

May 12, 2021
Lickdale, PA

The Union Township Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Wednesday May 12, 2021. The meeting was held at the Municipal Building, 3111 SR 72, Jonestown, PA.

Dennis Firestone called the meeting to order at 6:43PM.

Present:

Dennis Firestone, Chairman

Kerry McCrary, Vice Chairman

Gary Longenecker, Secretary

Brent McFeaters, Township Manager

Elizabeth Krause, Zoning Officer

Bryan Michael, Road Crew Supervisor (absent)

Paul Bametzreider, Township Solicitor & Atty. Andrew Race

Steve Sherk, Township Engineer

Seven (7) Residents

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPROVE BOS MEETING MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 14, 2021, MEETING

Gary Longenecker made a motion seconded by Kerry McCrary to approve the April 14, 2021, Board of Supervisors meeting minutes. All approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT -

Kerry McCrary made a motion seconded by Gary Longenecker to approve the Financial Report. All approved.

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP – DAVID WEISNICHT

Mr. Weisnicht did not attend the meeting

STATE POLICE – MONTHLY REPORT

Sgt. Matthew Kline introduced himself as the new Station Commander for Jonestown and reported on the number of incidents that occurred in Union Township noting that the number of vehicle crashes as of April 2021 have doubled as compared to 2020 but contributed the crashes to the harsher winter this year as compared to the previous winter. He also reported that the number of burglaries and DUI's have dropped so far in 2021 as compared to this time last year. Sgt. Kline said they have installed a new system with better tracking and to let him know if there is anything more specific the Township would like to be included in future reports.

Brent McFeaters, Township Manager said he has received several calls regarding speeding on SR 72 near the Bordnersville Road intersection and Herb Eckert said that when Supreme leaves out around 2:30 p.m. it is very chaotic with lots of people speeding and pulling out in front of traffic. Dennis Firestone added that even though the Township has

painted lines and installed no-parking signs, the Township has had a long-time issue with the trucks that park along Old Forge Road because they are throwing garbage into the nearby field and are also blocking half of the one travel lane. Sgt. Kline said he will investigate these problems and try to meet with Brent McFeaters, Township Manager to discuss those issues.

NORTHERN LEBANON FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (NLFES)

The report is available with handouts (only when provided by the NLFES)

LIFE LION AMBULANCE SERVICES

Monthly report is available with handouts (only when provided by Life Lion)

PLANNING COMMISSION – LIZ KRAUSE

Liz Krause said the Planning Commission did not have a meeting, but a 90-day time extension letter was received regarding a 90-day time extension for the Miller Bed & Breakfast Subdivision & Land Development Plan. Dennis Firestone made a motion seconded by Gary Longenecker to accept the 90-day time extension for the Miller Bed & Breakfast Land Development Plan. All approved.

ZONING OFFICER REPORT – LIZ KRAUSE

Liz Krause, Zoning Officer reported that ten (10) permits were issued totaling \$764.00, \$1,563.25 was received in Reimbursement of Fees and \$600.00 was received in Zoning Hearing Board Fees.

Case 21-04

On April 26, 2021, the Zoning Hearing Board denied the variance to Eunice Heist who petitioned the Zoning Hearing Board for a use variance to be allowed to reopen the existing garage at 51 Greenpoint School Road as a commercial garage and inspection station.

Case 21-05

Jason Propst has filed a Petition to the Zoning Hearing Board for a variance to the Lot Width requirements for Lot 3 on his proposed subdivision on his property located at 288 Ft. Swatara Road. The Hearing will be held on Monday, June 28, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

- On Monday May 3rd, we noticed that two of the five trailers were removed from the John & Linda Light property during the weekend of May 1st. Mr. Light called the office on May 3rd and said he wants to remove the remaining trailers and bring the property into compliance but said he needed more time. I told him, I did not have the authority to allow more time and this matter was part of a stipulation that is with the Court and our Attorney. He said he was going to contact Atty. Bametzreider regarding the matter. Yesterday, (May 11th) it appears that the foundation has been covered but Atty. Bametzreider noted that the foundation is only partially covered and three trailers have been removed but since the property is still has not been brought into compliance, Mr. Light has exceeded the April 30th deadline as

stipulated, and the Township is free to impose a lien or if the Township wants to get involved, the Township can clean up the property and put a lien on it. He noted that he can file an action for Contempt of Court. The Board agreed, that since the property has not been brought into compliance, Atty. Bametzreider should move forward with filing an action for Contempt of Court.

