Typed: February 20th, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Thursday, January 26th, 2017 at the Township’s Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting: Chris Ternowchek, Sharon Wentz, Craig Schies, Brenda Helt, Renee Sorokach, Tom Graydus, John Olenick, James Kost, Pete Kacinecz, Cathy Kasinecz, and Mary Lou Bergan.

James Wentz calls 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
Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary / Manager
Richard C. Clink, Chief - Cass Township Police Department

James states that the minutes from the December 22nd, 2016 Board of Supervisor’s Meeting and the January 3rd, 2016 Re-organization Meeting have been placed at each seat and he 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.

Public Hearing – Cessation of Activities of the Municipal Authority by Ordinance # 2017-1 --
James states that to start the evening, a public hearing is going to be held as advertised regarding cessation of activities of the Cass Township Municipal Authority by Ordinance # 2017-1. James asks the Solicitor to explain. Solicitor Karpowich reads the contents of the Ordinance and asks for public comment. John Olenick, 19 Amanda Lane – asks what the main reason was for dissolving it. The Solicitor states that he doesn’t want to speak for the Administration, but it’s his understanding that they believe there is nothing that the Authority can do that the Township could not do - it was a duplication of services and costs – so the Township believes that they can do what the Authority was created to do without having a second audit, without having a second
attorney, without having a second board, and without having a second accountant – these are pretty much the reasons they made the decision. Hearing nothing further, Solicitor Karpowich asks the Chairman if he has a motion to close the record. James makes the motion to close the record. Elvin seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. Solicitor Karpowich states that since the stenographer is still here, he would like to ask the Board if we have a motion to adopt the Ordinance drafted by the Solicitor as advertised and posted. Elvin makes the motion. James seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. Solicitor Karpowich states to let the record reflect that the vote was unanimous in adopting Ordinance # 2017-1. He thanks the stenographer and asks for a copy of the transcript to be provided to the Township for its archives.

James calls for public comment on the agenda items. Hearing none, he moves on to the items on the agenda.

Resolution # 2017-3 – Designating a main and secondary depository for Township funds – James states that this action is basically applying a resolution to votes that were taken regarding the banks at the January Re-organization Meeting which designated Miners Mid Penn Bank as primary depository and Gratz Bank of Minersville as secondary depository. James calls for a motion to pass Resolution # 2017-3. Elvin makes the motion. Lynn seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Entryway Keypad Quotes – James explains that the existing system on the entry door locks with the numeric pads are problematic and were installed by CDI in the past – they also handled the maintenance and upkeep of them and since the Township is on its own now, replacement systems have been priced out for which (3) quotes have been received. The first one is from Hess Door & Lock in the amount of $2,965.00 per door. The second quote is from DM2 Security in amount of $3,600.00 for both doors; they have included an additional quote for an intercom system for the office to the front door in the amount of $1,150.00; and a parts & service warranty for everything for an additional $29.00 per month. The third quote was obtained from NerdyIT LLC - for both doors with 50 key cards, installation, configuration, programming, and training is $2,100.00 – so NerdyIT LLC would be the lowest quote. Elvin makes the motion to accept the quote provided by NerdyIT LLC. James seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Township Website Quotes - James states that as mentioned earlier, we need upgrades to the website – basically we are having security issues which consists of the email system getting hacked consistently. James states that he would like to table the quotes at this time because there were (2) quotes received but they don’t match each other so he would like to get some additional information and seek other options before a decision is made on this item. James makes a motion to table the website quotes. 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 the motion. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. All Treasurer Reports are kept on file in the Township Office for review upon request.

Planning Commission:  James states there is nothing to report this month.

Police Department:  Rick Clink reads the report. James makes a motion to accept the report. Elvin seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. All police reports are kept on file in the Police Station for review upon request.

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

Correspondence:  None.

Old / New Business:

Resolution # 2017-4 - Schuylkill County Demolition Program – Solicitor Karpovich states that the Code Department has prioritized (5) properties for submission to the demolition program – all properties are located on Reading Anthracite property – they are: 0 Cherry Valley Road, 48 Cherry Valley Road, 10 Courtney’s Road, 916 Valley Road, and 1234 Valley Road. The County has issued a demolition grant program and a funding requirement of the 2017 program is that the Township must own the property or obtain a court order that requires its demolition. It is the recommendation of the Solicitor and the Code Department that court orders are obtained for these (5) properties with the assistance of the property owner with the understanding that the Township would only partake in demolition if the Township was awarded grant money provided by the demolition program provided by the County. He adds that hopefully the Township can get funding to demolish all (5) but if less is received, the Board can prioritize the properties. The Solicitor asks the Board to take action on this in an effort to move forward in that direction. Bill McMullen, Code Enforcement, adds that this year, the demolition program is waiving the 25% municipal contribution - so it’s 100% of the demolition costs and this is the reason why he is recommending that the Township pursue the program. The Solicitor states that the motion would be done by resolution. James makes a motion to approve Resolution # 2017-4 which authorizes the Solicitor to pursue the court orders for demolition of (5) properties to be submitted for grant funding. Elvin seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.
Auditors - James states that there are (2) auditors in the audience this evening and asks them to please schedule their meeting as soon as possible.

James asks if anyone has any additional questions or comments.

Chris Ternowcheck, Flag Lane – Asked what is going on with the road crew people and if the Board hired anyone. James states that they did – they had to move the part-time employee to full-time and they also hired another full-time employee – John Pritz from Forestville.

Pete Kacinecz, Forestville – Asks if there is an ordinance regarding people throwing snow onto the roadway after it’s been plowed. Chief Clink states there is a section in the vehicle code regarding placing snow in a roadway – he would have to locate the section. Pete asks if a person could get fined for it. Rick states he will look into it but he doesn’t believe the Township has an ordinance relating to it. Evelyn asks if Pete is referring to the State Highway or a Township Road. Pete replies it’s a Township Road. Chief Clink asks the location. Pete responds Willow Lane.

Sign Inventory – James mentions that in the near future, the Township will be inventorying the stop signs, weight limit signs, and one way signs to place into Ordinance form – so if the residents happen to see the DPW guys measuring signs and writing things down, etc. that is what they are doing.

Motion to Adjourn: With no further business, James calls for a motion to adjourn. Elvin makes the motion. James seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST: James A. Wentz, Chairman
TIME MEETING ENDED: 6:52 PM

ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan, Jr., Vice-Chairman
TIME MEETING ENDED: 6:52 PM

The next regular monthly meeting of the Cass Township Board of Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, February 22nd, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.