

ROSS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING

March 7, 2022

The Ross Township Supervisors Meeting was called to order on March 7, 2022 at 6:00PM. In attendance were Chairman James Zahoroiko, Vice Chairman David Shay and Supervisor Randy Detrick. Also present was Solicitor Timothy McManus. The meeting was held at the Township Municipal Building.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

A motion was made by Supervisor Detrick to approve the meeting minutes of the February 7, 2022 Supervisors meeting, seconded by Vice Chairman Shay and carried.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to approve the current Treasurer's Report, seconded by Chairman Zahoroiko and carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Township Fee Schedule

Chairman Zahoroiko discussed the updates to the current approved Township fee schedule. The Board of Supervisors reviewed the proposed Sewage Application fees presented by Ross Township SEO Ryan Engler. Various fee increases were discussed. A fee comparison from other local municipalities had been completed by the Township SEO. Solicitor McManus provided a form of resolution that can be utilized to adopt the 2022 fee schedule once it is completed. The topic will be discussed at a future Board of Supervisors meeting.

Municipal Office Laptop Computer

The purchase a laptop computer for the Township office was discussed by Chairman Zahoroiko. Supervisor Detrick stated he would like to receive additional information regarding the software, memory, speed, pricing etc. Updates to the existing computers was also discussed. The topic will be addressed further at the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

Part-Time Secretary

Chairman Zahoroiko discussed the update on the Part-Time Secretary position. The Board of Supervisors conducted recent interviews. A motion was made by Supervisor Detrick to hire Deb Brown as a Part-Time Secretary and Planning Commission Secretary at 20 hours a week, salary of \$15 per hour. The motion was seconded by Chairman Zahoroiko and carried. Opposed by Vice Chairman Shay.

Township Roads – Anti-Skid

During the February 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting, much discussion took place by residents living on private roads regarding icy road conditions. Their request of the Township Supervisors was to provide anti-skid material to residents to obtain for their driveways and road during winter months of inclement weather. After a brief discussion from the Board of Supervisors, the topic will be resumed during a meeting in the Fall of 2022.

Annex Building – Repairs/Signs

Vice Chairman Shay provided the letters needed for the Municipal Annex Sign. The Township Road Department was instructed to complete the maintenance needed to the existing sign. Vice Chairman Shay discussed the repairs needed to the Township Annex Building, and the contractor quote received. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to award the bid to JFS Contracting in the amount of \$5,200 to complete the Township Annex Building repairs. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Resident, Mr. Howard Beers, discussed the recent increase in fuel prices and the possibility to use the T, fuel oil tank (approximately 500 gallon) located in the storage building. Mr. Beers suggested replacing the pump with an electric pump and to contact the local fuel company to supply and to begin using the tank for the Township Trucks. Road Foreman Ethan Brewer will inquire on pricing, etc. to be reviewed during the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

Resident, Mrs. Martha Rezeli, expressed recognition to Road Foreman Ethan Brewer and the Road Dept. for their exceptional work clearing the roads during inclement weather this winter.

Planning Commission Chairman Roger Christman, discussed the topics from the prior CJERP meeting. The meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month at Chestnuthill Township Office. One of the agenda topics CJERP members discussed was the fire company radio system, wireless communication, 5g system and the upgrades needed. They are looking for input/opinions from Township Supervisors. A Ross Township Supervisor will attend the next CJERP meeting. Solicitor McManus discussed recent ordinances adopted by two other local municipalities regarding wireless communication facilities which address such things as restrictions, tower/unit placement, size, processing of applications, etc., and recommended the Township enact a similar ordinance in light of all the changes in the law regarding wireless communications facilities. Solicitor McManus will provide information regarding the law firm used by those other local municipalities to prepare their ordinances. AG Security was also discussed by Planning Commission Chairman Christman.

Residents of Collins Avenue discussed an ongoing problem concerning neighbors which had been addressed at the February 2022 Supervisors meeting.

Resident Mr. George Washburn thanked the Board of Supervisors for the opportunity to provide service during the past 15 years as the Township's lawn care provider. Mr. Washburn expressed he is unable to continue lawn care service for the 2022 season.

