

*ROSS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES  
MAY 5, 2014*

*The Ross Township Board of Supervisors met at approximately 7:00 p.m on the above date for its Regular Monthly Meeting. Chairman Beers, Vice Chairman Drake and Supervisor Kresge were present. Solicitor Dunn was present also. All stood and Pledged Allegiance to the Flag, with Chairman Beers leading.*

*The minutes and Treasurer's report were reviewed and a motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to approve as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried.*

*OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-Linda Zak a resident was recognized and she asked if the Township was involved with the Co-stars program and Chairman Beers responded that the Township is a member.*

*Betty Broad asked about the former Haney House stating she would like to live there and went on to ask if it is rented or if we are considering renting it. Chairman Beers answered it was on the market for rent but it didn't happen until just today when we were able to obtain a tenant.*

*PLANS-No plans. Some discussion took place concerning the Developer's Agreement for the Dollar General, in particular, the Letter of Credit. Solicitor Dunn indicated he has been in contact with them and is awaiting the appropriate banking information.*

*OLD BUSINESS-Some discussion took place regarding the construction of a new Municipal Building with Chairman Beers explaining that the Supervisors met with an architectural firm, who donated their time, to do a cost analysis study to determine the cost of refurbishing the present municipal building or to construct a new building. He described the cost estimates for renovation would be in excess of \$450,0000 and a new building would be \$530,000. Added to the \$450,000 is the cost of park rest rooms which would be included in the new building estimate. Chairman Beers noted that although originally not in favor of a new building considering the cost differences it makes more sense to build new. He added that RAL should be contacted to draft a plan for a new building. Resident Linda Zak asked if the Township will be looking for other estimates or are they only going with this one. Chairman Beers answered by stating that this is a professional opinion and is not an estimate. Should construction or renovation be done with the size of this type of project it **must be placed out on bid**. The square footage of the building was discussed by Betty Broad questioning the maintenance area and what style the proposed building. Mr. Albanese asked several questions concerning maintenance of the toilets that are being proposed and Chairman Beers reviewed the type of bathrooms originally planned and the new ones that could be incorporated with the proposed new building. He also wanted to know if the plan after its preliminary stages will be passed on to the Planning Commission. Chairman Beers said no. Mr. Albanese*

*questioned why the Planning Commission is not included in some instances and the Zoning Hearing Board is. How do the Supervisors approve these things without the Planning Commission's input. The discussion was that if the reference is being made to this project they may have to seek planning commission approval. Mr. Albanese asked if the restrooms are going to be open 24 hours and the answer was no but no restrooms here will be. He questioned the funds from the grant asking how much is involved and will it cover the cost of the project. Chairman Beers noted that we don't have a total as yet (until we receive bids) but that the grants we will receive will not be enough to cover what is being estimated at this time for either the new building or renovation of the present building. Mr. Albanese asked if the Township Buildings are tax exempt and the answer is yes. There was some confusion about where the maintenance department would be and Supervisor Kresge explained that the maintenance department we presently have will remain here. Mr. Albanese thought it might be more cost effective to build a garage rather than a new building. Some further discussion ensued which resulted in a motion by Supervisor Kresge to build a new building. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Drake and carried.*

*NEW BUSINESS-Resolution #176 is an Eagle Scout Award for Joseph Johnson for his part in construction of the Garden of Giving. Vice Chairman Drake moved to adopt this resolution. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried.*

*Chairman Beers noted that the pavilion construction should be beginning shortly (which we have a grant for also) he added that he and Bernie Kozen will get together and mark the area for others to look over.*

*The playground equipment that is being donated was discussed which also has to be marked out. Mr. Kozen said he is working with the Secretary to obtain transporting the equipment and will continue to do that since we now know we will need a 24 foot minimum trailer. It appears the equipment will go from the present equipment towards the well house. An affidavit needs to be signed as a receipt for the donation. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to sign it. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried. Vice Chairman Drake suggested a "thank you" be sent to the Playworld Co. for this donation. The Secretary said she would formulate one and have her review it.*

*The next thing on the agenda was a uniform contract with a new company (Dempsey Uniform) Their proposal is a savings of approximately \$50.00 per week. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to switch to Dempsey. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried.*

*Vice Chairman Drake announced that May 17<sup>th</sup> the Cherry Valley Preserve is having its Spring Festival from 10a.m.-5p.m. at the Moreton Homestead. She asked to borrow the red recycle buckets which was agreed to. She reviewed all the groups that will be there such as archery demo's, fishing, food, pine cone crafting among many of the groups that will be attending.*

*Supervisor Kresge noted that absence of littering signs not only here but throughout the State. Would it be a smart thing to do was his question. The Road Foreman should look into the cost of such signs.*

*A letter was received from a resident regarding barking dogs and suggesting an Ordinance such as Chestnuthill has. Chairman Beers noted that he read it but doesn't know how it can be enforced since we don't have a police dept. Mr. Staples spoke about this indicating that other municipalities have such ordinances and their Zoning Officers regulate it. It was noted that the State Police did come out for the former Zoning Officer on a dog barking problem. Mr. Staples indicated if you "bother" them enough they pay more attention. Steve Meylach, Zoning Officer is going to discuss this issue with the Zoning Officer of Chestnuthill Township as that is where our former Zoning Officer obtained his information and help.*

*ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT-Ethan Brewer discussed the sign reflectivity program and noted he would start with the main roads and do the 10 year program as discussed at the last meeting.*

*The road paving and materials were discussed and the Road Foreman suggested doing Meixsell Valley Rd. from where we left off last year to approximately High Point Rd. vicinity. The other project would be to scratch coat Owl Hollow Rd. and Pine Cone Ct. Some discussion took place concerning the bidding requirements and it was determined to bid Meixsell Valley Rd. from Pennel to High Point Drive with 60 lb. scratch where needed and 180 lb. leveling course and Owl Hollow Rd. with 120 lb. scratch/leveling and Pine Cone Ct. with 120 lb. scratch/leveling. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried. Supervisor Kresge asked if when using liquid fuels monies for a scratch coat only is acceptable or must it be complete. It was determined to leave the scratch off of the bid if it is determined by Municipal Services that it is not permitted by Penndot when using liquid fuel mones. (Owl Hollow and Pine Cone Ct.)*

*Some discussion took place concerning the one ton truck and it was decided to put in the new radiator and to look into getting it running.*

*CORRESPONDENCE-A letter of support was received from the Youth Field Day event chairman explaining the program and a motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to donate \$100.00 to the program. (as was done last year) The motion was seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried.*

*A memo from the Ross Township Planning Commission was addressed next and it was determined that the Commission should submit what they want for review by the Supervisors. (it related to lot line adjustments and joinder deeds). The Secretary was requested to advise them.*

*An email was received from a person interested in renting the former Haney House. There was some discussion about the three dogs that would also be part of the*

*household. Some discussion took place and it was decided to charge \$1,100 for rental and one and one half of the rental as a security deposit. The tenant will pay the utilities. Supervisor Kresge noted he has a credit application to be filled out and submitted. The Secretary was requested to advise the applicant of the requirements just discussed. A motion was made by Supervisor Kresge to rent the house. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Drake. A roll call vote was taken. Voting in favor was Vice Chairman Drake and Supervisor Kresge. Voting against was Chairman Beers. Motion carried.*

*A review of the bills was made and a motion followed by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Kresge to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.*

*There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m..*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Doris Price, Secretary*