Typed: September 28th, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Thursday, August 25th, 2016 at the Township’s Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting were: Richard Twigg, Marian Twigg, Chris Trapani, Sharon Wentz, Mary Lou Bergan, Tom Graydus, and Chris Ternowcheck.

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:

Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary / Manager – present.

David A. Cromyak, Patrolman, CTPD – present.

William J. Kattner, Patrolman, CTPD – present.

James states that the minutes from the July 28th, 2016 Board of Supervisor’s Meeting have been placed at each seat and calls for a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes and to accept as printed if there are no corrections or omissions. Elvin makes the motion. James seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous favorable vote.

James calls for discussion from the audience.

Marian Twigg, 640 Forest Lane – Starts off by saying that the Supervisors are really doing a great job. She goes on to state that there was talk in the past regarding the Forestville Playground and the building of a small pavilion so there would be a covered area for the people visiting the playground, and asks if the Board members would still entertain the idea of getting the funding from a fund that was earmarked earlier for that purpose. And if so, asks if it would be possible for a pavilion to be erected at the playground. James replies that it is possible in time and states that it is one of the phases for the master plan for that playground, but at this time there are no plans for it, but the Board will take it into consideration.

Chris Trapani, 20 Line Avenue – Asks the Board if there are plans to employ a full-time police officer again. He states that he asks this because he has had problems for over a year in his area with issues such as drugs, etc. – he states that he called the police multiple times and he gets the reply that they will respond if they are duty and that’s fine, but when they are not, he tries contacting the State Police and they shrug him off. Chris asks what he is to do for the safety of
his child and family – stating that there is an individual who almost hit his son while he was speeding in his vehicle through the neighborhood – this would be the same individual who owns a home in his neighborhood and has warrants out for his arrest; his house is condemned but yet, he is doing work at the home without permits. Chris states that he spent over $1,500 in permitting when building his home but this person doesn’t have any permits. James states that there are daytime police coverage hours and he urges Chris to continue to call and report the issues; the police will continue to keep an eye on things. Chris asks what he is to do if there is a major issue – if State Police are to respond, it will take them a half hour or longer to respond - if they respond. He states he doesn’t want something to happen when it could have been avoided. He feels one full-time officer on the police force is important to have in our community. Elvin states that there is an issue with one full-time officer and asks when would the officer be on duty. Chris states that he feels there should still be part-time officers to fill the other hours – even though he realizes that the budget only allows for so much but when he calls, he would like to speak to one officer who knows his name and what’s going on instead of calling and speaking to several different part-time officers who work several different municipalities. He’s been trying to go through the proper channels, but it’s just been very troublesome trying to get a hold of someone and he’s concerned for the safety of his child.

Tom Graydus, Primrose – States that he thought that the Township had some type of agreement with Minersville to assist with police coverage. James states that was primarily to assist if there were issues at the High School or one of the other school buildings.

James addresses Chris Trapani and states he understands the concerns, but these are the issues the Township faces with a part-time police force and states that he does not have an answer for him at this time.

Officer Cromyak suggests that Chris contact Chief Clink to make him aware of the issues he is having with State Police since they are to respond to the resident complaints when Cass Township Police, as well as, other part-time municipal police departments do not have an officer on duty. Officer Cromyak states that he will address it with Chief Clink as well. He also states that the PD will need to now move forward and secure the condemned house in Chris’ area as was done recently with a few others.

Officer Kattner also instructs Chris to call the non-emergency Schuylkill County Communications Center number (570-628-3792) with any non-urgent complaints and leave a message with them and when an officer comes on duty, they will receive the message.

Hearing nothing further from the audience, James moves on to the items on the agenda.

Resolution # 2016-8 – PennDOT Business Partner Agreement – James states that in conjunction with the Cherry Valley Waterline Project, Dan Cook from Alfred Benesch Engineering Firm, has recommended that the Township register as a PennDOT Business Partner
for applications for a Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP). James makes the motion to approve Resolution # 2016-8 to register as a PennDOT Business Partner. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Resolution # 2016-9 DOT Grants Online Reporting – James states that this next resolution is necessary to register with DOT Grants for online reporting to help speed up the liquid fuels auditing and reports, as well as, other State reporting that can be done online rather than on paper. James makes a motion to register with DOT Grants for online reporting by Resolution # 2016-9. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Resolution # 2016-10 Fair Housing Resolution – James states that this item is also in conjunction with the Cherry Valley Waterline and recommended by Karen Parish (of Muloin & Loneran Associates, Inc.). James makes the motion to approve Resolution # 2016-10. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Sale of Surplus Vehicles – James explains that the Board would like to sell the 2006 Ford F-250 with plow and salt spreader, and also the 2008 Ford Explorer (police vehicle). James calls for a motion to sell both vehicles. Elvin makes the motion. James seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. James states that would also include authorization to advertise in the Pottsville Republican as well as online on Municibid. He states that he is hoping to have it advertised online next week and bids received back prior to the September meeting. The Board will vote on the result at the September meeting.

HMBP Demolition Project (Duncott) – James states that the contractor submitted an application for payment in the amount of $29,700. Based on recommendation from Alfred Benesch, the Board will authorize the payment but will hold it until all items on a punch-list are completed by the contractor to the Board’s satisfaction. Action is being taken tonight just to move things along. James makes a motion to approve the application for payment for the demolition project as explained in the amount of $29,700 – and also to release the contractor’s road bond for Oak Lane. Elvin seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

PennDOT Permit Line of Credit ($50,000) – James states this item is also related to the Cherry Valley Waterline Highway Occupancy Permit. PennDOT is stating that the Township needs to obtain a letter of credit in the amount of $50,000 for restoration for this project. James makes the motion to approve the PennDOT Letter/Line of Credit (from Mid-Penn Bank) in the amount of $50,000. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. 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 (1) submission but there was no quorum; there will be a meeting in September.

Police Department – Officer David Cromyak reads the report for August 2016 and states that the police have been getting a lot of complaints regarding residents burning garbage and reads from Ordinance # 491 which states “no person shall burn garbage or any other substance which will cause disagreeable or offensive odors at any place within the Township limits” – he explains that burning times are sunrise to sunset; all burning must be in a container such as a barrel; any items that are not wood, leaves, grass, etc. cannot be burned; plastics and garbage are forbidden and cannot be burned. Officer Cromyak asks that the audience please spread the word to other residents that there is a Burning Ordinance and that garbage cannot be burned. James calls for a motion to approve the report as read. Elvin makes a motion. 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.

Old/New Business:

Schuylkill County Fall Clean-Up – James states that the week of September 19th, the Minersville Borough will be hosting the clean-up for items that cannot be disposed of by usual curb-side pick-up during the year – however, as stated in the newspaper, the clean-up this year will not include electronics.

James calls for a motion to adjourn. Elvin seconds. Motion passed.

Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. Meeting adjourned.

Time meeting adjourned: 6:49pm