

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, March 7, 2011 in the Township Building. Jim Fuller called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Annette Mullen, Barry Schrope, Jim Fuller, Johanna Rehkamp, Vicki Jenkins, Lester Nace, Rick Schaar, Bob Rhoades, Joe Burget, Dave Jenkins, David Mills, Dexter Potter, Darlene Johnson, Barb Zeigler, Hal Wilson, Dianne Dahlin, Kraig Nace, Bob Noaker and Bob Cash.

Jim Fuller advised those in attendance that Dianne Dahlin will be recording the meeting tonight.

Barry Schrope led the pledge to the American flag. A brief moment of silence was observed after the pledge in honor of the men and women who serve our country in the armed forces.

The minutes of the February 7, 2011 meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the township building prior to the March 7, 2011 regular meeting for public viewing. Annette Mullen made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

David Mills would like to thank the supervisors for their continuing support of recreation in the community.

Hal Wilson of Property Management for Pfautz's Trailer Court states he is here tonight to discuss upgrading the sewage plant for the park. Plans and permits are being obtained. The cost of the project is around \$500,000 and the owners of the park are concerned with the possibility of the township taking over the plant by eminent domain. The supervisors advise they are not planning on putting in a public sewer system and do not foresee in the near future the township taking over the sewer plant.

Kraig Nace of the Duncannon EMS presented to the supervisors tonight the year-end reports, with the exclusion of the 990 which should be completed in May, contact list, audit letter, 2011 proposed budget and the current 2011 call report. Mr. Nace thanked the supervisors for their ongoing support.

Joe Burget of Burget & Associates presented the Patricia Bruner subdivision plan for approval. Joe states the township planning commission has recommended approval of the requested AOR's and conditionally approved the plan upon receipt of the sewage exemption from DEP (received), driveway permit from PennDot (received) and the erosion control plan from Perry County Conservation District (does not have final approval letter). The requested AOR's are 1 – Preliminary Plat Procedure, 2 – Plan Size/Boundary Scale, 3 – Property Map Scale and 4 – Lot Identification. Annette Mullen made a motion to accept the AOR's as requested, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Barry Schrope made a motion to conditionally approve the plan as presented contingent upon the satisfactory return of the E&S plan and any remaining fee's from the engineer being paid, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor. Plan will be signed after permit is received from Perry County Conservation District.

The township has received 4 bids for dumpster service for this year's spring cleanup. Bids have been received from Sylvester's Services, Deimler's Recycling, Cocolamus Creek Disposal and Sharar's Recycling. Jim Fuller made a motion to accept the bid from Sharar's Recycling providing they are available on Saturday if a container would be needed, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor. Hours of operation will be Thursday and Friday 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., 2 drop offs per household and 8 tires per household.

The supervisors advise the township auditors have recommended investing some money out of the Township State Fund checking account into a certificate of deposit. Annette Mullen made a motion to invest \$100,000 from the checking account into a certificate of deposit, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Several quotes have been received for the purchase of a new tractor, \$110,000 has been budgeted. Quotes have been received on John Deere and New Holland tractors. Annette states the New Holland tractor we have now was purchased in 2000 for \$33,000 - \$34,000 and has 2,230 hours. Annette stated Jim and Barry have decided on a 6430 premium. Annette states she has looked at the tractors Jim and Barry looked at and feels the 6430 is entirely too big of a tractor for what it is needed for and the fact is it is a \$73,000 tractor with a bucket. The tractor is currently used for mowing, plowing and the loader and the implements would not fit the 6000 series tractor. Annette states she has looked at New Holland, John Deere, Case, Massey Ferguson, Kubota, the New Holland 5000 series 95 hp and feels this would be more suitable to the needs of the township. Annette states the first thing that should be done is to decide what the tractor is used for and what tractor is going to fit those needs, instead of looking at the tractor first. Barry Schrope states the pallet forks would fit on the tractor and the blade would not probably be big enough for the 5000 or 6000 series. Barry states he was told if the tractor we had now was a John Deere it would have

been at least \$10,000 more for the tractor and trade in. Barry states Valley Ag has a good service department and if parts are needed he could stop by after work and pick them up. Jim Fuller states Valley Ag is the closest for service if needed. Jim states he does not like the shuttle shift he would rather have gears. Barry states most of them come with power reverse. Jim states he does not like the one on the current tractor. Annette states that's because it's broken and was never fixed. Jim stated he has had R&W up to the township and they found nothing wrong with it. Annette states if you have to push the clutch in to reset it, it is broken; you shouldn't have to do that with a power shuttle. Jim states the service man states the sensor in the seat is the problem. Annette states he is wrong, it is a solenoid. Annette states all the tractors looked at has the power shuttle and the 6430 is all automatic. Jim states he does not like the 5000 series because the muffler is right out in front and the 6000 is off to the side and out of your sight. Annette states her concern with the John Deere is they put the light up so high on the fender that it obstructs your vision to the disc mower. Annette states discussion needs to be held on the frame, the transmission, hydraulics and the bucket reach and to also look at 5000/6000 series John Deere and New Holland tractors. Dianne Dahlin asked why the New Holland tractor only has 2,200 hours on it and is in such bad shape. Annette stated the tractor is not in bad shape, the shuttle system needs to be tweaked on the reverse and it needs 4 new tires. Dianne states with the talk of a new building would it be better to replace and fix the things that need to be done to this tractor instead of buying new. Rick Schaar asked why the township has to go bigger and bigger on a tractor when it doesn't take a 100 hp tractor to take care of the roads or cut grass. Jim states until you are reaching down over a bank and fearful of overturning you don't know what you need for sure. Annette stated that when she spoke to the guy from Lancaster who does the state contracts for New Holland he stated the 5000 series is what the state uses to do the boomer mowers along the road. Issue will be tabled until next month's meeting.

