

West Penn Township Board of Supervisors

27 Municipal Road

New Ringgold, PA 17960

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Regular 10AM Monthly Meeting

Monday, November 16, 2020

Present at the Meeting

Tony Prudenti – Chairman

Katie Orlick - Secretary

Tim Houser – Vice-Chairman

Paul Datte – Solicitor

Glenn Hummel – Supervisor

Ed Wenger – Lehigh Engineering

Karen Wittig – Treasurer

I. General

A. Anthony Prudenti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introductions at 10:03AM.

B. Approval of Monthly Bills

Chairman asked the BOS if they had any questions about approving & paying the bills. Chairman had a question about paying the ALS portion of the Ambulance bills. Chairman & the BOS agree that the Ambulance have a third party billing for ALS & have insurance claims on them. Chairman wants clarification on the ALS portion of the bills. Chairman said everything else for the Ambulance should be paid. Glenn Hummel said he feels we should never pay wages for a volunteer organization. Tim Houser has the same concerns and feels we need better explanations about where the money is actually going. Chairman called for a motion to pay the bills. Tim Houser made the motion to pay the bills with the exception of ALS & hourly wages for the Ambulance. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion is carried. 3-0

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items - NONE

III. Land Use - NONE

IV. Old Business - NONE

V. New Business

A. Letter from a Property Owner requesting a Conditional Use for his property to propose placement of a 20'x40, modular home. Ed Wenger from Lehigh Engineering explains what is required for the property owner to do so. Mr. Wenger said as per Section 407.C of the West Penn Twp. Ordinance, the residential use may only be established in Planned Highway Commercial by being in conformance with Section 407.C.3, which requires the approval of a Conditional Use by the BOS.

The resident explained there was a mobile home on the same site from 1987 to 2019. He plans to put the new modular home in the same spot plus it will be a little smaller than the previous home. In 2019, the resident removed the old structure & now in 2020 would like to put a new structure in its place. Ed Wenger said the resident needs to submit a letter that shall outline the current, or in this case, previous, non-conforming use of the property & location of the non-conforming structure & request that the proposed use, single-family residential structure, be allowed to continue on the property.

Attorney Datte asked the resident some questions for clarification. Attorney Datte said, the resident would have to apply for Conditional Use of his property & we would advertise & have a hearing in front of the BOS to approve or deny his request. Tim Houser asked about the sewage for the modular home. Tim Houser would like to know if the previous system was functioning properly. The resident said, yes he had it pumped & cleaned in July 2020 & it has the same water hook up. Chairman said, the resident will have to write a letter/application to the BOS, requesting the conditional use. The secretary will give the resident an application for conditional use & collect the fee. The Township will advertise & hold a public hearing. The Twp. will follow up with Bill Brior, SEO after the application is received to make sure that

nothing else needs to be done for the sewage. Attorney Datte said it has to be advertised once a week for two consecutive weeks.

Mr. Wenger said the resident will also, have to apply also for a dimensional variance from the West Penn Zoning Hearing Board because of the setbacks or relocate the structure. The resident said he is not relocating the modular home. Attorney Datte said, the structure in theory may be grandfathered and he will not have to apply for the dimensional variance.

VI. Business from Anyone on the Board

A. Chairman said that the Road Master has some requests for the BOS to approve. Clint Schock said Truck 15 will need 4 new tires which will be \$1600, new signs \$1200 and Truck 4 – Spreader not to exceed \$1500. Chairman called for a motion to purchase the Road Master's requests. Tim Houser made the motion to purchase the Road Master's requests and if the spreader exceeds \$1500 then the Road Master will have to come back and request more. Glenn Hummel stated he doesn't agree with putting a cap on the spreader because if it needs to be fix then we should fix it. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-1

VII. Correspondence

A. Recycling – The BOS are setting a meeting up with the Fire Company & a Recycling Hauler in hopes of continuing recycling in the Twp. but the location of the recycling will be moved to the Fire Company. Chairman read a correspondence from Schuylkill County Recycling Coordinator. The correspondence stated that the Schuylkill County Office of Solid Waste & Recycling mandated a County-Wide Curbside Recycling Ordinance. The Township informed their residents a few months ago that the County's recycling program will eventually be ending. The Township, with anticipation of the County ending their recycling program, informed their residents of recycling ending at the end of the year. Unfortunately, the Township got notified by the County that the drop off program may end before years' end. West Penn Township has been looking for other options for a recycling program in the Township. Chairman stated that we will keep our residents informed once we figure out the future of recycling in the Twp.

B. The BOS thanked the Road Department for their paving in 2020. Chairman said roads that were fully or partially paved were: Ash Circle, Oak Terrace, Sycamore, Water Wheel, Villas Crossing, Spring Rd., Winter Mountain, Evergreen, Millhead, Tower, Poplar and Blue Mountain Dr.

VIII. Public Comment on General Items

A. Mark Boyle – asked the BOS where they purchase their tires from. Clint Schock said the Twp. uses multiple dealers that are Costars approved. Mark Boyle suggested the Twp. look into a company in Allentown he uses.

B. Chairman read a letter thanking the Township for materials to the West Penn Rifle & Gun Club.

C. LtL Consultants sent a request to the BOS for consideration to be the Township's Engineering Firm.

IX. Anything Else from the Board

X. Executive Session – Chairman called for an executive session for possible litigation & personnel issues at 10:30AM. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Chairman called the meeting back to order @ 11:08AM. Chairman called for a motion to terminate Brian Reeser of the Road Department. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Tim Houser seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

Chairman called for a motion to start suit against the Sword Property for different Zoning Violations. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

XI. Adjournment – Chairman called for a motion to adjourn at 11:15AM. Tim Houser made the motion. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 3-0

BOS had a budget workshop following the meeting.

Transcribed By:
Katie Orlick
West Penn Township Secretary