

The regular meeting of the Wheatfield Township Supervisors was held Tuesday, July 5, 2022 in the Township Building. Barry Schrope called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Barry Schrope, Jim Fuller, Jeff Smith, Lester Nace, Sue Flickinger, Joe Burget Jr., Rhoda Barrick, Elijah Barrick, Paul Krieger, John Weldon, Kurt Hepschmidt and David Mills.

Jeff Smith led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation given by Kurt Hepschmidt.

The minutes of the June 6, 2022 regular meeting were presented to the supervisors and posted for attendees in the Township Building prior to the July 5, 2022 regular meeting for public viewing. Jeff Smith made the motion to approve the minutes as presented by the secretary, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Kurt Hepschmidt asked about the brush along Montebello Road. Jeff Smith stated he spoke with Mr. Norbeck and he will allow the Township to cutback a little bit.

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

Jeff Smith presented the Road Master report for the month of June. Jeff stated the road crew has finished the first round of mowing, weed wacked and sprayed around the guard rails and street signs, cut down some dead trees on Sherman Drive, had some wash outs again on Linton Hill Road and hauled 4 loads of shot rock, had the red dump truck inspected, had new tires put on the front of the tractor, removed some stumps on Roseglen Road to make it easier for mowing, hauled 2 loads of topsoil from the cemetery for the park, hauled a skid of sod for the park and have been mowing and trimming at the park and covered bridge once a week.

Jeff Smith stated he spoke to U.S. Municipal, MJR, Larry Noss and Martin Welding regarding the bed for the blue dump truck. Martin's said he was too busy to have it completed by November 1st, Larry Noss never got back to him, MJR was outrageous on their pricing (\$62,000) and U.S. Municipal gave a price for a stainless steel body they purchased 3 years ago to put on a chassis and the chassis got cancelled. The total price from U.S. Municipal for the bed, mounting and lighting came in at \$28,937. Jeff stated they also guaranteed him the Township would have it back by November 1st. Jeff advised the truck itself is in good shape; frame is in good shape, runs good and has approximately 38,000 miles on it. Jim Fuller made a motion to have U.S. Municipal replace the bed on the blue dump truck, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor.

Jeff Smith advised the new truck at U.S. Municipal is in the shop being built and should be sitting in the parking lot by the end of July.

Byron Worner of the Duncannon Fire Co. stated their rescue engine and tanker have had their state inspection and annual maintenance completed and the new brush truck is in service. Byron stated the 2nd qtr. report should be available in a couple weeks.

Joe Burget of Burget and Associates presented the Mitchell Final Minor Subdivision Plan. Joe stated the purpose of the plan is to subdivide an existing approximately 131 acre lot to create one new building lot with the residual land to remain as the existing building lot. Joe advised all comments from the planning commission have been addressed and they have recommended approval of the AOR's requested and the plan. The requested AOR's are 1 – Preliminary Plan Procedure, 2 – Preliminary Plat Specs and 3 – Steep Slopes. Barry Schrope made a motion to accept the AOR's as requested, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor. Jeff Smith made a motion to conditionally approve the plan as presented pending engineering fees being paid and DEP approval, Jim Fuller second the motion, with all in favor.

Barry Schrope stated he spoke with Cheri Matter at DCNR after the last meeting regarding the Wagner Park bridge project and she indicated they are working with other contractors and price negotiating. Barry stated all Cheri needs is a letter from our solicitor verifying the bid and terms of the DCNR grant. Barry indicated Jim Fuller spoke with Dave Wilson and he will take care of it and that Jim also spoke with John Weldon about a final itemized estimate for his price increase to submit to DCNR to keep the project moving. John Weldon presented a signed estimate to increase the price of the contract by \$5,000.00. Barry Schrope made a motion to approve the price increase of \$5,000.00 for the Wagner Park Bridge Project contract, Jim Fuller second the motion, Jeff Smith opposed.

