

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SEPTEMBER 5, 2006

The Regular Monthly meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by Chairman Beers, with Supervisor Drake in attendance. Vice Chairman Kresge was not present. Solicitor Dunn was also in attendance. Chairman Beers led those present in pledging allegiance to the flag

MINUTES AND TREASURER 'S REPORT-A motion was made by Chairman Beers to approve the minutes of the August 7th Regular meeting and the Treasurer's report as presented The motion was seconded by Supervisor Drake and carried

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-Ms. Jean Barrett Ortiz was present of behalf of the Pa. Environmental Council who gave a power point presentation concerning forming an Environmental Advisory Council in municipalities or multi municipal EAC 's. She discussed the most recent one that was formed in Lehigh County to protect watershed resources. The group is usually made up of Township residents who advise the Supervisors on natural resource issues. They are an advisory board that is formed to address what each municipality determines they have a need for. She explained how many have formed and many of the duties of each. She discussed the Kittatiny Ridge and the value of the scenic beauty, bird migration, economic value, hiking, watershed protection, drinking water protection as well as the threat of it being developed She reviewed the Audubon Society 's part in the preservation, education, monitoring, etc. of these sensitive areas. She stressed the importance of the EAC working together with Township officials either by municipality or inter-municipal. Bill Sweeney, a Township resident commented by slating that he thinks these EAC 'S are a great idea and especially for local natural resources accounting. He added that he would be interested in assisting the Township in this regard Solicitor Dunn asked if the group Ms. Ortiz represents was formed by the Pennsylvania Legislature and Ms. Ortiz said no the group she works for known as the Pa. Environmental Council is a non-profit group not affiliated with the Legislature. She went on to say the Legislature did not create the group she works for but passed legislation allowing municipalities to form EAC 's.

Alan Fowler, a resident of Rossmor Drive spoke about the 911 system that will create each house to have a street and number. He stated that he is currently the director of communications of Northampton County and is familiar with addressing systems. He added that his address has changed three times and the next one (for the new 911) will be four times and suggested that the lot numbers be used for addressing purposes. Such as 11, 12, 13, etc. Rossmor Dr.. Mr. Fowler offered compliments to the road work that is done and especially for the current repaving work and indicated he is having a runoff from the road down his driveway. Chairman Beers noted that Mr. Fowler could arrange to meet with the Road Foreman (who was in the audience) to discuss the matter. He added that he will also be available for any help he can provide with the 911 addressing project.

Gary Embich introduced himself in response to our newsletter request for a local artist who would like to display some art work in the meeting room in place of some paintings that have been removed by George Kitchens family. He showed some samples of his work and the Supervisors were in favor of him adding them to the empty hooks that are around the room.

PLANS-Bob Beers discussed the Simer Lowe subdivision plan and indicated that he could not find a plan that had a slope easement on it and therefore did not know exactly what the

Supervisors needed There seemed to be confusion about whether there would be language on the plan or a easement shown on the plan. It was determined that there is to be no building on land that has a slope of 25% or more and it should be shown on the plan. Bob Beers indicated that he would put the necessary note on the plan and he would present it to John Dunn for his approval. The plan had conditional approval from last month.

Arsha Vidya Gurukulam was next and Robert Maskrey their Attorney spoke about the outstanding items with Amit Murkerjee (AVG Engineer) most of which were earthwork items, pavement unit prices, sanitary sewer costs, water line costs and extension of the water system, safety fences. Solicitor Dunn stated that he spoke to Russ Kresge, Township Engineer earlier that day and he indicated the amount to be posted for the development agreement is o.k but that the sanitary sewer costs cannot be verified because the total system costs have not been provided and the planning module is not yet approved Solicitor Dunn said ~f any of the cost estimates are up the agreement can be amended and after speaking to Russ Kresge he added if an improvement is not right the development will not proceed to the next improvement. Mr. Murkerjee added that there is no plan to develop the balance of the land (30 acres) and the AVG is willing to agree to an 8 year moratorium to develop. Mr. Chabbara said the AVG will donate \$3, 000 annually to the Open Space Program for the next 5 years. Additionally, no logging will be permitted and they will be leaving as many trees as possible. Chairman Beers discussed the developers agreement should include a provision whereby none of the visitors to the AVG are permanent residents or have anyone attending the local schools. A motion was made by Supervisor Drake to grant conditional approval with the following conditions:

