

ROSS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2019

At approximately 7:15 p.m. on the above date, following the organizational meeting the regular meeting began with Chairman Howard A. Beers, Vice Chairman Tina Drake and Supervisor David M. Shay present. Attorney F. Andrew Wolf was also present substituting for Solicitor McManus.

The minutes of the December 3, 2018 meeting were approved as presented with a motion made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Shay and carried. The current Treasurer's report was approved in the same fashion.

Vice Chairman Drake recognized Mr. Fitzpatrick a retired U.S. Marine working with the Toys for Tots program and noted recognition by the Township for service to the program. A plaque was offered to him for the many years he was involved. He also submitted the annual "thank you" award to the Township.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-

Resident Linda Zak was recognized who noted that a certificate of occupancy has not been issued as yet (for the new building) she added that she understood it was to be issued within 5 days of the hearing which appeal was in favor of the Blue Ridge Winery. She discussed that Mr. Jarrett did not issue this c/o because Chairman Beers told him not to. That statement was determined to be untrue. She added that Mr. Detrick spent approximately twelve thousand dollars. She asked how much money is being spent on this matter. She added that he (the winery) is a good neighbor and is doing a good business. Discussion took place concerning the c/o being issued by the zoning officer and another one under the UCC. To clarify for Ms. Zak Chairman Beers said the Zoning Hearing Board has nothing to do with the Uniform Construction Code. However, one c/o could be dependent on the other should there be a code violation. Chairman Beers, in answer to Ms. Zak's question of what is the violation indicated that he believes there is no engineer stamped approved plan in the file. Chairman Beers explained to her that there is another board that deals with UCC appeals which is the Joint UCC Board of Appeals.

Russell (Butch) Kresge was recognized and he indicated the only complaint on the winery has come from Chairman Beers and all other residents all find the winery favorable. He went on to say a whole bunch of money was wasted on these winery issues and felt he (Chairman Beers) wasn't serving the Township but himself. Mr. Kresge said there were no guidelines for wineries when the Zoning Ordinance was written and therefore nothing to base regulations on. Chairman Beers asked what ordinance and when and Mr. Kresge did not have the answer. On another matter, Mr. Kresge read an article posted in the Times News concerning the sequence of events which led up to placing the real estate tax back on in 2013 indicating it was to build the new building and in reality it was for the allocation to the fire company for a truck fund and not to build a new Township building. Mr. Kresge said Mr. Beers gave incorrect information to the Times News and Chairman Beers disagreed. This topic came to an end.

Frank Piraino who was present asked if there was something that could be done with the screen on the Board Room wall that has a blurred picture, the Secretary indicated it is on back order and Mr. Piraino said he thinks it should be expedited. Supervisor Shay noted he will call Mr. Menento in hopes of getting it resolved.

PLANS-

OLD BUSINESS-Supervisor Shay discussed the internet for the maintenance building and felt the bridge that was being discussed is the way to go with a price of \$207.00. A motion was made by Supervisor Shay, seconded by Vice Chairman Drake to purchase this equipment and have the Road Foreman install same. The motion carried.

Some discussion took place concerning the Stormwater Management Ordinance and proposal from Carson Helfrich. Supervisor Shay asked that it be tabled until next month to allow time to look into a Community Block Grant program after a conversation with Senator Scavello. Vice Chairman Drake agreed to wait until next month and then move on it.

Regarding the Agritourism sample ordinance, it was determined that a discussion will take place at the next CJERP meeting and Chairman Beers said he will bring back comments from the group.

