**bWest Penn Township Board of Supervisors**

**27 Municipal Road**

**New Ringgold, PA 17960**

**Phone (570)386-4507 Fax (570)386-5851**

**Regular 9AM Monthly Meeting**

**Monday, June 17, 2019**

**Present at the Meeting**

**Tony Prudenti – Chairman Katie Orlick – Secretary**

**Tim Houser – Vice-Chairman Paul Datte – Solicitor**

**Ted Bogosh III – Supervisor Jan Miller – Engineer**

**Karen Wittig – Treasurer (absent)**

**I. General**

**A.** Anthony Prudenti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introductions at 9:05AM.

**B.** Approval of Monthly Bills for May/June

Chairman called for a motion to accept & pay the monthly bills. Tim Houser had a question on the Engineer’s monthly bill and he will ask the Treasurer about it. Tim Houser made the motion to pay the monthly bills except for the Engineer’s bill because he had to get clarification on one of the charges. Ted Bogosh III seconded the motion. Motion was carried. 3-0

**II. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Larry Stival is happy with the elimination of the passing zone on SR895.

**III. Land Use** - None

**IV. Old Business**

**A.** PennDOT’s response to changing the speed limit & elimination the passing zone on SR895.

Chairman read the response PennDOT gave to the Township regarding the speed limit & passing zone on SR895. PennDOT completed a traffic & engineering study on SR895. The department conducted radar studies, checking free flowing vehicles to determine what is known as the 85th percentile speed. This is the speed at or below which 85th percent of the motorists are driving under normal roadway conditions during the daylight hours. Our Study indicated that the average 85th percentile speed on this roadway is compatible with the current 55mph speed limit. There is no one factor or combination of factors that warrants the lowering of the existing 55mph speed limit on SR895. However, the request to eliminate the passing zone between Dorset Rd. & SR309 was approved.

Chairman asked the secretary to write PennDOT a thank you letter.

**B.** Lehigh Engineer’s Update on Water Wheel Bridge & Comp. Plan

Chairman asked the engineer about Water Wheel Bridge.

Jan Miller said that the question she was asked to address was if the Township would repair the beam that needed to be fixed, would the weight restriction on the bridge be lifted. Jan Miller said no because the beam does need to be repaired but the road bearing beam is short for that type of bridge. Modifications would have to be made to increase the weight limit to the bridge or the bridge would have to be replaced. Ted Bogosh III asked Ms. Miller if she would do a study of what trucks go across it, the wheel base of the trucks & the length of the bridge to make sure we have a bridge capable of handling them. Ted Bogosh III said Tim Houser said we may be able to put up a center pier underneath the bridge to shorten the span to help with the weight restrictions. Chairman& BOS asked the Engineer to look into the costs and options for the Bridge.

Jan Miller asked the BOS to help form a committee to update the Comprehensive Plan. She asked the BOS if they recommended any particular individual to be on the committee. Jan Miller would like to have a meeting as soon as possible to get the updates done to the Comprehensive Plan. Jan Miller asked to advertise for the Comprehensive Meeting.

**V. New Business**

Chairman said the Fire Company is requesting a meeting with the BOS. BOS agreed to meet with the Fire Company on Thursday, June 27, 2019 @ 7PM.

**VI. Business from Anyone of Board**

**A.** Community Wells – Ted

Ted Bogosh III addressed a letter from our SEO about a malfunctioning Sewage System in Andreas. The property of the malfunctioning sewage system has enough property to install a new septic system however it does not have enough isolation distance of the neighboring well. Mr. Bogosh III suggested that the Township consider a community well. This will give the residents safe drinking water. The DEP will not allow a sewage absorption area placed within 100’ of a neighboring well. Chairman stated this plays into our Act 537 Plan. DEP wants a couple different options to correct malfunctioning or potential malfunctioning properties. Chairman said one option was to fix everything on site but the lots are too small and the isolation distance from neighboring wells are a problem. The SEO said a holding tank can be installed as a temporary solution to correct the malfunction until a new area could be tested & approved for the installation of an on-lot absorption area. Chairman said that he suggested the community well but how & where would we get property to put the well on. Ted Bogosh III suggested we talk to the owners of the Andreas Quarry to be a water source for our community. Chairman said his concerned with the expense of running the main line. Paul Datte said that a community well would be a tremendous expense. Tim Houser is concerned with registering with the PUC or can we form a home owner’s association & have them be responsible for it. Paul Datte said that a home owner association would be the better direction to this. Ted Bogosh III asked if the engineer can look into the costs of a community well. Paul Datte stated it is not just about the installation but maintaining it, running the main line and operating it. Paul Datte said DEP is coming down with more & more testing requirements for these public water systems. Paul Datte said we will probably have to go to the Act 537 Plan & DEP which may still suggest you will be required to have some kind of public sewage solution. Paul Datte stated if it was up to him he would look at the sewage end of things because you may still have to put that in later. Tim Houser asked Attorney Datte would the resident have to connect if there is public sewage. Paul Datte said there would a mandatory connect Ordinance that states if you don’t connect you will still have to pay a water bill.

Ted Bogosh III stated that we have a problem that needs to be addressed. Mr. Bogosh III said we should get costs for a water plant. Ted Bogosh III suggested we get in contact with the neighbor of the malfunctioning system and ask if he would move his well so the malfunction can install a new septic system at the cost of the malfunctioning property. Chairman said that would be much cheaper. Tim Houser said we have to look at the location to see if they well can even be moved. The BOS agreed to invite Bill Brior SEO to our next meeting on July 1, 2019. The BOS will ask Bill Brior to review the items that were discussed and come up with a potential solution. The BOS suggested options of a community well, sewage system or the neighboring land owner moving his well at the cost of the malfunction. David Pflueger questioned who would be responsible to pay for the system. The BOS stated it depends what type of system would go in.

**B**. Heliport

Ted Bogosh III emphasized how important it is for the Township to designate areas for emergency helicopter to land. Mr. Bogosh III stated having designated heliports will help first responders know the location of the helicopter is landing. It would help with response time. Ted Bogosh III stated that we have a request into our insurance company to see what kind of liabilities would fall on the Township if we would have heliports. Chairman is concerned with liabilities and why would the Township designate an area when the helicopter could land anywhere closest to the scene to transport the patient. Mr. Bogosh III stated if there is a designated area the helicopter pilot would be familiar with all obstacles so they would be able to land the helicopter safely. Tim Houser would like to know the liability before he made any decisions.

**VII. Correspondence**

Tim Houser said he sold a property and someone requested to spray for the Spotted Lantern Fly. Tim Houser just wanted to make people aware of someone wanting to spray.

**A.**  Northern Recreation Commission is requesting assistance from the Fire Police for Parking & Traffic Control during their event “Night in the Country”.

Secretary sent the request to the Fire Chief. Chairman asked the Chief if we needed to do anything about this request. The Chief said this request is on the Fire Dept. yearly calendar. Northern Recreation sends over certificate of liability which we require in order to participate. Tim Houser made the motion to help assist at the Night in the Country. Ted Bogosh III seconded the motion. Motion was carried. 3-0

**VIII. Public Comment on General Items**

**Ted Rosen – Dogwood Lane** – Mr. Rosen wanted to know the status of the Water Extraction Ordinance. Paul Datte stated he is working on it and it is not easy.

**Larry Stival** – requested the dates & time for the mid-month meeting to be put on the calendar on our website. Secretary will take care of it.

**IX. Executive Session**

**X. Adjournment**

Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 10:15AM. Tim Houser made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. Motion was carried. 3-0

Transcribed By:

Katie Orlick

West Penn Township Secretary