

ROSS TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISORS MEETING  
AUGUST 6, 2018

At 7:00 p.m. Chairman Beers called the above meeting to order with members Supervisor Shay and Vice Chairman Drake present. Solicitor McManus was also present.

Chairman Beers led those present with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2018 meeting and the current Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shay and carried.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-

PLANS-

OLD BUSINESS-A review of the proposed park Ordinance took place and Vice Chairman Drake discussed the fireworks issue that took place on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and noted perhaps that should be addressed in the Ordinance together with the fishing catch and release rule. Chairman Beers queried whether or not these rules if adopted can be changed or altered in the future. Solicitor McManus noted there is a provision for some changes that could be made by resolution. However, any changes made at this point can be incorporated in this ordinance since there is enough time to advertise it for adoption at the next meeting. Judy Breidinger, Park Chair reviewed the changes the park committee thought should be made such as, a couple of typos, the name to be corrected to VanBuskirk-Haney Park; pets are to be leashed; smoking vaping and other nicotine products are prohibited as well as fireworks (unless a permit is obtained from the Township first) additions were made to the enforcement section as well. With these changes to be made a motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Shay to advertise as is required. The motion carried.

Some discussion took place concerning rental of the pavilion and Vice Chairman Drake noted that the rental pertains to the pavilion and the rest of the park can be used by the public as usual and Supervisor Shay added that it would be impossible to schedule something at the pavilion without have a "reservation type" program. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to begin a rental program for the pavilion. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shay. A roll call vote was taken and voting in favor was Vice Chairman Drake and Supervisor Shay, opposed was Chairman Beers. The motion carried.

Chairman Beers noted an omission from the agenda concerning the LCB question concerning noise. Solicitor McManus reviewed this matter and said he spoke to some officials of Jim Thorpe and reported that the LCB only puts the matter in place for one year to see how things progress and then may extend it one or two more years. He also noted that a decision should be made to include the entire Township or just areas of the Township it would be easier and less costly to do the entire Township because of a mapping procedure required. Chairman Beers noted that appears to be quite an undertaking and thinks it should remain with the LCB as it is presently---he noted that the Township does not have the personnel available to do what is required. Solicitor McManus stated that if the State Police were called out they would have to have substance to the complaint to site the establishment. Vice Chairman Drake indicated she would like to have the Township involved in this matter and made a motion to that effect.

The motion was not seconded, but, Supervisor Shay indicated he would like to hear from the Attorney for the establishments particularly concerning valid and invalid complaints and expressed concern over the costs of the process.

NEW BUSINESS-A letter was drafted by Solicitor McManus to allow the Township to address trees that could create a hazard and all agreed that it was appropriate for use.

The next item was a Memorandum of Understanding from Chestnuthill Township concerning the Regional Operations Center and Supervisor Shay moved to sign the memorandum but Solicitor McManus noted it did not look complete and thought something was left out. With that in mind it was tabled until the next meeting.

The survey of fees for building/zoning permits was next and Vice Chairman Drake stated that the fees collected are not covering the salary of the zoning officer. Supervisor Shay asked if the fees were always like this and Vice Chairman Drake said no. Chairman Beers suggested to make the formula less cumbersome perhaps a 10% portion of the fees could be considered. Vice Chairman Drake expressed concern over that not being enough. Supervisor Shay noted that with the information he is seeing we are in the hole. Vice Chairman Drake suggested that she and Supervisor Shay get together and work on this issue. Supervisor Shay agreed.

Solicitor McManus discussed the submission of a proposed ordinance to address the stop sign issue mentioned last month and stated that all the stop signs will have to be inventoried and listed on the ordinance before it is adopted.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to accept the resignation of Johnathan Wehrenberg from the road department effective July 27<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shay and carried. Another motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Shay to advertise in the Time News and on the website for a Laborer/Operator as a replacement. The motion carried.

Chairman Beers noted a resolution for the LSA grant needs to be adopted which will allow a person to sign. Supervisor Shay stated that the proposal we have will need to be amended to allow for a breakdown of the costs involved. Some items that are required were reviewed also. A motion was made by Chairman Beers to have Supervisor Shay sign the resolution mentioned and any other documents relative to the grant. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Drake and carried.

Vice Chairman Drake read a letter from a resident concerning a visit to the Zoning Officer and the fact that he was not available during the hours and time posted at his office. Supervisor Shay noted that he would discuss this matter with him as there is some concern over office hours verses inspection time. (also complaint issues)

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT- Chairman Beers asked the Road Foreman what license is required by the Township for a new road department employee. He indicated a CDL, Class B. Chairman Beers asked what the time frame is for working on "the box" and the Road Foreman noted as time permits he will be working on it.

CORRESPONDENCE-The Secretary explained the correspondence from the Deputy Phil Program and A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Shay to participate in the

Program. (\$199.00) The motion carried.

An email regarding a "pick up the pocono's" , a litter program, was addressed and it was noted that the program is focused on the resort areas and would not be a benefit to the Township.

Another email was received from the Monroe County Open Space Committee noting they are looking for a member for the Advisory Board. Chairman Beers noted anyone interested should contact the Township office for particulars.

An email from the Ross Township Historical Society was discussed and Chairman Beers noted that the Secretary should respond to the email noting appreciation for offering to take care of the food during the community day festivities, but, the Supervisors will be taking on that responsibility this year. Vice Chairman Drake discussed the restoration of some properties in the Township that were mentioned in the email as well and noted that the Morton property is owned by the fish and wildlife and is not something that they should be restoring. This was also the case of Ross Common which is a privately owned property. Carolyn Lange who is knowledgeable about the Morton property indicated that the wildlife folks are understaffed and are looking for assistance with maintenance like painting and or grass cutting, etc.. Ms. Lange noted that she is attending the historical society meetings and will advise them of this information. Judy Breidinger also attends the meetings and is a member and she will also discuss this with the rest of the group.

RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES-During a review of the bills to be paid the Chairman asked about two items listed and the Secretary responded. (one was pressure washer repair and the other computer repair) A motion was made by Supervisor Shay to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Drake and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Price, Secretary