

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, December 2, 2019 in the Wheatfield Township Building. Barry Schrope called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Barry Schrope, Jim Fuller, Jeff Smith, Veronica Range, Lester Nace, Vicki Jenkins, Sue Flickinger, Luke Roman (Perry County Times), Dave Jenkins, Peter Thompson, Holly Potter and Kraig Nace.

Barry Schrope led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation given by Jim Fuller.

The minutes of the November 4, 2019 regular meeting and the November 21, 2019 budget workshop meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the Wheatfield Township Building prior to the December 2, 2019 regular meeting for public viewing. Jeff Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented by the secretary, Jim Fuller second the motion, Barry Schrope abstained (not at the meeting). Jeff Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the budget workshop meeting as presented by the secretary, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Kraig Nace of the Duncannon EMS stated they took delivery of the 2015 ambulance a couple weeks ago, the radio people were there to transfer/install the radios they already had and he has contact Noaker's about lettering the ambulance. They still need the Emergency Vehicle tag from PennDOT, get it fully equipped and do a good cleaning on it. Kraig advised the total delivered price was \$54,975 and that included \$1,975 for the installation of insta chains on it. Kraig stated Penn Twp. covered the balance (\$5,000) and they also increased next year's donation by \$10,000.

Jeff Smith presented the road master report for last month. Jeff stated the road crew finished up placing the soffit and flashing on the garage, cleaned up numerous trees from wind storms, had 60 ton of salt delivered, put plows and spreaders on the F550 and newer red dump, put speed limit signs up as to the speed studies that were done on Hunkey Hollow and Windy Hill, cut down an ash tree on Roseglen, changed the oil and fuel filter and replaced brakes and rotors on the F250 and got the bucket truck and chipper ready for use this year.

No representative from the Duncannon Fire Co. was in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Peter Thompson, President of Perry County Crime Stoppers, stated Crime Stoppers is a very effective organization and expressed his appreciation to Wheatfield Township for their continued support over the years and that Wheatfield is 1 of only 2 townships that continue to support their organization. The supervisors thanked Mr. Thompson for coming to the meeting tonight and giving a brief explanation of their organization and what they all do. Jim Fuller made a motion to release \$500 as budgeted as a donation to the Perry County Crime Stoppers, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Correspondence has been received from the New Bloomfield Fire Police requesting their distribution of the 2019 donation. Jim Fuller made a motion to release \$167 (1/3 of the donation amount) to the New Bloomfield Fire Police, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

The old salt shed replacement/repair was discussed again. The supervisors asked Vicki to contact the Camp Hill Boro and schedule a time to go and look at the pole building they are selling. Jim Fuller also advised he asked John Weldon to provide a quote on how much it would cost to repair the salt shed, the quote has been received.

Bids were received for the 2001 New Holland 615 5' disc mower. A total of 11 bids were received. The highest bid was received from Ken Fahnestock for \$555.00. Barry Schrope made a motion to accept the bid from Mr. Fahnestock, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Bids were received for the 1987 Ford L8000 dump truck. A total of 6 bids were received. The highest bid was received from Stephen Gross for \$1,800. Barry Schrope made a motion to accept the bid from Mr. Gross, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Jeff Smith made a motion for the days and time for township meetings to be as follows: monthly Board of Supervisors meetings will be held the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. with the exception for the month of September, September's meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, the Planning Commission will meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., with the exception for the month of September, September's meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, the Recreation Board will meet the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., the Zoning Hearing Board will hold their organizational meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. and the Auditors will hold their organizational meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 6:45 p.m., Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Meetings will be advertised as required by law.

The July 2020 recycling will be moved to June 27, 2020 due to the July 4th holiday.

Jeff Smith made a motion for taxes to remain at .199 on all real estate assessments, 1% on real estate transfer tax (.5% township, .5% school), and 1.8% on earned income tax (.5% township, 1.3% school), Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

The supervisors advised the 2020 budget has been prepared and advertised as required. Barry Schrope made a motion to adopt the 2020 budget as prepared and presented, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope stated in regards to the commercial property for sale on Mountain Road the township emailed the solicitor with some questions. Barry stated the property is currently not zoned commercial but has been commercial property for at least 50 years and has been being assessed for property taxes as a commercial property. Barry advised someone is interested in buying the property for light commercial use and the question was posed as to if they would have to go through a zoning variance or is the property grandfathered in because the business was there

prior to zoning in the township. Veronica Range, solicitor, advised the proposed buyer could not apply for the variance because they are not the current owner, the current owner would have to apply for the variance. Veronica asked if a certificate of non-conformance was every issued once the zoning went into effect? The supervisors stated there was not. Veronica advised this is what should happen now because it may affect the next sale because in our ordinance for non-conformance use it states that if it is going to be changed to the same character, which it sounds like it will be, it can be another lawful non-conforming use and she would recommend the zoning officer issue a certificate of non-compliance just so it's clear that's what it's being used as. Veronica said the current owner can request the certificate of non-compliance be issued on behalf of the proposed buyer and once the new owner takes possession a new certificate should be issued to them so the certificate is in their name. Lester Nace asked if during this process any restrictions could be put on the property. Veronica advised no, the only thing the township could fall back on is the language of our ordinance and that the property has to be substantially the same character. Veronica stated the certificate of non-conformance should alleviate the need for a zoning variance.

BIU has invited the township representatives to a holiday luncheon on December 12th at Zeiderelli's in Newport. Barry Schrope stated if anyone is interested in going let Vicki know so she may reply. Replies are due by December 6th.

Barry Schrope advised the township has received a copy of the New Bloomfield Firemen's Relief Association audit for the period of 1-1-16 to 12-31-18. The audit report contained 1 finding (copy on file).

The supervisors discussed the Census Bureau's request of possibly using the township building for a training center. The supervisor's state that would be fine if they wanted to use the township building but would encourage them to use the Duncannon EMS Building's training facility.

Lester Nace advised the township received a response to the letter sent to Mr. Kirk on Basin Hill regarding the complaint from several neighbors about a race track on his property. The supervisors asked Lester to contact Mr. Watts or Mr. Beers to see if they can contact the supervisors or him when it's happening again and they will go out and check it out. The supervisors also asked Vicki to contact the conservation office to see if they have going out and looked into the situation and the ground disturbance area.

Lester Nace advised he received a complaint about a barking dog on Mountain Road and has going out and spoken with the lady and she is trying to rectify the situation.

Vicki Jenkins advised the pavilions at Wagner Park were reserved 73 times this year.

Jim Fuller stated he has received a letter from the Perry County Commissioners appointing him to a 2 year term for the Tri County Regional Planning Commission.

Jeff Smith made a motion to approve the checks from the General Fund for the month of November. They were as follows:

4828 – 4860, 110419, 10-2019, 010-2019 and 110619

Barry Schrope second the motion to approve the checks, with all in favor.

There being no further business Jeff Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins
Twp. Secretary