Typed: February 24, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of supervisors of Cass Township was held

Thursday, January 29, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Township municipal building, Duncott PA

Present at the meeting were the following: Tom Graydus, Joseph Smulley, Gary Renninger, Joe Kowalchick, Anne Marie Cason, Eugene Cason, Mike Sorokach, Renee Sorokach, Karen Smulley, Steve Smulley, Tom Krupo, Sharon Wentz, Robert Wentz, John Kellman Jr., Andy Studlack, Bob Ryan, Debbie Klotunowitch, Nancy Walaitis, Lynn Schies, John Pritz, Mary Lou Bergan, Vince Purcell, Chris Ternowcheck, Elvin Brennan Jr., Denice Brennan, Tina Skibiel, Steve Skibiel, Joyce Cutler, James Thomas, Brian Canfield, Robert Wentz Jr., Jake Smulley, Theresa Walsh

Chairman John M. Walaitis called the meeting to order

All recited the Pledge of allegiance to the flag

Roll Call of Officers: Mike Kulp Cavage-present, James Wentz-present, John Walaitis-present

Edward M. Brennan, Solicitor – present, Evelyn J. Bergan Township Manager-Absent

Richard C. Clink, Cass township chief of police-present

John Walaitis states the December 2014 supervisors meeting minutes are at each seat and calls for a motion to dispense reading the minutes and accept as printed if there are no corrections or omissions James Wentz makes the motion Mike Kulp Cavage seconds

Audience Discussion: Please raise your hand and state your name and address for the record

Lynn Schies, Forestville: Presents a petition to the board requesting that the township manager ordinance be rescinded. Stating that it was enacted in violation of the sunshine law. She is only a secretary. Discussion between board members and audience ensues. Debbie Klotunowitch states, "That's an insult". The board agrees. Lynn then asks, What degree does she hold? Debbie states, "She has 12 yrs. experience working for the township." Attorney Brennan intercedes and states by law we are required to allow time for public comment, however it is not for public debate. Only reasonable public comment.

Tom Graydus, Jonestown: The appointment was made in violation of the sunshine act. And he objected to it at the meeting. And asks what is being done about his objection. Attorney Brennan asks if that is your comment. Tom says it was a question. Attorney Brennan states it was done legally, you made your comment I disagree

Sharon Wentz, Low Road: Asks if we have received the letter from the concerned citizens group and have it on file? Attorney Brennan states we have it and just because your lawyer thinks it was not done properly that does not mean it is so. It is not his call to make.

Steve Skibiel, Pine knot: States we need to stick to core issues. And years ago two men started together to move this township forward into the 21st century with the politics and business to
move it forward. They hired a secretary, and after 12 years, they taught her and she’s efficient, now they ask what degrees she has, what paper work? It’s the working people that do the jobs. My point is, she is efficient, if she wasn’t she would have been gone long ago. She then started to take on more work load because certain people didn’t know how to do it or didn’t want to do it. Well then, what the hell are you doing here and why did you run for office? He also states that her questioning something is part of her job and protocol. And the bottom line is we have an efficient women and we have a rail moving Cass Township forward. Now we’re going backwards and think about this ladies, they want to get rid of a working single mother with 3 children who does her job. That’s the bottom line. Listen to the facts and stick to the facts.

Robert Wentz, Low road: states that the Branch Township secretary works four days a week, four hours a day and makes $13.25 pr/hr. and asks why our township has so much more work than Branch? John Walaitis states the average pay for administrative assistant for townships of 1000-2000 people is $19.41 and the median income for township manager is fifty thousand. Robert Wentz then asks, then Branch isn’t paying their secretary enough? John replies, No. Mr. Wentz asks why do we need a manager? At that point, a resident in the audience stated, "because someone isn’t doing their job." John agrees. Loud discussion between board and audience ensues.

Joe Smulley: Comments that Mr. Skibiel was good and he appreciates it. He then states that the petition was not to eliminate her job, but to follow proper procedure. And the job should have been put out for bids for anyone that wanted the job.

Chris Ternowchek: States I’ve been coming to these meetings for over thirty years. And now we have all this money and we are going to have a new building, new garages and a high paid secretary. For what? Nothing has changed. John Walaitis states she is not a secretary and her work load has doubled. Chris then says excuse me, a manager. James Wentz asks why give her more work as a manager? Mike Kulpcavage states, because she’s capable. James asks, If she needs help why give her more work? She told me she needs help.

Tina Skibiel, Pine Knott: Comments on Mr. Smulleys statement about putting the manager/secertary job out on bids. And asks if the job would have to be put out on bids every four years? People get a job and work till they retire or go somewhere else. That’s unrealistic. Mike states “her longevity on the job speaks for itself.”

Elvin Brennan, Forestville: Asks if it was $19hr. with insurance? John Walaitis states that is probably with the perks and that’s out of 120 different townships and the high end of it would be $35.88. Elvin responds a lot of people would jump at that job for $35 an hr. I’m only getting $34 per hr. on construction.

