

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, May 7, 2012 in the Township Building. Jim Fuller called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were James Fuller, Barry Schrope, Annette Mullen, Johanna Rehkamp, Vicki Jenkins, Lester Nace, Rick Schaar, Dave Jenkins, Bob Foltz, Bob Rhoades, Dexter Potter, Holly Potter, Paul Rudy, Luke Roman – Perry Co. Times, David Mills, Kraig Nace, Darlene Johnson, Kent Johnson and Dianne Dahlin.

Jim Fuller 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 April 2, 2012 meeting and April 18, 2012 special meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the township building prior to the May 7, 2012 regular meeting for public viewing. Annette Mullen made the motion to approve the April 2, 2012 minutes as presented, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Jim Fuller made the motion to approve the April 18, 2012 special meeting minutes as presented, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

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

Paul Rudy, Perry County Commissioner discussed the Business Campus in Penn Township behind Mutzabaugh's Market. Mr. Rudy asked the supervisors to complete a survey as to what type of businesses they would like to see and what type of business could benefit the county. The commissioners would like to develop a list of the businesses, get approval of the list from the lenders, and have a realtor begin to invite prospective businesses to the campus and sell them on the campus. Mr. Rudy stated if nothing happens a sizable chunk of cash could be lost.

David Mills would like to thank the supervisors for continuing to support recreation in the township.

Kraig Nace of the Duncannon EMS thanked the supervisors for their ongoing support.

Dianne Dahlin stated she would like to address something Barry Schrope said at the special meeting on health care. Dianne stated Barry indicated most people in the county earn \$20 or more an hour. Dianne advised many are not earning that much, the township employees are earning probably above average for a township, and they are earning a lot more than most people are. Dianne stated she works for West Shore EMS, there are at least 5 from the township who work for West Shore EMS and have 12 years of service and earn \$13.00/hr. after 12 years of being an EMT. Dianne stated everyone is struggling, she just received her health benefits from Holy Spirit and there out of pocket for a family of four is \$4,943.90 that each employee has to pay out of their wages and they have a \$2,500 deductible and co-pays which they have to pay. Dianne stated for them to have to pay that and then on top of that have to pay for the township employees and they not have to pay anything is unconscionable. Dianne stated the economy is still bad and she hopes the supervisors take that into consideration when making their decision on health care.

Bids received for the 2012 paving/base repair road project were opened and read aloud. The results were as follows:

Wilson Paving - \$192,648.20

Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. - \$201,955.30

Eastern Industries, Inc. - \$202,108.00

Jay Fulkroad & Sons, Inc. - \$212,162.00

Barry Schrope made a motion to award the paving/base repair bid to Wilson Paving, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor. Paving/base repair to be applied to Pine Hill Road and Glutz Hole Road.

Bids received for the 2012 seal coat road project were opened and read aloud. The results were as follows:

Hammaker East, LTD - \$45,080.00

Martin Paving, Inc. - \$45,520.00

Wilson Paving - \$58,000.00

Midland Asphalt Materials Inc. - \$58,000.00

Barry Schrope made a motion to award the seal coat bid to Hammaker East, LTD, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Seal coat to be applied to Roseglen Road from Windy Hill Road to Dellville Road and Wheatfield Estates.

Annette Mullen made a motion to release \$19,800 as budgeted as a donation to the Duncannon EMS, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Kyle Barrick informed the supervisors he has completed his Eagle Scout project at the Dellville Covered Bridge. Kyle gave the supervisors copies of the receipts and advised the project did not cost as much as he

expected and he had a surplus of \$125.00 from donations received. Kyle advised the surplus has to be handed over to the beneficiary. The supervisors gave the excess money back to the recreation board.

The township has received the final rate quote this evening from Geisinger Health for the township health insurance. Geisinger came in at a -13.72% decrease compared to the current renewal rate from Health America. The annual savings would be \$4,908.72. Jim Fuller stated his only concern with Geisinger is not having Hershey Medical available. Annette Mullen stated if staying with Health America is important to the employees then maybe employees could contribute to part of the deductible to offset the cost or only cover employees, if you want to add your spouse or family then maybe contribute a little bit towards that. Annette advised the township has just received the information tonight and maybe they should make a motion to remain with Health America for one more month. Annette stated Barry has already made the statement he is not interested in the employees paying a portion of their deductible this year. Annette stated again she does not mind staying with Health America, but then she wants to talk deductible, if the other supervisors are not interested in talking deductible until next year then they need to make a decision with what they want to do. Jim Fuller stated with the 1% raise given to the employees who have benefits, Dexter will receive \$312.00 more a year, Vicki will receive \$309.40 more a year and he will receive \$374.40 more a year. Annette stated most people have not received a raise and their health care costs have gone up and that she has gone 3 years without a raise but her health care went up. Barry Schrope stated he was also thinking along the lines with what Annette said about adding family members and possibly doing something there, if the employees want to stick with Health America. Barry asked the employees what they would like to do, would they like to stay with Health America and possibly pay something toward spouse or family coverage or go with the Geisinger plan and save \$409.06 per month. The supervisors would like to schedule a special meeting with Brenton of Hartman Employee Benefits for possibly May 21st or May 22nd. Vicki will call Brenton to see which date he could make.

