

ROSS TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING
ROSS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING
JULY 6, 2020

The Ross Township Public Hearing to discuss the Zoning Ordinance Amendment #86 and Short-Term Rental Ordinance #87 was called to order by Chairwoman Tina Drake at 6:45 PM. Vice Chairman David Shay, Supervisor James Zahoroiko along with Solicitor Timothy McManus were also in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Solicitor McManus discussed zoning ordinance amendment to recognize short-term rentals as an allowable use in the township in the VC and GC zoning districts. The purpose of the hearing is to receive any public comments and to focus on the short-term rental ordinance as well as the language of the ordinance. Defining what a short-term rental is. Solicitor McManus presented all listed exhibits related to said ordinance. Solicitor McManus opened the floor for comment. Many residents from Highpoint Drive attended the meeting. The residents voiced concern about a known active short-term rental property located on Highpoint Drive. Solicitor McManus spoke in reference to proper procedures and actions that will be taken to enforce the Township ordinance. In addition, the Township Zoning Officer will notify the property owner of zoning regulations. If they are not located in VC and GC zoning districts they will be found in violation and the property owner will be fined if not compliant.

The Public Hearing Closed at 7:01PM.

A motion was made to move on to the Regular Ross Township Supervisors Meeting by Chairwoman Drake, seconded by Supervisor Zahoroiko and carried.

The Ross Township Supervisors Meeting was called to order at 7:02PM.

The minutes of the June 1, 2020 Supervisors meeting were approved as presented by motion of Vice Chairman Shay, seconded by Supervisor Zahoroiko and carried.

A motion was made to approve the current Treasurers Report by Supervisor Zahoroiko, seconded by Vice Chairman Shay and carried.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

OLD BUSINESS:

Short Term Rental Ordinance:

A motion was made to amend the current ordinance to include Ordinance #86 by Vice Chairman Shay, seconded by Supervisor Zahoroiko and carried. Solicitor McManus discussed rules and regulations of the ordinance. A motion to adopt Ordinance #87 was made by Vice Chairman Shay, seconded by Supervisor Zahoroiko and carried.

Township Spring Clean Up Dates:

After much discussion, the Board of Supervisors requested that the future dates for the Fall Clean Up be postponed until the next Supervisors meeting. Road Foreman Ethan Brewer will contact the company in regard to available dates to receive the dumpsters. The Fall Clean Up will hopefully take place in September. The information will be advertised on the Ross Township website.

Township Permit-Free Yard Sale Date:

The discussion for a future date for the permit-free yard sale will be postponed until the next Supervisors meeting. The Board of Supervisors discussed having it prior to the Fall Clean Up dates. The information will be advertised in the Ross Township website.

Pavilion Rental:

Discussion in regard to future pavilion rental took place. Vice Chairman Shay and Solicitor McManus discussed adding a type of disclaimer/release or waiver to be signed by those requesting to rent the pavilion. Solicitor McManus stated that he will draft documentation which would be signed in addition to the pavilion rental request form.

Re-opening of the Ross Township Municipal Building: The Township Municipal Building has been opened since Governor Wolf announced the green phase in Monroe County. The appropriate guidelines are being followed. Anyone who wishes to enter the municipal building will be required to wear a mask.

Zoning Hours: Vice Chairman Shay inquired on the hours being held by the zoning officer on site. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to request that the zoning officer resume office hours at the Township building. The motion was seconded by Chairwoman Drake and carried. Chairwoman Drake stated that she will contact Bureau Veritas to discuss the request.

Summer Events: After discussion from the Board of Supervisors in reference to Community Day and the concerts scheduled for July, August and September, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to cancel all of the Summer Events. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zahoroiko and carried. Vice Chairman Shay stated that he will contact the band scheduled for July. Chairwoman Drake stated that she will contact the others.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cleaning Solution/Disinfectant for the Township building: The Board of Supervisors addressed sanitizing the offices and restrooms. The price for the solution for the fogger was discussed and the documentation reviewed. The Board of Supervisors requested Secretary/Treasurer Danielle Romano research prices for the fogger machines.

Benches along the Walking Trail: Chairwoman Drake discussed the poor condition of the benches along the walking trail. Discussion took place in regard to the repair. Vice Chairman Shay and Road Foreman Ethan Brewer stated that they will look into estimates for the repair or replacement of the benches.

Sewage Enforcement Officer Billing: Chairwoman Drake discussed and questioned the Invoice received from the SEO. 88% of fees is collected, though an hourly rate was not noted in proposal. The SEO has not been providing a weekly report, required by the Board of Supervisors. Vice Chairman Shay suggested setting up a meeting with the SEO and Board of Supervisors. Vice Chairman stated that he will contact SEO, Ryan Engler to set up a meeting possibly this week.

Gun Control: Supervisor Zahoroiko discussed calls received from concerned residents. Much discussion took place in regard to gun control amongst the Board of Supervisors and the Solicitor. Regulations of various other Townships had been discussed by Solicitor McManus.

PLANS:

Gunther Roy Subdivision – Blaine Silfies, representing Gunther Roy.

The Board of Supervisors reviewed the plans presented by resident Mr. Blaine Silfies. The Board of Supervisors stated that the Ross Township Planning Commission would need to review the plans next month and the subdivision will be placed on the agenda for the Ross Township Supervisors meeting on August 3, 2020.

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT:

The Board of Supervisors reviewed the report. Some discussion took place in regard to the maintenance for the detention ponds and the equipment required. A motion to allow Road Foreman Ethan Brewer to rent equipment to maintain the detention ponds for \$2,800 a week with a \$250 delivery and pick fee up was made by Vice Chairman Shay, seconded by Supervisor Zahoroiko and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from resident Mr. Dave Trout was discussed by the Board of Supervisors and Road Foreman Ethan Brewer. Mr. Trout's letter was in reference to a request for a protective barrier on his property. Solicitor McManus stated that the Zoning Officer should be informed in reference to this concern. Secretary/Treasurer Danielle Romano was instructed to forward Mr. Trout's letter to the Zoning Officer.

Vice Chairman Shay spoke about attending the Monroe County Tax Collection Committee meeting on June 29, 2020. The meeting agenda and corresponding documents were provided to Secretary/Treasurer Danielle Romano for review.

RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES:

After a review of the bills/expenditures to be paid, a motion was made to pay all current bills by Vice Chairman Shay, seconded by Chairwoman Drake and motion carried.

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05PM was made by Vice Chairman Shay, seconded by Supervisor Zahoroiko and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle Romano
Secretary/Treasurer