Typed: March 26th, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Wednesday, February 28th, 2017 at the Township’s Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting were:

Mary Lou Bergan, Chris Ternowchek, Bill Wanniski, and Bill Houser.

James Wentz calls the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call of Officers:


Other attendance/absentees:

Donald G. Karpowich, Solicitor – present.

Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary – present.

Richard C. Clink, Chief - Cass Township Police Department – present.

James Wentz states that the minutes from the January 2018 Board of Supervisor’s 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. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Wentz calls for discussion on agenda items.

Joseph Smulley, Forestville – Asks questions regarding employee raises that occurred in December 2017 and January 2018. Elvin Brennan replies there was a raise in December for one employee because it was a promotion to Lead DPW Worker. In January, raises were then given to all employees. Joseph then asks about the number of titles held by the Secretary and asks if she can have input about issues and answer questions at the meetings; he also asks about a Manager’s report to be read at the meetings. Supervisor Brennan states that during the month, the Secretary sends out emails to the all (3) Board Members relating to anything that goes on in the Township. This led to a discussion between Joseph Smulley, Elvin Brennan, and Solicitor Karpowich. The Secretary states that the monthly meetings are the Supervisors meetings so residents who have questions for them can ask the Supervisors during their meetings. She adds
that they make the decisions, she does not. The Solicitor states the same. Joseph asks Chief Clink the number of police officers that the Township employs; and states that they do a fine job, however, there is a lot of (big) truck traffic on Forest Lane and the police need to crack down on speed on that road; he suggests that the speed limit be reduced. Solicitor Karpowich states that since it’s a State road, the Township would need to make a request to the State and they could do a study of the road to consider the request. Joseph also states there are issues with truck traffic and speed on Sunbury Road as well. Chief Clink replies that the wintertime poses some issues because lines need to be painted on the road to run speed because the police do not have radar, but nevertheless, the police are aware of the issues. Joseph adds that kids on 4-wheelers riding the roads are another thing that needs to be addressed.

Chris Ternowchek, Flag Lane – states that the same issue exists with 4-wheelers in her area. Chief Clink states that he doesn’t want to get into this subject too much, but the police are working with other agencies to possibly obtain a UTV and utilizing it to suppress some of the ATV traffic in areas.

Hearing no further questions or comments; Supervisor Wentz moves on to the items on the agenda.

Request – Use of Fannie’s Field in 2018 - Wentz states that a letter was submitted by Christian Gardner who is representing the “Wheel Softball Team” in Men’s Minersville Modified Softball League. They are asking to use Fannie’s Field and are agreeing to fulfill the duties of property maintenance and provide a certificate of liability insurance to the Board. Brennan makes a motion to grant permission to the Wheel Softball Team to utilize Fannie’s Field/Condor’s Complex Field as discussed. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Treasurer’s Compensation – Wentz states that this was discussed with Brenda (Helt) and the Solicitor at last month’s meeting and there were a couple different ideas - however, at this time, Wentz makes a motion to grant a $.50 per hour raise effective January 1st, 2018 for the Treasurer. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Treasurer’s Report: The Treasurer reads the report. Wentz makes a motion to accept the report as read and to pay all outstanding bills as can be paid at this time. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.
All Treasurer Reports are kept on file in the Township Office for review upon request.

Planning Commission:
Beach/Watro Lot Annexation Plan: Wentz states that action is under guidance from ARRO Consulting, Inc. regarding the Beach/Watro Lot Annexation Plan. At the February 8th, 2018, Planning Commission Meeting, the PC recommended Final Approval of the plan – so at this time, the Board of Supervisors will take action to grant final approval as well. Wentz makes a motion to grant final approval of the Beach/Watro Lot Annexation Plan. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Police Department: Chief Richard Clink states that the January report was tabled last month – so he will read the January and February 2018 reports; and he explains that with the recent school shootings, he has met with Superintendent McBreen and Principal Bressi of Minersville Area School District/High School – they would like to see police presence inside the school so the Department will be making scheduled walks through the high school to display police presence. Chief Clink would just like everyone to know that CTPD is doing the most they can with the resources that are available to address concerns. Wentz makes a motion to accept the January and February reports as read. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Road Foreman’s Report: Wentz makes a motion to dismiss the reading of the report. Copies are available in the office if anyone would like one. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Correspondence:

Schuylkill Conservation District – James states that the letter that was received explains that a feasibility study is being conducted for a potential trail to be installed along Route 901 – from Pottsville to Llewellyn – it would be referred to as the Blackwood Trail. The trail would be about 5 miles long and would run through Blackwood. The public is invited to attend the meeting to be held on Monday, March 12th – 7:00-8:30pm – at the Schuylkill Conservation District – 206 Ag Center Drive, Pottsville, PA (lower level).

Old/New Business:

Appeals Board Member – James Wentz asked the Solicitor to explain. Solicitor Karpowich states that Thomas Graydus was appointed as the UCC Appeals Board Member, however, he has unfortunately passed away. The Board will need to appoint another member because he feels that there will be an active case since the Township has been trying to work with a coal company to get these dilapidated buildings down, but they haven’t gotten back to the Township with a demolition schedule – so in the event a hearing needs to be scheduled, the Township needs to appoint someone new to the vacancy. If anyone is interested and would like to volunteer for the position, please inform the Supervisors before the next meeting.
Chris Ternowchek, Flag Lane – Asks if the Board has a weekly schedule for the road crew or do they just do whatever they need. Elvin Brennan explains that Dave Califf speaks with Elvin and they coordinate a weekly plan. Chris also asks if a report of the bills will be given. Evelyn states that it doesn’t matter to her either way, however, she did discuss the issue with Brenda (Helt) and she feels that if anyone wants the report, they can file a Right to Know for it. James (Wentz) states that he feels that as an Auditor, Chris (Ternowchek) is privy to that information. Solicitor Karpowich agrees. Evelyn replies that she will speak with Brenda again about the reports.

Joseph Smulley, Forestville – asks why the Road Foreman’s report isn’t being read anymore. Solicitor Karpowich explains that the copies are being offered in the office if anyone would like one. Joseph suggests copies be printed and placed at the seats. This leads to a discussion between audience, the Solicitor and the Board members.

Bill Wanniski, Forestville – Had questions about the status of complaints he filed relating to 44 Line Avenue; he states that it’s been vacant for over (2) years now and is a health hazard at this point. Solicitor Karpowich states that he will call Shannon (of ARRO Consulting, Inc.) in the morning and make sure they are doing something with it.

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

Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST: James A. Wentz, Vice-Chairman
TIME MEETING ENDED:  6:59 PM

ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan, Road Foreman
TIME MEETING ENDED:  6:59 PM

The next regular monthly meeting of the Cass Township Board of Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, March 28th, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.