Typed: October 21st, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held Thursday, September 26th, 2013 at 6:30 PM at the Township Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting were the following: Joyce Cutler, Bob Ryan, Sharon Wentz, Tina Skibiel, Chris Ternowchek, and James Wentz.

Chairman James D. Thomas called the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Jim states that the August 2013 meeting minutes at your seats. Please review them and inform the Board by the end of this meeting if you feel there are changes necessary. Jim asked for a motion to accept the August 2013 minutes as typed. John makes the motion. Mike seconds. Motion passed.


Evelyn J. Bergan – Administrative Assistant; present.

Cass Township Police Department – Officer Gerard Daley; present.

Audience Discussion: Please raise your hand; state your name & address for the record.

Jim opens the floor to the audience for questions and comments...

Chris Ternowchek, Flag Lane – States that on or about the 15th of September, she saw a truck in the municipal yard loading up pipes and asked if they were free for the taking. She also asked where the old backhoe is, and questioned when installation of the pipe on Low Road is going to take place.

Joyce Cutler, Oak Lane – Asked John Walaitis when the job on Condor Lane will be completed since the pipes have been sitting on site for a month and the residents in that area are angry that it's not getting done. She stated that (3) people have recently came to her and told her that there is no work getting done because the Township is broke! She also had additional complaints about the ongoing feral cat problems that she is still dealing with at her residence.

Chris and Joyce both stated that the Township road-crew is constantly (every day) sitting at Ponches' garage for long breaks and lunches.

Chris Ternowchek, Flag Lane – asks why stone (instead of macadam) had to be used to repair the swale on Woodside. This leads into a conversation among the Board and Audience where it was explained that when a grant is received by the State or Federal Government, the recipient (in this
case, the Township) needs to comply with the exact requirements of the grant – or the funding will not be awarded – or it will need to be paid back if the grant criteria is not satisfied as it was initially agreed upon. The Woodside swale had to be replaced to its original state because the Township was instructed to do it that way. This same idea follows through with any grant funding...PEMA/FEMA; CDBG for playground improvements; Line Avenue Culvert Replacement, etc.

Hearing nothing further, Jim concludes the audience discussion and moves on to the items on the agenda for this evening.

**Trick-or-Treat Night – Thursday, October 31st:** Jim explains that in years past, we have always followed Minersville; however, this year they are having Trick-or-Treat on Sunday, October 27th (5 to 7 pm) and then a parade at 8 p.m. The Board has discussed the issue and decided that we will have our Trick-or-Treat night on Thursday, October 31st (6 to 8 pm). This will afford the Community better police coverage while the kids and parents are out going door to door. Foster Township, in addition to other municipalities, has decided to have theirs on 10/31 as well. Jim asks for a motion to approve the date/time for Trick-or-Treat Night as discussed. Mike makes the motion. John seconds. Motion passed.

**Person(s) with Disability Parking Sign Request:** Jim explains that the Board was approached with a rare request to grant a resident a parking sign for a person with a disability at the location in front of their residence. Jim states that a request of this nature doesn’t usually occur within a Township – it’s more necessary in a city/borough setting; however, the resident has a valid disability/handicap card; there will be no cost to the Township for the sign & installation as the resident has agreed to pay the full amount of the charge ($75.00); and it has been explained that any person with a disability will be able to park in the designated area. The resident is in agreement with the terms. Jim asked for a motion to approve this request as discussed. John made the motion. Mike seconds. Motion passed.

**Planning Commission Appointment to Fill Vacancy /Barb Reichert term expiration 2017:** Jim explains that since the Board accepted the resignation of Tina Skibiel from the Planning Commission, it is necessary for the Board to appoint another member. The Board would like to appoint Barb Reichert to fill the vacancy. Jim asked for a motion to appoint Barb – with her term to expire in the year 2017. Mike makes the motion. John seconds. Motion passed.

**Mortgage Satisfaction from Home Program / Shirley Eister - 17 High Rd:** Jim explains that this residence (owned by Shirley Eister) was the recipient of improvements through the HOME Program. Shirley has recently passed away and the family would like to sell the home. The necessary obligation by the HOME Program has been satisfied and the Board was asked by our Solicitor to execute the paperwork to sign-off on the lien that is listed at the courthouse in the amount of $14,817.00. Jim asked for a motion to sign the mortgage satisfaction paperwork. Mike made the motion. John seconds. Motion passed.

**Application for Payment for Lighting Project at Heckscherville Playground - $21,869.39:** Jim explains that we have received a request for payment from J.B. Electric Corp. in the amount of $21,869.39. There is an issue with a timer that needs to be replaced so J.B. will return to complete that item when the parts arrive. It is our engineer’s recommendation to pay the requested amount and the Board is in favor. Jim asked for a motion to approve payment in the amount of $21,869.39. Mike makes the motion. John seconds. Motion passed.

**Planning Commission** – There was no September meeting. There are no submissions.
Treasurer’s Report – Mike read the Treasurer’s Report. Jim made a motion to approve the report as read and to pay all outstanding bills. John seconds. Motion passed.
* Reports are on file in the Municipal Office for review.

SUPERVISOR’S NOTE:
Jim responds to the comments that are circulating in the public regarding the Township being “broke” stating in his opinion the comments have been politically motivated -- since the numbers that are printed on the Treasurer’s Reports presented at each and every meeting (as well as the Annual Audit Report) show the funds that are in the Township’s possession. It is apparent that there is a clear misunderstanding among a few individuals. John adds that because the Board is frugal with spending and has to follow a budget, it does not mean that the Township is broke. Evelyn acknowledges there was a time when the Township had little to nothing; however, we are proud to say that we are in a better place than in years past. Jim clarifies that as is discussed at all of our meetings, most of our large projects are fully funded by grant awards (Woodside Swale Replacement, Several Woodside Storm Water projects, Line Avenue Culvert Replacement, etc.); however, some improvements (like the playgrounds) are funded by partial grant awards and as per their criteria, the Township must match funds in order to receive funds.

Police Report – Officer Gerry Daley reads the September 2013 report. Jim asks for a motion to accept the September report as read. John makes the motion. Mike seconds. Motion passed.
*Reports are on file in the Police Department for review.

Correspondence –

Schuylkill County Clean-up: Jim explains the County clean-up is taking place this week in Minersville Borough (570-544-2149). The last day is Saturday 8am - noon. Residents are urged to take advantage of the clean-up.

Road Foreman Report – Jim explains that this report is being added to the agenda/meeting to give a summary of work that is being done during the month by the Road Crew. John read the report. Jim makes a motion to accept the report. Mike seconds. Motion passed.
*Reports are on file in the Municipal Office for review.

OLD / NEW Business – Jim gives an overview of the engineer’s report – stating all projects are moving forward. The income surveys necessary to apply for the Cherry Valley Waterline Grant have all been completed and submitted. We are hopeful that we’ll be awarded funds for that project. Jim states that Kyle Kehoe continues to work on permitting and code enforcement issues, as well as, property maintenance. Chris Madera is handling registration and inspections for rental properties.

With no further business at hand, Jim asks for a motion to adjourn. Mike makes the motion. John seconds. Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Time Meeting Adjourned: 7:07 p.m.  

ATTEST: James D. Thomas, Chairman
Time of Adjournment: 7:07 PM

ATTEST: C. Michael Kulpavage, Vice-Chairman
Time of Adjournment: 7:07 PM
The next regular Supervisor’s Meeting of the Township of Cass will be held on Tuesday, November 26th, 2013 @ 6:30 PM at the Cass Township Municipal Building.

*NOTE THE CHANGE IN MEETING DATE DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY*