Typed: October 23rd, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Wednesday, September 26th, 2018 at the Township’s Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting were:

Mary Lou Bergan, Chris Ternowchek, Mike Panak, and Jenny Wagner of Diakon Community Services.

6:30 pm - Brenda Helt 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 CTPD – present.

Chairperson Helt states that the minutes from the August 2018 Board of Supervisor’s Meeting have been placed at each seat and she makes a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes and to accept as printed if there are no corrections or omissions. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Helt calls for discussion from the audience.

Jenny Wagner - Diakon Community Services – states that she is in attendance this evening to request the use of the municipal building for Diakon’s Walk with Ease Program. She goes on to explain the details of the Program, as well as, the reasons why and when she is requesting use of the building. The Board members and the Solicitor both explain that the lower part of the building has flooded and the Township is currently in the process of drying and cleaning it; they are concerned about mold and the air quality in the building – and so they will need to decline her request at this time.
Mike Panak, Tulip Lane – states that Jamie is very familiar with the flooding issues on his property and discusses with the Board the areas that need to be addressed to correct the problems. Supervisor Wentz states that the Township has already corrected some of the issues and they are still working on others, but some of the work involves someone’s driveway so that is a sensitive situation. Mike states that he understands but he just doesn’t want it go away and be forgotten. Mike also questions the Board and Chief Clink about residents burning garbage. He states that there are a lot of people near his residence that consistently burn garbage and it’s nauseating when being out in the yard and not fair to the people who don’t burn their garbage. Chief Clink explains that there is an ordinance in place that states garbage cannot be burned in the Township – it also includes construction debris and other materials; there are specifics listed in the ordinance; he offers to speak with Mike about it after the meeting.

Helt moves onto the items on the agenda.

**Trick-or-Treat Night** – Chairperson Helt states that the Township will follow Minersville Borough - so the date will be Wednesday, October 31st from 6pm to 8pm; and the rain date will be Thursday, November 1st from 6pm to 8pm. She asks Chief Clink to confirm that there will be police coverage for those dates. Chief responds there will be; there are usually (2) officers on duty for the event. Helt calls for a motion. Wentz makes the motion. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

**Employee Resignation – John Pritz** – Chairperson Helt states that (part-time employee) John Pritz has resigned as of Tuesday, 09/25/2018; she makes a motion to accept his resignation. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

**Ratify the Hiring of (2) Part-time Employees:** Chairperson Helt explains that the Board would like to ratify the hiring of (2) employees: Derek Kreider – $15.00 an hour; part-time - no benefits; weekly work hours not to exceed (32) hours. The second employee hire is Michael Purcell - $15.00 per hour; part-time - no benefits; weekly work hours as needed - but not to exceed (32) hours per week. Helt calls for a motion accept the applications/hiring of both part-time employees as discussed. Brennan makes the motion. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

**Pagnotti York Tunnel Sportsmen Plans:** Chairperson Helt states that the plans were approved by the Planning Commission at their meeting held last Thursday. She calls for a motion for the Board of Supervisors to also accept the plans. Brennan makes the motion. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.
Repair of High Road – Chairperson Helt states that everyone is aware that a section of High Road was washed out during the most recent storm/flooding and it was in need of immediate repair. Bill McMullen of ARRO Consulting, Inc. solicited (3) quotes but only (2) of the paving contractors provided quotes—the 3rd one said he couldn’t do the job. Folk Paving was the lowest bidder at $9,838.00 so he was awarded the work; it was completed today and they did a nice job. Helt makes a motion to accept the bid/payment to Ronnie C. Folk Paving in the amount of $9,838.00 for the repair of High Road. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

On Demand Energy Contract Renewal – Chairperson Helt states that the Township has been with On Demand Energy for (8) years and it’s time to renew their contract; their rate is $.0477 – (fixed) for (48) months; the new term will begin in June 2018. Helt makes a motion to accept the contract renewal as discussed. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Green Light Go Project – Chairperson Helt explains that this pertains to (2) traffic lights located at Highridge—the Board needs to pass (2) resolutions relating to this project; they are:
Resolution # 2018-17 – Green Light Go Final Traffic Signal Permit. Helt makes a motion to accept this resolution. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Treasurer’s Report: Chairperson Helt states that both the Public Summary and the List of Transactions have been placed at each seat for review. Helt makes a motion to accept both of the Treasurer’s reports as printed and to pay all outstanding bills as can be paid at this time. Wentz 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/Engineer’s Report:
Chairperson Helt states there is nothing to report this month.

