn Didra were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recording of Meeting: Jennifer Bodish taped the meeting. Charles Perich video recorded the meeting.

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

Approve minutes of the June 16, 2016 regular monthly meeting: Steve Bachman made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2016 regular meeting with one correction: under the Director of Parks and Recreation report – Senator Browne was looking into reducing the speed limit not for funding. David Fink seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public comment on agenda items: none

Executive session: none

Payment of bills: Motion by David Fink, seconded by Steven Bachman to approve the payment of the bills General Fund checks # eft2506 – eft2545 and 20784 - 20834 and State Fund checks # 1696 - 1697. Motion carried.

Monthly Reports

Regional EMS Steering Committee Report: No report.

Fire Company: Chief Jay Scheffler reported that fire company members attended the Trexlertown Fire Co.'s 100th year parade celebration and won 1st and 2nd place trophies. The fire company received a \$13,000 grant. Miracle League Park installed their Knox Box.

Ambulance Service: Mark Smith said all is running smoothly and asked if there were any concerns or questions. There were none.

Director of Office Operations: No report.

Director of Parks and Recreation: Steven Bachman reported that PennDOT approved a crosswalk to be placed on Northwest Road by the entrance to the NWRC fields.

Director of Public Works: David Fink reported that the road crew has been oil and chipping and mowing.

Road Superintendent: Kevin Huber added to David Fink's report that the road crew would be paving around July 31st.

Township Administrator: Janice Meyers reported that the zoning office has issued more permits to date than the same time in recent years. She submitted two ARLE grant applications.

Township Zoning Officer: Christopher Noll, from Keystone Consulting Engineers reported that the following complaints were investigated complaints about weeds, rodents, illegally parked vehicles and no pool permit being issued. Property owners were sent letters of violation as necessary.

Township Engineer: Christopher Noll, from Keystone Consulting Engineers reported that he spoke with the Newside Estates developer and they will not be changing the swale. He will speak to the property owners who have concerns. Mr. Noll attended the MS4 reporting meetings held by the Lehigh Conservation District. KCE completed the MS4 reports through 2016. There will be major changes in the MS4 regulations for the 2017-2018 time frame. He said the engineering costs may be significant. He will have an estimate of the costs for the August meeting.

Environmental Advisory Council Report: No report.

Subdivisions/Land Development: None

Old Business:

Resident Todd Weaver request for driveway ordinance waiver: Motion by David Fink, seconded by Steve Bachman to set the final date for submission of the signed paperwork by Mr. Weaver to 45 days from today and if the signed paperwork is not received then the township will close the cement area of the driveway due to it being in violation of the township ordinance. Motion carried. Keith Strohl will inform Atty. Waters of the motion.

New Business:

Wes Schlauch, an intern, requested to speak to the Board of Supervisors on behalf of State Representative Gary Day. He gave brochures for the township residents which explain how Representative Day can assist residents with different questions or concerns. Mr. Schlauch also presented the township with a United States flag and a Commonwealth of Pennsylvania flag.

LCATO Convention – August 5th: Motion by Steve Bachman, seconded by David Fink for the township to pay for the same attendees as last year to the summer convention: Supervisors, Road Crew, Office Staff, Tax Collector, Elected Auditors and Planning Commission members. Motion carried.

Ordinance #2016-3 – Vacating a section of Werleys Corner Road from Route 100 to cul-de-sac: Motion by David Fink, seconded by Steve Bachman to adopt Ordinance #2016-3. Motion carried.

Northwest Road Crosswalk: Steve Bachman will let Chris Noll know where the crosswalk should be placed and Mr. Noll will check into whether flashing signal lights are necessary at the crosswalk.

Mini-cell towers: Keith Strohl advised the Board regarding mini-cell towers being placed in road right-of-ways in many areas of Pennsylvania and causing some problems. He had a sample ordinance for the Board to review. Janice Meyers said the township has a cell tower ordinance adopted in 1999 but it does not mention these new mini-cell towers. There can be no fees for usage of the township right-of-way like the franchise fee for cable companies. Atty. Strohl said the draft ordinance allows these towers only on major roads such as Route 309, Route 100 and Bake Oven Road. David Fink suggested identifying where all current cell towers are located in and around the township and that the ordinance should only exempt areas where there are only underground utilities lines allowed, all other areas should allow these mini-cell towers. Steve Bachman said we would need to create a permit application and fee schedule. Atty. Strohl will make some wording changes to the draft ordinance and submit it to the planning commission for their August meeting. The Board will continue review at the September meeting.

G.H. Harris per capita tax exonerations request: Motion by Steve Bachman, seconded by David Fink to exonerate G.H. Harris from the collection of per capita tax as listed on the report with the letter dated July 15, 2016. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Jay Scheffler asked if Blue Ridge Cable would give the fire company and ambulance corp free internet service.

Correspondence: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by David Fink, and seconded by Steven Bachman to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice M. Meyers
Secretary to the Board of Supervisors