

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Monday, December 7, 2020 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, Ron Legaspi, Lester Nace, Vicki Jenkins, Sue Flickinger, Holly Potter, Paul Krieger, Luke Roman (Perry County Times), Lt. Robert Ligon, David Mills, Kurt Hepschmidt and Kraig Nace.

Jim Fuller led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation given by Kurt Hepschmidt.

The minutes of the November 2, 2020 regular meeting and the November 19, 2020 budget workshop meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the Wheatfield Township Building prior to the December 7, 2020 regular meeting for public viewing. Jim Fuller made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and budget workshop as presented by the secretary, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Lt. Robert Ligon of the Station Commander of the Newport State Police Barracks reviewed the incidents in Wheatfield Township stating there have been 382 calls for service; 145 of those were criminal offenses, 3 DUI crashes and 24 total crashes, they have issued 48 citations. Lt. Ligon asked if there were any questions from anyone. Jim Fuller asked about the fellow that has been running over township road signs or taking them and why there were no charges filed against him. Lt. Ligon stated from what he was told there was not enough evidence to charge him. Jeff Smith and David Mills advised about vandalism at Wagner Park and Lt. Ligon stated he will ask his troopers to keep an eye on the park. The supervisors thanked Lt. Ligon for attending tonight's meeting and Kraig Nace and Lester Nace also commended Lt. Ligon for the fine group of troopers that are currently at the Newport Barracks.

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

Kurt Hepschmidt stated the township could use some more volunteers to help at recycling.

Kraig Nace of the Duncannon EMS presented the call numbers up to November. Kraig stated the call numbers are exactly the same number of calls as of November 30, 2019. Kraig advised they have received \$87,000 from the County to replace fundraising revenue that was through Cares Grant and received \$42,000 for lost call revenue replacement. Kraig stated they were denied for the hazard pay grant program. Kraig thanked the supervisors for their continued support.

Jeff Smith presented the road master report for last month. Jeff stated the road crew has dug some shale loose and filling in shoulders on Hunkey Hollow Road, hauled the final load of playground mulch to Wagner Park, took care of a small rockslide on Dellville Dam Road, took down some dead ash trees on Roseglen Road, filled in shoulders on Roseglen Road and took care of a couple trees that came down on Glutzshole Road.

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

Vicki Jenkins advised she has not received the 3rd qtr. financial reports yet from New Bloomfield Fire Co. and has their 3rd qtr. donation check printed and ready to mail to them. The supervisors asked Vicki to contact Justin again and remind him that we have not received the reports yet and that the check will not be mailed until the reports are received.

Jim Fuller made a motion to send Carl Hancock of Dellville Road a check for \$25.00 and a letter of appreciation for mowing the cemetery on Dellville Road and also send Jerry Deschenes of Dellville Road a letter of appreciation for also helping to mow the cemetery on Dellville Road and to also send Mutt Neumayer of Montebello Farm Road a letter of appreciation for mowing the cemetery on Montebello Farm Road, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller made a motion to appoint Tom Berry to the open position left by Bob Rhoades on the Township Planning Commission, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor. Tom will finish out the remainder of Bob's term which expires December 31, 2023. Vicki Jenkins will send a letter to Tom advising that he was appointed and when his term will end.

The issue of truck restrictions on Pine Hill Road was discussed again. The supervisors advised a letter has been received from Nina of Carroll Township stating she has been informed by a Rye Township employee that the application has been rescinded. The supervisors asked Vicki to contact Daisy Lightner of Rye Township and confirm the application to PennDOT has been rescinded for the truck restriction. The supervisors stated if the application has not been rescinded Wheatfield Township will send a letter to PennDOT stating we oppose the truck restrictions the same as Carroll Township has.

The supervisors advised the 2021 budget has been prepared and advertised as required. Jeff Smith stated he still doesn't like the amount for the one line item, the fire companies. Jeff stated he thinks before any more money is released the township should have clarification on the rumor that is going around regarding missing money. Jim Fuller stated there has been a treasurer change at the Duncannon Fire Co. and the rumor is that someone has borrowed some money from the funds. Kurt Hepschmidt stated he does not think it was from any tax money and from what he understands it was money from the boot drive and that the money has been returned. Jeff stated that is why he has a problem with it; no one has told the supervisors how much, how much was returned and how long this has been going on. Jeff stated he would just like clarification before any more money is released. Jim stated an explanation would nice and if any disciplinary action was taken. Kurt stated some of the stuff was taken care of and that's why there was a shift around in some of the leadership. Jim Fuller made a motion to adopt the 2021 budget as prepared and presented, Barry Schrope 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 months of July and September, July's meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 and September's meeting will be held on September 7, 2021, the Planning Commission will meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., 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 5, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. and the Auditors will hold their organizational meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 6:45 p.m., Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Meetings will be advertised as required by law.

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.

Jeff Smith stated he spoke with Jerry Spease regarding the GP11 permit for the work at Wagner Park and he indicated he is still working with Joe Burget on the permit. Jerry stated the bridge deck is over 2 feet above the 100 year flood plain and he believes the township does not need a GP11 permit and indicated he is in touch with DCNR to find out why the township needs to get a permit. Jerry told Jeff he would be in touch with him as soon as he found out something.

Jeff Smith asked the other supervisors if they are okay with the bill from Windview Truck and Trailer Repair to fix the F550 so that they could take a check up tomorrow and pick it up. Jeff advised Windview put the new motor in the F550 and had a problem with it, they sent it up to Sunbury Motors for warranty work and that got taken care of, Windview got it back and there was something wrong with the exhaust system and kept on throwing the truck into limp mode so they sent it back up to Sunbury Motors and they couldn't figure it out so it went back to Windview and they put on a new exhaust system and then they had to reprogram the truck to make everything communicate together. Jeff stated the cost of the repair came in about \$7,000 more than the estimate. The other supervisors asked Jeff to call Windview tomorrow and see if the price could be negotiated, if not what option would the township have. Jim Fuller made a motion to pay the bill, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Lester Nace stated the people that are looking to put a pet crematory in the township are also looking at 2 other sites in the township.

Lester Nace stated 2 young ladies from the township who decided they were going to take a CPR class together and they did that and the one who he doesn't know her name was on the way back from Harrisburg and stopped at Sheetz and there was a cardiac arrest there and she did CPR on the man until the fire company got there and used the automatic defibrillator on him and brought him around. Lester stated if anyone knows the young lady please let him or the EMS know because they would like to say thank you for what she did.

Jim Fuller stated he received a call from a Center Township supervisor regarding New Bloomfield EMS pressuring them to put a tax on for them that would generate approximately \$88,000. New Bloomfield EMS stated they would be out of business if they do not put on a tax. Jim stated the gentleman who called wanted to set up a meeting with the supervisors to discuss this. Jim stated he does not see a need for a meeting, our township does what we want to do and we are not putting a tax on. Kraig Nace stated they just received \$160,000 from the County Cares Funding grant for lost call revenue. Kraig stated New Bloomfield EMS has been out of service a lot so they have could not have a lot of lost call revenue; Kraig stated them being out of service is a violation of the rules and regulations of Act 37.

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

5227 – 5259, 110220, 010-2020, 10-2020 and 110520

Jim Fuller 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, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins
Twp. Secretary