

ROSS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

MEETING

JULY 7, 2014

The Ross Township Supervisors meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by Chairman Beers with Supervisor Kresge present. Vice Chairman Drake was absent. Solicitor Dunn was also present. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kresge to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2014 and the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was seconded by Chairman Beers and carried.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-Lori Smith from Owl Hollow Drive was recognized asking for help from the Board concerning what is going on with that road. Chairman Beers explained that bids were opened for the paving of Owl Hollow Drive. Ms. Smith indicated that she knew that but indicated there were drainage concerns also. Chairman Beers said he didn't know anything about that other than cutting the shoulders as the Road Foreman was doing allows the water to stay off the road. She went on to explain that some time ago (during Simer Lowe days) the Township was doing shoulder work and pushed back two feet more on her side of the road than the other and she was told at that time the road is twenty feet wide with five feet on either side. She is suggesting installation of a berm to stop the erosion of her property as well as the roadway. Some discussion took place concerning the center line location and the width of the road. She indicated that she is asking for the Township to find the center line and to correct the drainage and stop cutting the shoulder back. Supervisor Kresge stated that the Township's intention is to pave the road and put shoulders down. Other residents spoke with various issues concerning their property. Solicitor Dunn suggested that the Township Engineer look over the situation since the Supervisors or the Road Foreman do not have the expertise to answer the concerns expressed. Solicitor Dunn reiterated that we need to gather more information and answers concerning the issues presented. Another resident, Terry Everitt was concerned that mailboxes, school bus signs, will now end up in the road. There seemed to be much confusion about the road width and what is to be paved also noting a utility pole is in the road creating a hazard. Supervisor Kresge noted that we cannot answer all the questions tonight but will be awarding a contract to pave the road and he added no one is trying to create a problem for the residents of Owl Hollow Drive. Chairman Beers noted that the centerline is not an issue when paving as long as the paving is being done within the Townships property lines. Mr. & Mrs. Trani spoke about the effect on their property also and noted that the lower end of Owl Hollow Drive isn't in bad condition and perhaps should not be paved. Larry LaRocher suggested that the Township survey and pave accordingly. He added that there must be some original documents showing the road width and location.

Richard Bauer was recognized who asked Solicitor Dunn what does a grandfather clause mean

when it comes to property rights. Solicitor Dunn noted that the question is very broad. Mr. Bauer said part of his property (a corner) is commercial and at some time before zoning he built a building and put in a driveway he is now being told that he has to abandoned the driveway because it is a bad location. Solicitor Dunn noted that without more information he cannot answer this question and, in fact, without permission from the Supervisors he cannot answer questions of residents. He noted he cannot give a definition of grandfathering without knowing the details.

Lori Smith asked if permission was granted from DEP to dump the road scrapings over the guardrail on Owl Hollow Drive since there is a waterway there. She asked if that is a violation since it is wetlands. The Road Foreman noted that he placed the material there since the area was washing out. Solicitor Dunn suggested she complain to the DEP and if there is something that needs to be taken care of then the Township will be advised and will correct it.

Mrs. Trani asked if anything is proposed to cut down on the traffic at Rt. 115 and Kunkletown Rd. with flea markets and other traffic it is becoming hazardous. Solicitor Dunn noted that they are both State Rds. and they should be contacted. Mrs. Trani noted they are the ones who told her to contact the Township. Solicitor Dunn noted he does not agree with PennDOT that the Township is responsible for traffic signals on State Roads.

Mr. William Evert asked about the language in the deeds being different and indicated he would provide a copy of his. (reference is to the Owl Hollow Drive matter)

PLANS- Robert Maskrey Attorney for Arsha Vidya and Amit Murkhejee consultant were present to review the Lot Line Adjustment and Land Development Plan. Some discussion took place concerning approval and it was determined that the proposed detention pond must be part of the 14 acres. As it is drawn now the detention pond is shown separate from the Land Development portion. A motion was made by Chairman Beers to approve the preliminary plan conditioned upon the detention facility being added to the 14 acres or make the whole thing one. There is a 90 day time limit allowing the applicant to come back with a new plan or request an extension. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried.

OLD BUSINESS-A motion was made by Supervisor Kresge to pave Owl Hollow Drive as was bid at a previous meeting since it has been determined that the funds are available. The motion was seconded by Chairman Beers and carried.

Blue Ridge Winery development agreement not necessary since the applicant will be finishing the work after which, subject to Township Engineer approval, the plans will be signed and released.

NEW BUSINESS-Cooperation Agreement with MCIDA is authorized upon review by the Solicitor. This agreement is to obtain the Local Share Money in connection with the new building. A motion was made by Chairman Beers, seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried.

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT-Chairman Beers discussed the ground work that has to be done in connection with the pavilion grant. Some discussion took place between Bernie Kozen, Chairman Beers and Supervisor Kresge with the Road Foreman which resulted in an agreement to stake the area out and begin work as soon as possible. (24x40 area)

Chairman Beers moved to waive the application procedure relative to the new building but adding that the Township will follow all the pertinent ordinances (Land Development etc) The motion was seconded by Supervisor Kresge and carried.

Supervisor Kresge noted an area at the triangle by the Raseley residence could use a stop sign in addition to the one that is there for Stop except right turns. The Road Foreman indicated he knew the location.

Chairman Beers noted that the Road Foreman should stay away from the shoulder work scheduled on the lower part of Owl Hollow Drive until the engineer completes his review.

Chairman Beers noted some trimming needs to be done on Meixell Valley Rd. and the Road Foreman acknowledged

CORRESPONDENCE-Chairman Beers discussed a letter received from Camp Cadet. A motion was made by Supervisor Kresge to fulfill their donation request with a \$300.00 check. The motion was seconded by Chairman Beers and carried.

An invitation from the State Police for their new building dedication was reviewed and is scheduled for Tuesday July 15, at 10:30 a.m.

After a review of the bills to be paid, Supervisor Kresge moved to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Chairman Beers and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Price, Secretary