

ROSS TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISORS MEETING  
APRIL 2, 2018

The Regular Monthly meeting of the Ross Township Supervisors was called to order at 7:00p.m. by Chairman Howard A. Beers followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Supervisor David Shay was present. Vice Chairman Drake was absent. Solicitor McManus was also present.

A motion was made by Supervisor Shay to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2018 meeting as presented and the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Chairman Beers and carried.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-Bernie Kozen, Executive Director of the WEPOSC expressed appreciation for assistance with the recent Easter egg hunt in staging supplies in the new building making access to the event easier. He noted that approximately 500 children attended the event the weather was very cooperative and all enjoyed it. Supervisor Shay noted he attended and agreed that it was a very nice time for all as did many of the people in attendance at the meeting.

Butch Kresge was recognized who stated that he had a question for Supervisor Shay which was "how much money is generated by the 1.5 mill tax that was put on" he responded with \$75,000 ish. Mr. Kresge, referring to a flyer that Supervisor Shay circulated during election, indicated that it was necessary to put this 1.5 mill tax on to pay for the building and he produced minutes of December 2, 2013 which said "a motion was made by Supervisor Drake to adopt the proposed budget which would include a 1.5 mill tax rate to provide the funds for the fire company's request for a donation towards the purchase of a new truck." He went on to say that flyer statement is untrue. Supervisor Shay noted had the money not been #@##\*\* away on the new building there would have been enough to satisfy that request from the General Fund. Mr. Kresge added that the money you claim was #@##\*\* away on the building was used to pave the parking lot and restrooms are now available the cost of which is approximately \$400,000 from the Township not \$900,000 as indicated. Supervisor Shay noted that the bathrooms were included in a previous grant round. Some more discussion on this matter continued with similar comments from both parties.

PLANS-DE & S subdivision plan was next on the agenda noting receipt of an extension request until September 19<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Beers noted that this plan has not shown much progress and he felt they should be moving forward. Solicitor McManus suggested acknowledging receipt of this extension and requesting that they attend the next meeting and present an update. It was noted that the extension was actually requested until June 4, 2018. With that in mind the Secretary was requested to write to DE & S acknowledging the extension until June 4, 2018 and should another extension be necessary to attend the next meeting advising of the progress of the plan.

OLD BUSINESS-Some discussion took place concerning standpipe installation for the fire company by Supervisor Shay who noted the sites to be Jones's pond, Rossland Lake and the Weismeth pond. He added that he spoke to the owners and they are in agreement in allowing this installation. Solicitor McManus said an agreement should be drafted between the Township and property owners which he will draft for review. Chairman Beers asked who will be doing the installation and Supervisor Shay stated that the Township road department will. Supervisor Shay will submit the names of the property owners involved.

The next item on the agenda was the offer from Ms. Herman of her property on Dogwood Ln. Chairman

Beers noted that after looking at the map and the location the property is very steep and is located on a curve of the road which is not very conducive for the Township's purposes. Solicitor McManus noted that if a thought of acquiring it is something being done a Phase I environmental report should be done. This matter was tabled for a decision until the next meeting.

A request was received from The Older Adult Learning Center to use the Township building for an art Class. The consensus of opinion was not in favor of allowing this use.

**NEW BUSINESS**-Some review of the park pavilion information was done and it was determined that the Secretary get prices and rules from Chestnuthill Township although Supervisor Shay noted that Paradise Township has a very extensive program. Chairman Beers asked about the Regional Park and Bernie Kozen reported that the Regional Park does not have facilities as yet and therefore does not have a fee structure associated with it. Supervisor Shay thought it might be good to have similar fees to neighboring Chestnuthill Township.

Chairman Beers noted receipt of some correspondence from Blue Ridge Winery requesting their C/O for the new building in which Paul Jarrett is referring that matter to former Zoning Officer Shawn McGlynn for issuance. Chairman Beers does not agree with that decision because he feels that Mr. Jarrett is the current BCO and added that if Mr. McGlynn (the former BCO) is satisfied then Mr. Jarrett should be determining the C/O status. Solicitor McManus noted that he has run into this matter before where one BCO is not willing to approve because inspections during construction were accomplished by another BCO. Solicitor McManus concurred with Chairman Beers that Mr. Jarrett is presently the BCO for the Township and is responsible for this action. Chairman Beers noted his concerns about the Blue Ridge Winery noting that when they built their original building they built the maximum building allowed under agritourism and now additional buildings are constructed. He said he feels this is wrong and would like to know what he can do about it, not as a Supervisor but as a citizen. Solicitor McManus said if permits were issued they could have been appealed. When a building is already up it becomes a challenge. Mr. Beers said he objects to all the activities. Once the buildings are up it becomes more of an issue since he was issued permits and did not violate the construction process. Mr. Beers reiterated "what about all the activities" Solicitor McManus suggested that the Zoning Officer determine if the "uses" are permitted.

**ROAD FOREMAN REPORT**-The Road Foreman distributed the estimates for the road paving for this year and it was determined that the Supervisors would review the material and decide at the next meeting what to put out for bids. (May meeting) The sign program that is continuing each year was discussed and the Road Foreman noted he would be ordering the signs shortly for this years part of the program.

Butch Kresge asked to speak and Chairman Beers told him to proceed. He noted that this a.m. he had occasion to visit the rear of the former municipal building and noticed the garage door had some damage. He indicated he called the Road Foreman and asked what happened and he said he didn't know since there were so many people around it was hard to say and he wondered if since then it has been determined who did it? Chairman Beers said he saw it too, but he wasn't around and said it really doesn't matter. Mr. Kresge felt like he wanted to know who did it why should it be a big secret. He went on to question the Road Foreman who indicated the same response as aforementioned.

**CORRESPONDENCE**-Chairman Beers noted receipt of a letter from Polk Township asking for a review of a request of a zoning change (interested in comments from Supervisors prior to their decision)

The property is owned by a resident who's family has owned this farmland for five generations and she would like to see it changed from commercial to R-1 or R-2 so as to preserve the farm or open space. The Supervisors requested that the Secretary respond to this request advising that they agree with the goal of preservation of farmland. Chairman Beers stated he will also advise the CJERP committee of this comment. Carolyn Lange, a resident expressed appreciation for the aforementioned comments as she is familiar with this parcel and agrees with the determination made.

A letter from Monroe County Waste Authority was discussed concerning the Great American Clean-up program from March thru May 31<sup>st</sup> and Chairman Beers suggested the item be put in the newsletter and on the website. Some members of the audience discussed various areas and Brian Stankovich, the Township Emergency management Coordinator noted that the Sheriff's department had a work detail from Monroe County Correctional Facility litter picking over various Township roads thanks to the effort of Ricky Serfass and the Township road crew for disposing of the bags and trash.

An email from Emergency Management of Monroe County concerning disaster planning for Historical Properties was reviewed a copy of which was forwarded to the Township Historical Committee and it was noted it was sent to Brian Stankovich, Ross Township Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Price, Secretary