- Other than more trash on the property than before, there are no changes on the property at 15 Campmeeting Road. Atty. Bametzreider said he talked to the Sheriff at the end of last week who said he levied on the tires and other junk on the property. Brent McFeaters said he is getting prices to take the tires and it will cost \$7,000 for two weeks to rent a Track Ho. A discussion was held about how many tires can be hauled on a truck and possibly hauling four loads a day to Liverpool. Brent McFeaters said he thinks they can cut the price in half as compared to the prices quoted to clean up the property. Atty. Bametzreider said they will then sell 15 Campmeeting Road. Dennis Firestone said Atty. Bametzreider should proceed forward to get 15 Campmeeting Road and the Light property cleaned up and put a lien against the property.
- As reported previously, all but two unlicensed vehicles have been removed from the property at 97 Moonshine Road but there were two trailers in the rear of the property that were questionable as far as license/registrations. Atty. Race said he will verify that the two trailers are licensed. If the trailers are licensed, the property has been brought into compliance. Atty. Andrew Race said he has not heard back from the property owner's attorney as to whether the trailers on the property are licensed and Atty. Bametzreider said he feels the Township needs to push it further, and if they have the registrations, they should be produced; otherwise, he feels it should be pushed to the District Justice level. Dennis Firestone made a motion seconded by Gary Longenecker to move forward with 97 Moonshine Road.
- There was a little clean up done in the driveway at 47 White Tail Lane, but no other changes were noted. Atty. Bametzreider said they will be sending out a notice in the next week.
- It appears that two vehicles may have been removed from 239 Awol Road, but after a closer look at the property there are 11 uninspected vehicles and several piles of junk on the property. Atty. Bametzreider said a Complaint has been filed with the Court of Common Pleas and the Township is in a position to take default judgement with the Court and proceed with the enforcement phase. He added that they are making some progress with Mr. Gipe and will provide more information at next month's meeting.
- Samsung at 50 MSC Drive has cleaned up the trash on their property.
- Enforcement Notices were sent to the property owner of 12 Katie Lane and 3533 SR 72 regarding uncontained trash and garbage bags piled on the property. I was contacted by the property owner who has since brought the property into compliance.

- A certified letter was sent to the owner of 175 Moonshine Road regarding violations of the Nuisance Ordinance because of firewood that was scattered all over the front of the property and other miscellaneous items scattered throughout the property. A lengthy discussion was held regarding formal complaints and enforcement issues. Krause noted that she has been in contact with the property owner who has been working on bringing the property into compliance.

ENGINEERS REPORT – STEVE SHERK, TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

LAMAR SENSENIG POULTRY OPERATION LETTER OF CREDIT REDUCTION/TERMINATION

Since Steve Sherk reported that he has received the as-built plans, Dennis Firestone made a motion seconded by Gary Longenecker to release the remaining \$1,650.00 for the Lamar Sensenig Poultry Operation. All approved.

1. Ridge Road Culvert Replacement. We received DEP's review of the GP-11 application. Unlike previous projects, DEP is enforcing Title 25, Chapter 105.161(c) of the PA Code which requires the culvert to pass the 25-year design flow without a loss of stability. For previous projects permitted under the GP-11, DEP Southcentral did not strictly enforce this regulation provided the flow capacity was increased compared to the existing culvert being replaced. For this project, we were proposing to increase the culvert's flow capacity by 42% and reduce the roadway overtopping height by about 2 ½ inches. Unfortunately, this did not satisfy the DEP reviewer. Therefore, we are currently evaluating other culvert sizes to determine if we are able to pass the 25-year flow without having to raise the road's profile and significantly increase estimated construction costs.
2. Sand Siding Road (Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road (DGLVR) Grant. The Lebanon County Conservation District Board awarded the Township a Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road (DGLVR) grant in the amount of \$175,000 for improvements to Sand Siding Road. The grant will fund the materials, equipment and labor needed to construct a new culvert and raise the road's profile. The grant also includes the replacement of three smaller culverts crossing the roadway.
We received GP-11 permit approval from DEP at the end of last month. We are currently preparing bid documents for a June 9th bid opening.