Bev Hutzel: Asks where are we getting the money for the new building? John Walaitis states we have applications in to RUS. Bev asks do you realize that is federal money and you will need an environmental review and how much that costs, and how long it takes. Attorney Brennan states that is not our information. Bev states usda dollars are costly and time consuming. And it is up to you elected officials to look out for your constituents and not take on that expense. John Walaitis states we will not take on that expense, we anticipate funding.
Theresa Walsh, Forestville: States, I agree with this gentleman (Steve Skibiel). Move forward. I approve of the new building. I don’t think trucks should be worked on under a school or the police force should work in a filthy basement, no arguments from me. Theresa asks if we know what this building is going to cost? What the architect is getting paid, what the engineers are getting paid? Don’t make people file a right to know. Mike Kulpcavage asks, which right to know are you talking about? Mike states, the architect fees have been talked about at the meetings and the other costs have to be calculated, and we can’t give you a true number until we have all the numbers ourselves. She then suggests someone should give a breakdown at the monthly meeting.

Debbie Klotunowitch, Jonestown: Asks how she would like this information distributed?

John Pritz, High road: States you are paying 25 thousand to high ridge for road maintenance. The board disagrees. John asks how much of the road is in Cass Township. Attorney Brennan asks if he is referring to the article in the paper about the NID agreement for the care of the road. Brian Canfield (SCIDA Board member) intercedes and explains the situation to Mr. Pritz and asks him to contact him later for further discussion.

John Pritz then asks if the township citizens have the right to initiative and referendum. Attorney Brennan asks what referendum? John states not to build the new building. Attorney Brennan states he will get back to him, but Mr. Smulley watches his invoices and he will have to see how much the request will cost. Mike Kulpcavage asks Joe Smulley, if the township should bill John Pritz for asking Attorney Brennan for information?

Mr. Smulley comments he has a question. John Walaitis states you had a question. Attorney Brennan states we are done and advises the board to move on. Mr. Graydus objects. Mr. Smulley objects to this meeting, stating it is a violation of the sunshine code.

Elvin Brennan: States to Mike, you told the lady over there (pointing), on this paper (holding the monthly summary in hand), it would be where the money is and how much money is going on this new building. Mike Kulpcavage states, yes I did. I told her Januarys report and if you look at the upper left hand corner, you’ll see this is December 2014 Report. Elvin states, you said it would be on January’s report. Mike states, this is December report, that’s what I’m telling you. This is not Januarys report. Tom Gradus asks, Where’s Januarys report??? Mike states, at next months meeting.

Mike Kulpcavage: Asks Brian Canfield to make a statement regarding Evelyn’s work load here at the township. James Thomas states no one knows what she does here. They may think they do but they have no idea. He states Brian trained her. Mrs. Wentz states Brian was a consultant for two years. Thomas agrees, Mrs. Wentz asks if he was being paid to do her work. James Thomas asks what do you know. And states Shut up and just sit there.

John Walaitis calls order and closes comments. Mr. Graydus objects, Mr. Smulley objects. John Walaitis tells Mr. Smulley to sit down and has him removed from the meeting for being disruptive. Chairman Walaitis closes discussion and moves to agenda items. Tom Graydus objects to the way this meeting is being run. John Walaitis states he can leave to. Attorney Brennan states you cannot interrupt the meeting after discussion is closed.
Resignation: Officer Levans resignation as of 12/31/14. Chairman asks for motion to accept. Mike Kulpcavage makes motion James Wentz seconds.

Ordinance #2015-0129: Cass Township Health Insurance Cooperative Trust Ordinance. John Walaitis states it is for insurance for all employees on the payroll and call for a motion to enact. Mike Kulpcavage makes the motion James Wentz seconds.

Purchase of 2015 GMC Truck: Reading from a quote provided by Mike Kulpcavage, James states the total price after a $10,000.00 down payment from the township the balance will be $24,102.26. John Walaitis asks for a motion. James Wentz makes motion Mike Kulpcavage seconds.

Planning Commission Vacancy: One letter of interest was received from Mike Stone. Mike Kulpcavage makes a motion to appoint. James Wentz seconds. Term to expire December 2019

Authorize Alfred Benesch: Advertise Bids for the Condors Complex Township Building. Mike Kulpcavage makes the motion John Walaitis seconds. Roll call vote Mike Kulpcavage Aye, John Walaitis aye, James Wentz Ney. Motion passes

Planning commission: No Report

Treasures report: Mike Kulpcavage reads his report, John Walaitis makes motion to accept report as read and pay all outstanding bills as can be paid. James Wentz seconds.

Municipal Authority Report: No meeting, John Walaitis states the deeds are prepared and are ready for transfer for anyone involved with Amanda Lane subdivision.

Police Report: Chief Richard Clink reads his report, Mike Kulpcavage makes motion to accept as read, James Wentz Seconds

Correspondence: No correspondence this month

Road Foreman’s report: James Wentz begins by stating that he has no issue with the township secretary. However he is concerned that if she has too much work now promoting her to township manager will not help that issue, it will only increase the work load and liability. James then reads his report. Mike makes motion to accept report as read James Wentz seconds.

Old/new Business: None

After no further business John Walaitis asks for a motion to adjourn. Mike Kulpcavage makes motion James Wentz seconds.

Time Meeting Adjourned: 7:17pm
Attest: Mike Kulpcavage, Vice-Chairman
Time of adjournment: 7:17pm

Attest: James Wentz, Assistant Secretary
Time of adjournment: 7:17pm

The next monthly Cass Township Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday February 26, 2015 at 6:30 in the Cass Township Municipal building.