June 4, 2018

14

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, June 4, 2018 in the Township Building. Barry Schrope called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Barry Schrope, Jim Fuller, Jeff Smith, Johanna Rehkamp, Vicki Jenkins, Lester Nace, Dexter Potter, Holly Potter, Bob Johnson, Bob Rhoades, Donald Strickler, David Mills, Kurt Hepschmidt, Dave Linville, Jane Bentley, Kraig Nace and Marcus Hite.

Barry Schrope led the pledge to the American flag followed by a brief moment of silence.

The minutes of the May 7, 2018 regular meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the Township Building prior to the June 4, 2018 regular meeting for public viewing. Jeff Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented by the secretary, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Bob Rhoades thanked the supervisors for helping out with the planning commission and getting things worked out.

Donald Strickler stated he would like to file 2 complaints about 268 Montebello Farm Road. Mr. Strickler stated they were granted permission to put up a sign to sell dogs and they have a kennel there and as soon as the sign went up his property value went down because for the last 5 years they've lost the comfort of their home because of dogs barking continually night and day. Mr. Strickler advised there is an increase of cars on the road coming in and out to look at the puppies and that's creating a traffic hazard. Mr. Strickler stated he also filed a complaint on April 9, 2018 with Mr. Nace regarding the setbacks on both sides of that property, on one side there is a wood shed that is on the neighbor's property and on the other side there is a canopy that is not in compliance with the setbacks, and at this point he has not seen any action taken on it. Mr. Strickler stated he was told that the right of way through there is 25 feet, is that from the center of the road or is that 25 feet the total width of the road? Lester Nace advised it is from the center of the road. Mr. Strickler asked if that was both sides of the road. Lester stated he did not state that, he did not know what it was on the opposite side of the street. Lester advised a subdivision was done on Mr. Strickler's side and the owner dedicated a 25' right of way on the other side of the road he did not look up, it could be more or less. Lester stated he has not spoken with the property owner as of yet. Lester advised the permit that was applied for the canopy on the right side of the property states he has 10' from the property line. Lester advised he did not go out and measure and unless there is property corners there that he can see where the property line is it is pretty hard to tell. Lester advised the property owner signed the zoning permit application stating it was 10' away from the property line. Mr. Strickler stated when the property owner had it surveyed and saw the canopy was on the neighbor's property he removed the survey stakes. Lester stated he would need permission from the property owner to go on his property and obtain measurements.

David Mills thanked the supervisors for continuing to support recreation in the township.

Kurt Hepschmidt stated he can attest to what Mr. Strickler is saying about the dogs barking at 268 Montebello Farm Road. Kurt stated he would also like to address the complaint he made about 2 years ago about the piece of concrete in Mr. Stricklers yard that is still there. The supervisors stated they have spoken to Mr. Strickler about this and it will be taken care of.

Kraig Nace stated the Senate Resolution 6 Commission met last week at the Flight 93 Memorial in Somerset. Kraig advised there was discussion regarding an EMS agency in Somerset County being out of service regularly that has had their license threatened or even pulled and he advised the commission that this is happening regularly in Perry County and the bureau has done nothing for over 2 years. Kraig advised the Friday before Memorial Day weekend of the 8 remaining EMS services in the county there were only 2 available at one point assuming they could get crew and that is very concerning. Kraig stated Duncannon EMS is spending a lot of time covering other areas. Kraig stated the 2017 report will be forthcoming and the new ambulance subscriptions have been mailed out. Barry Schrope asked Kraig if he thought the property tax incentives being considered would help with obtaining volunteers and crew. Kraig stated he does not believe it will help in our local community most of the fire and EMS crews do not live in the community they are recruited from elsewhere and with the township portion of the property taxes being so low the incentive would be next to nothing. Barry thanked Kraig for the articles and information he provides the supervisors regarding emergency services.