As reported last month, we received an updated CoStars price quote for purchase of the ASP arch culvert (including headwalls and wingwalls) and design of the footers from Lane Enterprises in the amount of \$31,363.20. This price is more than \$5,000 higher than last October's quote of \$26,158.50. We recommend the Township purchase the culvert directly from the manufacturer to avoid the contractor's typical markup. However, we advise the Township to wait to sign the purchase order until after the DEP GP-11 permit is issued and construction bids are received. That way the Township can still opt out of the project if the overall project costs exceed the budgeted amount. The footer design and

shop drawings were received from Lane Enterprises since last meeting. The cost of the footer design and shop drawings was \$4,500.

3. 2021 Paving and Oil & Chip Contracts. We received the required performance bond, payment bond, and certificate of liability insurance for the paving contract from E.K. Services and the contract has been executed by both the contractor and the Township. We are still waiting for the same from Russell Standard for the oil & chip contract. The work schedule has not been established for either contract. All work is required to be completed by June 30th for both contracts.
4. Streambank Erosion at 16 Ridge Road. Brent and I visited Glen and Patricia Gray's property at 16 Ridge Road on Monday, April 26. I observed the stream which flows north to south behind the Gray's home. There appears to be some evidence of streambank erosion, but I was not able to determine the precise cause of the erosion or how far the stream may have shifted towards the home over the years based on field observations alone. I also reviewed the 1947, 1969 and 1999 USGS topographic maps for the area which include Green Point and Ridge Road. The 1947 map does not illustrate a stream or pond on the west side of Ridge Road behind the Gray's home, but the shape of the contour lines suggests that all the drainage from the road and mountainside flowed down the west side of the road. Nothing on the 1947 map suggests there was any type of stream or swale on the east side of the road. The 1969 and 1999 maps clearly show the stream flowing down the west side of the road behind Gray's house.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – PAUL BAMETZREIDER

Attorney Bametzreider said that the Public Hearing for the Zoning Ordinance amendment to eliminate the 500' setback requirement for intensive animal husbandry buildings will be advertised to be adopted at the June meeting.

STRIFEL INVESTMENT SERVICE – PFM BONDING/LOAN INFORMATION FOR SEWER PLANT AND TOWNSHIP BUILDING

Atty. Bametzreider said he and Brent McFeaters, Township Manager were in a conference call with PFM regarding the Township's bond issue which would be eligible for refinancing in July. He added that although the rate could fluctuate, it is projected that the Township could save approximately \$114,000 if they refund the bond issue which could be available to close August 17th. Brent McFeaters said PFM will attend the June meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – NONE

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

OTHER COMMENTS

Helen Light who referred to the previous month's bills asked why the Township paid for an employee's CDL license. Brent McFeaters explained that, because of his age, Herb Eckert needs a stress test every year which costs \$5,000.00. Herb had to change the test from the end of the year to the beginning of the year so he could get his license which the Board agreed to pay, but his insurance covered the cost of the stress test, so the Board elected to pay his CDL license.

Kerry McCrary asked for an update on the Recycling Center and Brent McFeaters said that so far, 230 Union Township residents have purchased the cards and it seems to be working really well. Herb Eckert said he has been taking about two bins a week for recycling and noted that he is finding very little trash in the bins.

Glenn Rudy asked if it was legal for Mr. Vavel to get solar panels on his house when there is a lien against the property. Atty. Bametzreider said it is legal for him to do so since it is still his property.

BILLS PAYABLE

Dennis Firestone made a motion seconded by Gary Longenecker to pay the bills in the amount of \$182,388.10 from the General, Recycling, Liquid Fuels Street-Light, & Payroll Funds. All approved.

DATE OF NEXT PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, June 2, 2021- 7:00 PM

DATE OF NEXT LICKDALE TREATMENT PLANT MEETING

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 - 6:30 PM

DATE OF NEXT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 - immediately following the Lickdale Sewer Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business or comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Krause
Recording Secretary