1. If and when the sewer planning module is approved and if the cost is greater than the bond will be increased accordingly;
2. There will be an eight year moratorium on development of the adjoining property along Faulstick Rd;
3. The Township accepts the willingness of a written agreement by the applicant to donate \$3,000 annually for 5 years to the Open Space & Recreation Fund;
4. No logging to be done on the premises;
5. Changes to be made to the developer's agreement to be approved by Solicitor Dunn.
6. Approval of the sewer planning module. The motion was seconded by Chairman

Beers and carried

A time extension was granted, as requested and recommended by the Planning Commission for the Detrick sub division until November 7, 2006 on motion by Chairman Beers, seconded by Supervisor Drake and carried

OLD BUSINESS-Chairman Beers discussed Ordinance #65 which ordinance approves the agreement for the West End Park and Recreation Commission. A motion was made by Supervisor Drake, seconded by Chairman Beers to adopt this Ordinance. The motion carried Both the Ordinance and agreement can be signed

The parking lot lighting was discussed and material was received from Gary Chrvla with ideas on what can be done. It was determined that one light would be put on a photocell and the other would be controlled with a switch in the building if it is cost effective. Additionally, a flag light, sign light, provisions for Veterans Memorial and additional "raceways "for the park parking lot should be included in the estimate.

Regarding the construction of the park parking lot, discussion revolved around three proposals received two of which were over \$10,000.00 and one came in at \$9, 750.00. A motion was

made by Supervisor Drake to accept the proposal from JRD Construction with a price of \$9,750.00 to commence work immediately. The motion was seconded by Chairman Beers and carried.

NEW BUSINESS-A Resolution #143 was reviewed and formulated for an Eagle Scout who is Derek McHugh. A motion was made by Supervisor Drake, seconded by Chairman Beers to adopt this Resolution and present 1110 Derek

A memo from the Planning Commission was next on the agenda which concerned a recommendation to change wording in Section 504B from "Township Engineer" to Board of Supervisors and/or Zoning. Some discussion took place about this matter pointing in the direction that this matter should be something addressed by the Engineer. Solicitor Dunn mentioned revisiting this request when the new stormwater regulations are completed or being worked on which may or may not address this situation. It was determined that the Secretary should contact Russ Kresge for clarification on this issue.

A motion was made and seconded to designate the Secretary as the agent for FEMA applications.

A question arose from the Secretary regarding what is necessary regarding bids for fuel since in the past 3-4 years we have not received any bids for our fuel needs. The Solicitor indicated he would look into what must be done and advise.

Chairman Beers noted receipt of a letter of resignation, just received, from John Kochis Township Zoning/Codes Officer effective September 12th. A motion was made by Chairman Beers to accept, with deep regret, this resignation. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Drake and carried. A motion was made by Chairman Beers to appoint Gerald Kyle as Zoning Officer on a temporary basis. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Drake and carried.

Discussion took place concerning a Budgeting seminar for Comprehensive Plan work and she indicated she would attend and anyone from the Planning Commission would be welcome to attend. It is scheduled for Sept. 27th at the Monroe County Conservation District. Frank Piraino suggested contacting the members of the Planning Commission to see if they would like to attend.

A notice from Monroe County Township Officials was received and they have a meeting scheduled for November 9th at Stroud Township Municipal Building. November 17th is the annual dinner at Stroudsmoor.

ROAD FOREMAN REPORT- Chairman Beers asked about the tree removal estimate and the tree to be removed on Meixell Valley Rd includes stump grinding, and a tree on Young Rd was added to the one that is already on the list. Chairman Beers said there is a huge limb on Mountain Rd near the one that broke off in the Spring that needs help. The Road Foreman suggested discussing it with Tighe Scott.

The Road Foreman discussed the line painting indicating that the COG bid recipient is not performing the contract as it was bid. The Road Foreman said all the municipalities involved are not able to get scheduling or call backs. It was determined that the Road Foreman should get three proposals in order to arrive at another lowest responsible contractor adding that we don't necessarily have to go with COG.

A gentleman was present who was looking for approval for the Sarah Jones sub division from the Supervisors. The Secretary indicated that the Planning Commission tabled the plan until September's meeting since no one was present at the August Planning Commission meeting. The gentleman seemed confused and it was decided that he should be present at the September Planning Commission meeting to continue the submission process.

After a review of the receipts and expenditures a motion was made by Supervisor Drake, seconded by Chairman Beers to pay the bills as presented

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Price, Secretary