Police Department: Chief Clink gives an update on the truck that is currently on order with Kovatch. He also explains that $300+ of the check that was received from the insurance company from the totaled vehicle will be used to pay Trail Towing/Gula for removing equipment from the Crown Victoria which will be re-used in the new vehicle; and another $900+ will be used to pay for the decaling of the new vehicle. Chief Clink adds that Minersville Area School District now has a School Resource Officer; Harry Brown has been hired by the Minersville Police Department as SRO for the Minersville High School, Minersville Elementary School, and the Llewellyn Elementary School. He explains that the Solicitor for Minersville Borough is drafting a document that will be presented to the Township Supervisors in the near future that
will ask for their approval and signatures acknowledging that the salary and benefits of the SRO will all be paid by Minersville Borough. Rick states that when he receives that document, he will forward it to the Township Supervisors and Solicitor for review. Supervisor Wentz asks how that will affect the Township’s coverage. Chief Clink states that is has affected the Township’s coverage because Harry Brown did work the majority of the day shifts, however, Dave Cromyak has been filling in a good portion of those hours – but the PD is down to having only (1) vehicle so it kind of works out since he doesn’t want to stack officers on shifts with only having (1) vehicle. Chris Ternowchek asks how Officer Brown gets to each school. Chief Clink responds that he is provided with a Minersville Police vehicle. Supervisor Wentz asks questions regarding jurisdiction and liability issues relating to the SRO/Minersville Borough/Cass Township and the High School. This leads to a brief discussion between the Board, Chief Clink and the Solicitor. Chief Clink then read the August and September reports. Chairperson Helt asks the Chief about his report relating to ATV’s and states that she’d like to know because she received a complaint about one of the Township’s police officers chasing ATV’s. Supervisor Brennan states that the Board doesn’t want that. Chief Clink responds that everyone knows that the police are not chasing ATV’s – but they can’t just see them and wave – the police will turn the lights on and try to deter or stop them - but they will not engage in a high speed chase with them. Helt states that received a complaint and she just doesn’t want anyone getting hurt. Helt then calls for a motion to accept the police reports as read. Brennan makes the motion. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. Copies of all police reports are on file in the department for review upon request.

Road Foreman’s Report: Chairperson Helt states that the Road Foreman’s report has been placed at each seat. Helt makes a motion to accept the Road Foreman’s report. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. Copies of all Road Foreman reports are on file in the Township office for review upon request.

Correspondence:

Thank you to Losch Services - Chairperson Helt states that she would like to thank Losch Services for donating the use of one of their commercial dehumidifiers that was used in the building after it flooded which caused a lot of damage and mold. The dehumidifier was a big help to the Township since it took the excessive moisture out of the building which was a concern because of the employees having to work inside the building.

Old / New Business:

Executive Session -- The Solicitor states that there was an executive session this evening prior to the meeting to discuss pending litigation; he states that a motion is needed by the Supervisors to file a Notice to Proceed to allow the Court to dismiss (2) lawsuits that are pending – 1) Kemek, LLC / Reading Anthracite vs Cass Township and 2) Cass Township vs Lowes Home

Chairperson/Asst. Treasurer
BRENDA M. HELT

Vice-Chairperson/Asst. Road Foreman
JAMES A. WENTZ

Supervisor/Road Foreman
ELVIN E. BRENNAN JR.

Secretary-Treasurer/Manager
EVELYN J. BERGAN
Improvement Center. Wentz makes a motion. Helt seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Agreement – RAC & Cass Twp -- The Solicitor states that he also needs a motion from the Supervisors to approve the Agreement between Cass Township and Reading Anthracite Company; and to furnish the approval to engage Brinkash & Associates to start the subdivision so the Township can acquire ownership of the property on which this building is located. Helt makes the motion to accept and approve. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. The Solicitor adds that a component of this Agreement with Reading Anthracite Company is that they will start to move forward with the demolitions – so it’s a win win for the Township.

506 Tunnel Road - Solicitor Karpowich states that he will need a motion from the Board to proceed with civil action in the Schuylkill County Court of Common Pleas for this property – which is needed in order to fine the property owner for violations set forth in the Zoning Officer’s report - which started back in July 24th of 2017. The Magistrate has been unable to serve the property owner - through mail or Constable – so the only means left is to file a civil complaint with the Court of Common Pleas. Helt makes the motion to pursue and proceed. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Motion to Adjourn: With no further business, Chairperson Helt makes a motion to adjourn. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST: Brenda M. Helt, Chairperson
TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:08 PM

ATTEST: James A. Wentz, Vice-Chairman
TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:08 PM

The next regular monthly meeting of the Cass Township Board of Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, October 24th, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.