Typed: July 11th, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Thursday, June 30th, 2016 at the Township's Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting were: Ann Marie Studlack, Sharon Wentz, Mary Lou Bergan, Chris Ternowchek, Tom Graydus, Marian Twigg, Richard Twigg, Bob Ryan, and Pete Ricigliano.

Chairman James A. Wentz called the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call of Officers:


Also in attendance were:

Donald G. Karpowich, Solicitor – present.

Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary / Manager – present.

William J. Kattner, Patrolman, CTPD – present.

James states that the minutes from the May 26th, 2016 Board of Supervisor’s Meeting have been placed at each seat and makes a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes and to accept as printed if there are no corrections or omissions. Elvin seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous favorable vote.

James calls for discussion from the audience. Hearing nothing, James moves onto the items on the agenda.

Public Comment on No Parking Ordinance as advertised in the newspaper – Solicitor Karpowich explains a No Parking Ordinance was advertised which prohibits the parking of motor vehicles at all times on both sides of the North Fifth Street (Cass Township section) and on both sides of Field Road. This Ordinance can be enforced by the Cass Township Code Enforcement Officer and Cass Township Police Officers. Fines are $25.00 plus court costs. He states that the adoption of this Ordinance was recommended by the Cass Township Police Department. James makes a motion to adopt the No Parking Ordinance as explained. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Public Comment on Property Maintenance Ordinance Amendments as advertised in the newspaper – Solicitor Karpowich states that the Ordinance is being amended so that Section 106.3 will permit for the filing of summary or civil proceeding; anyone found guilty of a violation of the Property Maintenance Code would be charged with a civil or summary infraction. Section 106.4 is amended also so a violation could be prosecuted by a code official by filing a
civil proceeding. He goes onto to read and explain the amendments and states that after discussing this with the code officials, as well as the District Justice, it was decided that the amendments were necessary for the Township to prosecute violations under the International Property Maintenance Code. James asks if there are any questions. Hearing none, he makes a motion to adopt the amendments to the Property Maintenance Code as presented. Elvin seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Part-time Police – New Hire – James explains that in an effort to fill some voids in our police schedule and upon recommendation of Chief Clink, he would like to make a motion to hire Harry Brown as a part-time officer; no benefits; at a starting rate of $16.75 per hour. Elvin seconds. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Treasurer’s Report - Lynn reads the report. James makes a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as read and to pay all outstanding bills as can be paid at this time. Elvin seconds. Motion passed. Roll call: Unanimous favorable vote. Reports are kept on file in the Township Office for review upon request.

Planning Commission – James states that there was a meeting held this month for (1) submission (Quandel Subdivision). Upon recommendation of the Planning Commission and the Engineers, he calls for a motion to grant final approval for the Quandel Subdivision. Elvin makes the motion. James seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Note: James states that the Planning Commission held a re-organization meeting as well. Mike Stone was appointed Chairman; the Vice-Chairman is Pete Ricigliano; and Secretary is Bob Ryan. James thanks the members and Bob Ryan for his time as Chairman of the Commission and states that he did a great job.

Police Department – Officer William Kattner reads the report for June 2016. Elvin makes a motion to approve the report as read. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous favorable vote. Police reports are on file in the Station for review upon request.

Road Foreman’s Report – Elvin reads the report. James makes a motion to accept the report as read. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous favorable vote. Reports are kept on file in the Township Office for review upon request.

Correspondence: None.

Old/New Business:

Solicitor Karpowich states that he would like the record to reflect that the following items of pending litigation were discussed prior to this meeting in executive session. The first item of discussion is the request of Kemek LLC and Reading Anthracite Company to enter settlement / mutual release agreement to permit withdrawal of their zoning appeal with certain terms and conditions. The Solicitor addresses the Board and asks them to vote to approve the request or
deny it. He adds that it is his recommendation to the Board to deny it. James makes the motion to deny the request as explained by the Solicitor. Elvin seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Solicitor Karpowich states that the second item relates to the eminent domain action that was filed by the former Solicitor for the Cherry Valley Waterline. He goes on to explain that the action will make it necessary to obtain an appraiser to determine the fair market value of the property that the Township will be taking. His recommendation to the Board is to hire Frank Gownley from Pottsville and explains Mr. Gownley’s fee schedule. Solicitor Karpowich instructs the Board that they will need to take action to retain the services of the appraiser and approve the fee schedule as proposed - which he feels is fair and reasonable. Elvin makes the motion to retain the appraiser and approve the fee schedule as explained by the Solicitor. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

James reminds the auditors (Chris Ternowchek and Mary Lou Bergan) that they will need to meet to straighten the stipends out for the Board members preferably before the next Supervisor’s meeting. He states that he sent an email out to all three of the auditors, but has heard nothing from (Chairperson) Brittany Kellman so it is his understanding that (2) auditors can hold a meeting - so that will need to be done.

James makes a motion to adjourn. Elvin seconds. Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Time meeting adjourned: 6:42pm

ATTEST: James A. Wentz, Chairman
Time of adjournment: 6:42pm

ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan, Vice-Chairman
Time of adjournment: 6:42pm

The next monthly meeting of the Cass Township Board of Supervisors will be held on Thursday, July 28th, 2016 at 6:30pm at the Cass Township Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.