The next item was the Lehigh Valley Inspection Co. fees. Chairman Beers said he spoke to Paul Jarrett concerning a permit for re-roofing (just shingle replacement) and Mr. Jarrett said he fine with not obtaining a permit for that he just followed suit from the last zoning officer. So there will be no fee for just shingle replacement- without replacing wood. After some discussion concerning the other fees the matter was tabled for decision until next month. Chairman Beers gave a summary of the way the fees were over the past years, but, added that he thinks the check being made out to Lehigh Valley Inspection for their fees and the other check to the Township for the permit fees (100.00 Commercial and 50.00 residential) is better as it designates where the money is being paid and doesn't look as though the Township is being paid all the money. Vice Chairman Drake felt all the money should be paid to the Township. The Secretary explained the report that is given each month that shows the Township fees and the Lehigh Valley Inspection Services fees. Supervisor Shay asked about opting out of the Township having one inspector and allowing the resident to pick an inspector for the UCC code. It was determined that the Solicitor will look into the option of ceasing administering and enforcing the UCC. It was also decided to accept the fee schedule presented temporarily.

NEW BUSINESS-A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to accept the resignation of Ronald Boyd from the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Shay and carried.

Supervisor Shay moved to appoint Frank Piraino to the Planning Commission board for a four year Term. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Drake and carried.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Shay to appoint Rich Meixsell and Roger Christman to the Planning commission both for four year terms.. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Shay to re appoint Randy Nolf to the Zoning Hearing Board for an additional three year term. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Drake and carried.

Judy Breidinger was reappointed to the WEPOSC for an additional three year term on a motion made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Shay and carried.

Mike Chopek was present to discuss the LCB issue regarding noise asking if the LCB requires that a

complaint be investigated immediately or could it wait until Monday (given the fact that the Township does not have coverage 24/7) Mr. Chopek says at least he would have some guidelines with the Township doing the investigating with its guidelines as opposed to no guidelines from LCB. A lot of discussion took place on when and how to enforce it ending with Supervisor Shay indicating while it appears to be a good idea he doesn't see it as practical.

As an update to replacing the sign at the former Township Building to depict Township Maintenance Building Vice Chairman Drake noted she spoke to Butch Kresge who will contact George Haas who made signs previously.

Supervisor Shay noted that the park signs should be in next week and suggested they be installed on 4x4 posts instead of metal posts for esthetic purposes.

Chairman Beers noted receipt of a resignation from the Township constable and the Supervisors must acknowledge receipt of this resignation. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake to acknowledge receipt of the resignation of Vincent Cefarello as Ross Township constable effective January 3, 2019.

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT-Ethan Brewer discussed the extended warranty on the Dodge and reviewed the options. Since it is still under the warranty this was tabled until next month for review purposes.

The Road Foreman discussed the prices received for a new truck and he indicated he is waiting for one more. He noted all the spec's are the same.

Supervisor Shay noted that the Road Foreman is recommending that Patrick Lapping be put on as full time Laborer/Operator as he has satisfactorily completed his 90 day probationary period. Supervisor Shay made a motion to that effect and Vice Chairman Drake expressed concern that she noticed him going fast on Mountain Rd. one day in December, but, learned that there was a tree down and he was evidently heading in that direction. She then seconded the motion and noted he is doing a good job. A roll call vote was taken and Supervisor Shay and Vice Chairman Drake voted in favor and Chairman Beers abstained. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE-An email was received from Brown & Brown the Township's insurance agent Offering Cyber Insurance at a cost of \$1,554.00 the coverage of which is outlined in material presented. The Supervisors tabled this till the next meeting to allow time to review the options.

Referring to email for an Open Space Grant Workshop to be held Jan. 11th it was determined that the Secretary would attend.

Some discussion took place concerning obtaining a credit card for the Road Foreman to use in Instances where we don't have an account. Supervisor Shay noted that some degree of guidelines Should come with it. The Secretary was asked to check into a credit card for this purpose.

RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES-Vice Chairman Drake noted that on the list of bills the West End Awards invoice is being partially reimbursed by herself and Supervisor Shay and it was for the Toys for Tots plaque.

After a review of the bills to be paid a motion was made by Vice Chairman Drake, seconded by

Supervisor Shay and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Price, Secretary