Marcus Hite stated he lives at 29 McNaughton Drive and he is here tonight in regards to 32 McNaughton Drive. Mr. Hite asked if there is any update on the cleanup of that property. Mr. Hite stated the property has not changed in appearance as far as the mess outside over the last year and his property value is being affected. Barry Schrope stated the contractor who was hired to clean up after the fire on the property asked the township for an extension of time for the cleanup and the township had granted that because of the fire circumstances. Barry stated they have also asked for a zoning permit and the township told them they would like the property cleaned up prior to a zoning permit being issued. Barry advised he drove by the property and a lot of things that were outside before were now gone. Jeff Smith advised there is still a camper there and a car. Mr. Hite stated beside the camper there is a pile of wood and trash and even when it is mowed they mow around it and now they see an increase in the number of snakes. Mr. Hite stated the property has been in very poor condition for the last

5 years and they have made several complaints to the township and they are getting very frustrated with the situation. Barry stated the township has issued a letter and gave them 30 days to cleanup and then they asked for an extension after the fire. Lester advised Alexander was to apply for the zoning permit to rebuild and he was told to hold off on the zoning permit until the burned out car and pop up camper were removed and he took some extra steps to make sure that happened and they are now gone and he then issued the zoning permit. Lester stated he will contact the contractor (Alexander) and see what their schedule is and see if the insurance company will clean up the property or see if Alexander will clean up the property. Lester Nace and Jim Fuller stated they will work on it to see if they can get something moving on the property.

Jeff Smith presented the Road Master report for last month. Jeff stated the road crew went to Wilson Paving to pick up cold patch to apply to various spots on the roads, graded along Loshes Run Road, changed the oil in the F250, tore the roof off of the old salt shed, cleaned up multiple trees from storm damage, cut down 2 poplar trees on Dark Hollow Road, had Jeff Boyer cut down a hickory tree on Linton Hill Road, put the mower on the tractor and have ¾ of the first round of mowing done.

Agenda item #6 was postponed by Burget & Associates until next month's meeting.

No representatives from the Duncannon Fire Co. were at tonight's meeting. Barry Schrope stated what was reported previously about the fire companies financial reports; the township contacted the fire company and had a meeting with them and showed them what the township came up with, and last Friday the Duncannon Fire Co. submitted their revised financial reports. Jim Fuller stated the question is the \$47,000. Jim stated they have requested for money out of their capital reserve account and he and Jeff Smith have concurred the township will not give the Duncannon Fire Co. any cash or a check, if the supervisors do anything they will submit payment to the debtor. Jim stated the \$47,000 needs to be corrected to the satisfaction of the supervisors. Vicki Jenkins stated they were requesting money to make a payment on the rescue pumper and were supposed to email the township with the amount they are requesting. Vicki stated she had not received that as of yet. Jim stated the supervisors are also looking to change the fire lines and looking for a 50/50 split between Duncannon Fire Co. and New Bloomfield Fire Co. Barry stated this is the last year he will vote to release donations to either New Bloomfield or Duncannon Fire Co. unless they include their fire relief monies in their income portion of their audit. Jim stated any income should be included in their audit and be shown where it went. Barry stated as far as the fire companies wanting more money; the only thing he came up with is if the township would have money left over at the end of the year the township could put a portion of that into their capital reserve account, but the township would need to finish in the black and the township needs to save money as well. Barry stated if anyone else has any other ideas to please let him know.

Agenda item #8 regarding the driveway ordinance was tabled until next month; there were still some questions and the supervisors will attend Tuesday's planning commission meeting.

A volunteer application has been received from Jeremiah Ferguson for the Township Planning Commission. Barry Schrope made a motion to appoint Jeremiah to finish out the remainder of Wayne Russell's term, Jeff Smith second the motion, Jim Fuller abstained. Jeremiah's term will expire December 31, 2018.

Barry Schrope advised the township sent a letter to the owner at 1581 New Bloomfield Road regarding cleaning up the property. The township has given the property owner a 30 day notice to clean up the property by June 8, 2018 to avoid official notice of a violation (citation) by the township solicitor. Vicki Jenkins will let Johanna Rehkamp know if the property has been cleaned up by June 8, 2018.

Correspondence has been received from Larson Design Group regarding the bridge replacement project (copy on file) on Creek Road in Penn Township. The bridge is slated to be replaced in 2020.

Lester Nace stated he was at the township office and saw someone out at the recycling center and observed him unloading stuff into the containers. Lester stated the guy indicated he was from Mahagnoy Road and told him that the containers are for Wheatfield Township residents only.

Vicki Jenkins reminded the supervisors of the Riverlands Safety Study meeting at Penn Township on June 11, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Jim Fuller thanked the volunteers who come out and help with recycling.

Barry Schrope made a motion to approve the checks from the General Fund for the month of May. They were as follows:

4144 – 4174, 050118, 050318A, 050318B, 04-2018 and 004-2018

Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

There being no further business Barry Schrope made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jeff Smith second the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins

Twp. Secretary