

ROSS TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISORS MEETING  
NOVEMBER 5, 2018

At approximately 7:00 p.m. on the above date Chairman Howard A. Beers, Jr. called the Ross Township Supervisors meeting to order with Vice Chairman Tina Drake and Supervisor David M. Shay present. Solicitor Timothy McManus was also present.

The minutes of the October 1, 2018 meeting and the current Treasurer's report were presented and approved on a motion made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Shay and carried.

The next agenda item was the proposed budget for 2019. Some discussion by Vice Chairman Drake took place which resulted in a change which was the addition of \$4,800 dollars under line item 405.121 and a minus of \$4,800 from line item 430.740. (this was created by the inadvertent omission of the 405.121 amount during budget drafting) After the correction was made a motion was made by Supervisor Shay, seconded by Vice Chairman Drake to adopt the proposed budget. The motion carried. Vice Chairman Drake asked about the Township contribution fund and wondered if the \$6,000 allocated included all full time employees and it was determined that it does. An additional motion was made by Supervisor Shay which was to advertise the availability of the proposed budget and the Townships intent to adopt it at the December 3, 2018 meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Drake and carried.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-Hanna Gordon was present and thanked the Supervisors for allowing her to place her scarecrow in front of the Township building as she did last year as her 4-H project. The Supervisors thanked her also.

Judy Breidinger discussed the pavilion rules and form for its rental as well as signs. Supervisor Shay noted that he will also obtain some pricing for signs so the matter was tabled until next month.

Resident Linda Zak was recognized who asked about having the campaigning on election day under cover (in front of the building) should it be inclement weather. She added that the rule is no campaigning can be done within 10 feet of the door where you vote. Chairman Beers said it is not a decision for the Supervisors to make but rather Voter's registration. She reiterated that the rule is 10 feet as previously mentioned. Chairman Beers noted if they chase you away because of compliance regulations the Supervisors are not involved. She indicated she would ask first. She had a second question which was how much did the Township spend on the Blue Ridge Winery hearing. Chairman Beers said he did not know the cost and Ms. Zak asked if he got a C.O. and he said he didn't know that either, however, Vice Chairman Drake indicated that he got a C.O..

PLANS-Pennsylvania American Water minor subdivision and lot consolidation was presented and Frank J. Smith, PLS was present. He explained that there is 2230 acres the bulk of which is in Hamilton Township with a very small portion in Ross. Chairman Beers addressed a letter from Township Engineer Kresge explaining the waiver request from the applicant concerning 703D.1-5 to show natural features, including contour lines, steep slopes, hydric soils, water course, springs lakes and wetlands and areas of mature woods indicating the information required by these sections if not necessary for the scope of this plan. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to grant the waiver request. The motion was

seconded by Supervisor Shay and carried. A second motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to approve the Pennsylvania American Water minor subdivision and lot consolidation. This motion was also seconded by Supervisor Shay and carried.

OLD BUSINESS- Vice Chairman Drake discussed the noise ordinance and the recent request over that with the LCB rules discussed a few meetings ago. She went on to say it doesn't appear feasible for the Township to work well with this request. Solicitor Mcmanus noted that if the Township were to opt out and have complaints that the Township is not enforcing the noise ordinance the LCB would probably not renew the opt out request again. Chairman Beers noted that this has been discussed and he feels that the LCB should control their own noise complaints. He went on to make a motion to that effect. Supervisor Shay noted if there was a way, but, it is not practical because we have no way of an immediate response lacking the fact that we don't have personnel (or police 24/7). There was no second to the motion.

Chairman Beers asked Supervisor Shay about the internet cost and he indicated he was not able to get the information his contacts were away. But he will advise.

NEW BUSINESS-Chairman Beers noted that Carson Helfrich's name was put on the agenda at his request and he then discussed a sample ordinance received from Stroud Township suggesting each of the Supervisors review and make suggestions as well as passing it along to the Ross Township Planning Commission and eventually an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Vice Chairman Drake asked if the new regulations would affect those already established and Chairman Beers said he didn't think so and Solicitor McManus concurred. Chairman Beers expressed concern about farm business and how that would come into it.

Chairman Beers discussed a letter from Russ Kresge, Township Engineer concerning requirements for Stormwater plans for various subdivisions with a draft to assist in establishing a policy to address this. Solicitor McManus noted that if this is what the Supervisor want as policy it will require an amendment to the Stormwater Ordinance. After some discussion it was determined to ask Carson Helfrich for a proposal on the cost of drafting such an amendment.

Chairman Beers stated he would like the Road Foreman to obtain prices on a new large dump truck with a body for the next meeting for discussion. All were in agreement.

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT-Want a minimum bid for dump truck the Township is trying to sell. Solicitor McManus said if under \$2,000 we can just sell it. Some discussion about it took place and it was determined to use an on line website the Road Foreman found. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to advertise on the free munici-bid website. The motion was second by Supervisor Shay and carried noting a \$1,500 opening amount. The motion carried.

The Road Foreman submitted the name of Randy Delp who expressed in interest in snowplowing part time. Chairman Beers moved to approve Randy Delp. Supervisor Shay said he wants to know about the person, see his application/resume and Vice Chairman Drake noted a check on the driving record also. The Road Foreman said he would be available evenings and weekends because he works full time. A resume, application or whatever is necessary as explained by Vice Chairman Drake and Supervisor Shay. No appointment was made.

CORRESPONDENCE-

Chairman Beers asked Supervisor Shay if he is working on obtaining a quote on the Township insurance as it will soon be ready for renewal and he said he is trying to get it together.

Chairman Beers also asked what the status is of the IRA program is and Supervisor Shay said he sent an Email to the Secretary with a form to start the process with Edward Jones (he will send me the contact information) and he indicated that anyone who wants to participate should be listed on the form and can participate.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES-Chairman Beers questioned the bill from West End Rental and the Road Foreman explained it was for propane. Chairman Beers asked about the Highmark invoice and the Secretary noted it is for the health insurance. Vice Chairman Drake questioned the Fuller Fabrications bill and the Palmerton Garage Door bill and the Road Foreman said the Fuller bill is for steel when he needs it and Palmerton Garage Door was for fixing the tracks and they were also greased.

After this review was completed 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 7:40 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Price, Secretary