Resident of Ross Road discussed his interest in a portion of the Township grass field area to plant hay for the purpose of feeding animals. The Board of Supervisors and Solicitor McManus discussed the legalities. The topic will be discussed at a future Board of Supervisors meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Tighe Scott – Property Discussion

Mr. Tighe Scott was present to discuss property owned and the intent to sell a portion. Mr. Scott provided plans/map to the Board of Supervisors for brief discussion only. Mr. Scott will be attending the next Planning Commission meeting to present the plan. No official action taken or required.

2022 Election-May 17th – Municipal Building Polling Location – Open/Close Building

After a brief discussion regarding the election and use of the Municipal Building, Vice Chairman Shay stated he will open the building in the morning for the volunteers and county staff. Chairman Zahoroiko stated he will return to close the building after the election.

Permit-Free Yard Sale – May 2022

After a brief discussion regarding prior Township yard sale dates, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to hold the Township Permit-Free Yard Sale on May 21, 2022 and May 22, 2022. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried.

Proposals for Park Property Lawn Care Maintenance

The Board of Supervisors reviewed the 2022 lawn care maintenance proposals received. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to approve Altemose & Son Lawn Care Service to provide lawn care maintenance for the Township property at a rate of \$365 per cut. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Zahoroiko and carried. A letter will be provided to the company outlining the Township requirements.

Township Security System – Altronics Security

The Board of Supervisors reviewed the recent proposal and contract received from Altronics Security Systems for the communication upgrades needed. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to approve the 5g upgrade per the proposal, seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried.

WEPOSC

Chairman Zahoroiko discussed an email received from the West End Park and Open Space Commission regarding the recent decision to restructure the organization. Much discussion took place by the Board of Supervisors regarding the WEPOSC proposal. The future 2022 retirement of Bernie Kozen, WEPOSC Executive Director was also discussed. The commission is actively seeking his replacement. Mr. Kozen discussed the upcoming work session and WEPOSC Board Meeting and work session. A Township Supervisor would like to attend the meeting and work session to acquire additional information regarding the WEPOSC future plans. The topic will be discussed at the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

2022 Road Project

Vice Chairman Shay discussed prior year road project, 2022 road project and liquid fuels money. Documentation from Road Foreman Ethan Brewer was reviewed regarding the proposed roads being placed out for bid for the 2022 road project. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to place 3 Roads out for bid, seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to transfer \$200,000 from General Fund to Capital Reserve, earmarked for future road project, seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried.

Employee Health Care Insurance

The Board of Supervisors reviewed the recent documentation provided by PA Chamber regarding the renewal for the Employee Health Care Plan. The information, including the May 1, 2022 premium was discussed. Chairman Zahoroiko also commented on the option to add family to the employee plan. This topic will be discussed at the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

PLANS:

Kochanowski Lot Line Adjustment

Jon Shupp, JLS Surveying was present to represent this plan. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to approve the plan based upon the Township Planning Commission recommendation and satisfying conditions in Township Engineer Russ Kresge' review letter. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried.

5 Earth Group Lot Line Adjustment

Jon Shupp, JLS Surveying was present to represent this plan. A motion was made by Supervisor Detrick to approve the plan based upon the Township Planning Commission recommendation and satisfying conditions in Township Engineer Russ Kresge's review letter and Solicitor McManus's letter. The motion was seconded Vice Chairman Shay and carried.

Beltzville Enterprises, LLC Major Subdivision

Jon Shupp, JLS Surveying was present to represent this plan. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to approve option "A" to be used for the driveways based on the Township Planning Commission recommendation, seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Shay to grant the following waivers: 1005.A.4 requiring a 4 step design procedure for the Plan and Waiver of SALDO Section 1005.A. concerning the maximum block length. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried.

Notice Item - Kirk Subdivision

The recent documentation received from the applicant's legal counsel withdrawing the application/plan was discussed briefly. No action required.

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT:

The report completed by Road Foreman Ethan Brewer was review by the Board of Supervisors. Pipeline information was discussed by the Road Foreman, Board of Supervisors and Solicitor McManus. Documentation emailed to the Board of Supervisors from Solicitor McManus regarding the modifications, etc. was also discussed. The topic will be reviewed at a future Board of Supervisors meeting. The park benches dedicated in memory of Sharon Steen were discussed. The topic will be revisited in further detail at the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The list of Correspondence items were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors. Nothing to address, no comments were made.

RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES:

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

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:36PM was made by Chairman Zahoroiko, seconded by Supervisor Detrick and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Romano
Secretary/Treasurer