Annette Mullen made a motion to release \$12,000 as budgeted as a donation to the township Recreation Board, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Duncannon EMS presented their financial report tonight to the supervisors. The information will be reviewed for next month's meeting. The New Bloomfield EMS, Duncannon Fire Co. and New Bloomfield Fire Co. donations will be held until the township receives their financial reports.

Barry Schrope made a motion to advertise for bids for the 2011 sealcoat and base repair projects, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Sealcoat to be applied to Basin Hill Road, Craig Run Road, Pearl Drive, Dale Drive and Ankajam Drive. Base repair to a portion of Dark Hollow Road and Basin Hill Road. Vicki will schedule Rick Levan, Engineering District 8-0 to meet with the road master for job measurements and mail bid packages to previous bidders.

Jim Fuller advised from March 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> the office would have hours from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Notice has been posted on the door and the township website.

Jim Fuller stated the State Police have recommended the Sulphur Springs Bridge weight limit sign be moved closer to the end toward Rt. 849. Jim states he will speak to the property owner Sam Garula and see if he can put a sign closer to Rt. 849.

Jim Fuller states he made an appointment with Hoffman Ford today for the Ford F550. The truck shut down while plowing.

Barry Schrope asked the solicitor about the damage done on Dark Hollow Road by the company hauling shale out of a property on Roseglen Road. Barry asked if the township has any legal recourse since the road is not bonded. Johanna asked if any action was taken afterwards to prove they were the ones that did the damage to the road and that without proof and a weight limit on the road it would be hard.

Barry Schrope stated at the Perry County Convention Representative Mark Keller indicated the Sulphur Springs Bridge replacement has been moved up to 2014.

Annette Mullen asked Lester Nace about the weight limit on the stone arch bridge. Lester advised on a stone arch bridge there is rarely a weight limit sign posted unless it is narrow. Lester advised an inspection report would indicate the maximum legal load.

Annette Mullen advised Emergency Management has gotten back to her about the remapping lines and the percentage of coverage for each emergency service that serves Wheatfield Township. Annette states Duncannon EMS covers 90%, New Bloomfield EMS covers 9% and Shermans Dale is 1%, Duncannon Fire Co. covers 74%, New Bloomfield Fire Co. covers 25% and Shermans Dale is 1%.

Annette Mullen asked the other supervisors what their thoughts were on the Ford F450, did they want to put it out for bid after spring cleanup. Barry Schrope states he has not thought about it. Jim Fuller states he

does not want to put it out for bid, he would like to hang onto it for a little bit and get the sides fixed on the bed. Annette asked what the cost would be and why they would fix the sides. Barry states it won't pass inspection. Jim states the repairs will make it more presentable, but if it was up to him the township would keep the F450. Annette asked what repairs need done. Jim advised the braces on the side of the dump are rusted. Barry states he would like as well to keep the truck for now; maybe a year or two down the road put it out for bid. Annette states she did not think the township was keeping the F450 and does not want to keep putting money into it if there is no need for it. Annette stated if the recreation board wanted to purchase the truck, maybe that would be an option and they wouldn't be using the township equipment all of the time. Annette states she has no interest in keeping another truck that size, it's just more upkeep.

Lester Nace stated March recycling was the biggest Saturday the township has ever had. The paper truck was filled, the cardboard bin was full and the plastic and aluminum was full.

Lester Nace advised the supervisors on the status of the email from PennDot regarding the RR crossing on Linton Hill Road. PennDot asked if the township was interested in funding the design for the warning signal. Lester advised a letter was sent explaining the township line runs down the middle of the road, on the west side of the tracks is state road and on the east side of the tracks Wheatfield Township has an agreement with Penn Township that it is there maintenance responsibility. Lester advised a follow up letter was received from PennDot stating they were going to the Public Utility Commission and also stated the Department of Transportation agreed to cover all of the actual designs costs up to \$6500 which would have relieved the township from any cost according to their first letter. They also stated federal funds would be used up to a maximum of \$350,000 for the installation of automatic operated flashing lights crossing warning signals. Also included would be the stop bar, roadway legends that say RR and a sign. Lester called and clarified what was going to happen. The Public Utility Commission will be setting up a field conference inviting all people who are affected by the crossing and strangely Penn Township was not included on the list. Lester advised he wouldn't mind attending the field conference and would suggest one or more of the supervisors attend as well and a copy of the maintenance agreement should be taken along to the conference. Lester states it is a safety issue and appears at this time it will not cost Wheatfield Township any money; however the reason for the hearing is to determine what work items are needed and who is going to be responsible for those items.

Dianne Dahlin stated the newsletter was really informative and really nice, good job.

Barry Schrope made a motion to approve the checks from the General Fund for the month of February with each supervisor abstaining from approval on those they had a personal interest in. They were as follows:

16392 – 16447 and 0001-2011, 001-2011 and 01-2011, except 16401, 16404 and 16429, all three approved.

16401, 16429 – Barry and Annette approved, Jim abstained.

16404 – Jim and Annette approved, Barry abstained.

Jim Fuller second the motion to approve the checks, with all in favor.

There being no further business Annette Mullen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins  
Twp. Secretary