Barry Schrope gave an update on the mailbox and signs issue on Montebello Farm Road. Barry stated the last he spoke to Vicki was last Thursday or Friday and at that point the 2nd certified letter sent was not picked up. Jim Fuller stated he checked the mailbox on Saturday and the green card from the certified letter has not been returned yet. Jim advised we are waiting to see if the letter is picked up and if not the Township will have the Constable serve it.

The Perry County Convention will be held September 10, 2022 this year at the Newport Fairgrounds. Vicki Jenkins will send out the invite and information to the committees and elected officials.

Correspondence has been received from the IRS regarding an increase to the mileage allowance due to rising gas prices. The new mileage rate will increase from 58.5 cents per mile to 62.5 cents per mile effective July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Barry Schrope made a motion to increase the IRS Standard mileage rate from 58.5 to 62.5 cents per mile, Jeff Smith second the motion, with all in favor.

Jim Fuller advised everyone the Dellville Road bridge replacement project; after Dellville Dam Road, is to begin July 11th and the road will be closed until approximately August 19th.

Barry Schrope stated a thank you letter has been received from Luanne Miller for doing a good job on mowing along the roads.

Jeff Smith stated he received a phone call from Randy Sylvester about recycling changing again. Jeff stated the current place where Randy takes the recyclables is not taking it anymore. Jeff stated the new change will be to have one dumpster for cardboard only and the other dumpster for plastic and newspaper; no antifreeze or oil jugs anymore.

Lester Nace stated a resident from the Township would like to be a wildlife rehabilitator. Lester advised there is nothing in the zoning books that cover this so he reached out to the Game Commission and they sent him some literature on wildlife rehabilitation. Lester stated he can prepare a letter stating the Township has nothing to prohibit this activity but we don't have anything that permits it either and if he or she decides they want to go through the whole series of work and become a rehabilitator that the Township reserves the right to find out the kind of operation they are going to have and the number of animals/pens they will have.

Lester Nace stated he has received 2 complaints regarding a big wide driveway on Narrows Road. Lester advised all the water from the driveway comes out and runs onto Narrows Road and the driveway is much wider than what the Township permits. Lester stated he sent a letter to the resident with a copy of the ordinance and the resident got back to him and wanted to know what they can do. Lester advised them to get someone to complete the application and get the sight distances measured and then rebuild the driveway the way it's supposed to be built.

Lester Nace stated at spring cleanup this year he was called about an electric wheel chair that came in. Lester stated he decided he was going to try and see what made this thing go and what made it not go and after a few calls he found someone to look at it and replace the batteries and now it runs great. Lester stated he offered it to Duncannon EMS and they said it will just sit there until someone would need it so they went to Perry County Emergency Council and they have not heard back from them as of yet. Lester stated he has also considered giving it to the United Cerebral Palsy; but his purpose tonight is to thank whoever called and left him the message about it and thank the supervisors for it and he hopes that someday somebody will make some use out of it and thank the Township for providing that and not sending it to the scrap yard. Lester stated it weighs more than 200 lbs. and that was the limit that could be taken and he had a figure in mind as to what it would cost to get the thing running again and if he would give what it cost to that figure would that be satisfactory to the Township. Barry Schrope stated he personally does not think Lester should give anything to the Township because it's going to someone in need. Lester stated he will make a donation to the Township or the park and hopefully the person who receives it will send a thank you.

Jim Fuller stated recycling was pretty busy on Saturday and all the plastic did not fit in to the one container so the extra was placed out back.

Jim Fuller stated Mrs. Bronson from Montebello Road contacted him about putting together a cleanup crew for Narrows Road.

Byron Worner of the Duncannon Fire Co. stated they would be closing on the property purchased in the Duncannon Borough sometime in the next couple weeks.

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

5871 – 5912, 060222, 005-2022, 060822 and 05-2022

Jeff Smith second the motion to approve the checks, with all in favor.

There being no further business Jim Fuller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Barry Schrope second the motion, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Jenkins
Twp. Secretary