The Prevailing Wage Resolution was discussed again. Barry Schrope stated he has done more research and stated this is a double edge sword for the township because if you cut wages for people of the township then it lowers the earned income tax to the township, but then it would also lower the costs of paving jobs to the township by 10 – 15%. Jim Fuller stated the threshold may not go up that much, but anything that can help municipalities is a good thing, which is what he took an oath to do. Annette Mullen stated the one thing that the township is looking at is the health care and asked how do you think they are saving money, they are saving money because they are not giving their workers the benefits package, the same benefit package you want for yourself, so it is good for you but not that union worker who is a member of the township. Annette stated when that is said it frustrates her because you say it is going to save the township money because of lower bids, but on the other hand, how we are doing that is by not giving the workers benefits such as health care and pension, that is how they save the money to give a lower bid. Jim Fuller stated if you look at the last ten years of health coverage, the township has tried to save money by looking at different options and that should be taken into consideration. Bob Rhoades stated to Jim, you add your wages together and he will be where prevailing wage people are and you want them to take a cut. Bob stated let's take a cut across the board, the school district, the legislators, everybody to look at it and you sit up there and say you want the best, okay that's fine and then you turn around the other side and say let's cut them. Bob stated there are people in this township that are working and their family depends on prevailing wages. Jim stated if you have a \$100,000 job that is bid out and they could possibly bid it at \$80,000 instead that would be a 20% savings and the fact the threshold has not been raised since 1963, whatever they come to is better than what it is currently. Jim stated he remains steadfast that the threshold should be increased some; Barry stated he would not mind seeing a change but that big of a change he is not going to go for. No action will be taken on the resolution.

PSATS has forwarded to the township a Plan Document for the township's pension plan for review and approval. The plan document is the legal governing document for the pension plan based on the specifications of the resolution passed when the plan was started and any amendments to the original resolution. The document also provides detailed guidelines for administering the plan and the benefits available to the township employees who participate. The document is to satisfy the requirement of having an IRS approved document in place. To approve the document the township must adopt the resolution provided from PSATS. The township solicitor has looked over the document and advised everything looks fine. Annette Mullen made a motion to adopt the provided resolution, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

McCormick Taylor has forwarded a Federal-Aid Reimbursement Agreement to sign between the Commonwealth of PA and Wheatfield Township for the Sulphur Springs Road Bridge project and also to adopt a resolution naming the individuals authorized to sign the agreement. Barry Schrope made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the Board Chairman to sign the agreement and the Township Secretary/Treasurer to attest on behalf of the township, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor.

Annette Mullen stated there are 3 trees at Dale & Joyce Meyer's residence on Basin Hill Road she has looked at and has some concern with exposed roots and hanging over the road. Annette asked the solicitor who would be responsible for the trees hanging over the road if they are out of the township right-of-way. Jim Fuller stated the municipal code states if a tree is in the right-of-way and is over a certain diameter it may not be removed without an agreement with the land owner. Johanna stated she would like to do some research on it and will get back to the supervisors. Darlene Johnson asked how many feet the township is responsible for from the edge or the center of the road. Jim stated there is a 33 foot right-of-way and the road is 18 feet wide with each lane being 9 feet leaving 7 ½ feet off of both berms. Lester stated unless there been a dedication of right-of-way on a subdivision. Dianne Dahlin asked if the right-of-way is from the center or the edge of the road. Jim advised it is from the center of the road.

Jim Fuller advised Jason Finnerty of the Tri-County Planning Commission has scheduled three outreach meetings for Perry County and has invited members of the township. The first meeting is at Penn Township on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Jim Fuller advised co-stars has worked out an agreement with the salt supplier that the township will not be required to take the 2 remaining loads not used due to the mild winter.

Jim Fuller stated he appreciates those who came out for recycling and spring cleanup.

Annette Mullen talked about the possibility of the township creating a weight limit ordinance on Linton Hill Road until the road is fixed. Annette advised they had John Madden come out and look at the area's discussed at last month's meeting. Jim stated they are proposing to put a bridge in where the tile is rotting out on Creek Road and will look into starting the process of applying for permits. Jim stated the Linton Hill Road is slipping away close to the creek and will probably need a general permit with DEP for the repair. Jim advised John will also look into the permit process for the bridge at Wagner Park.

Annette Mullen states she has gone up to Hoover Bros. and has spoken to them about giving a general condition report on the trucks the next time they go up for inspection. Annette advised they stated they could do that at no cost they just asked for a reminder when the trucks are brought up.

Lester Nace stated he has spoken to Dave Getz attorney for Ben Smith Homes regarding the Conrad/Reeder driveway issue. Lester advised the conversation was very cordial.

Dianne Dahlin asked why there was only 1 signer on the Federal Aid agreement when there were 3 lines available for signatures. Jim advised the resolution that was passed required three signatures not the agreement, the agreement only asked for one signature. Dianne stated she also hopes the supervisors will take into consideration that most of the residents of the township are paying for their health insurance and deductibles.

Vicki Jenkins stated a thank you letter has been received by the New Bloomfield EMS for the donation.

Vicki Jenkins advised an auditor from the Auditor General's office came to the township building on April 16th to audit the State Liquid Fuel account and there were no findings, all records were in order.

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

16973 – 17006, 040212, 0003-2012, 003-2012 and 3-2012, except 16973 and 16992, both approved.

16973, 16992 – Barry and Annette approved, Jim abstained.

Annette Mullen second the motion to approve the checks, with all in favor.

There being no further business Barry Schrope made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Annette Mullen second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins
Twp. Secretary