Typed: October 30th, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Wednesday, September 25th, 2019 at the Township’s Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting were: Mary Lou Bergan, Michael Kulpcavage, Mike Sorokach, Joyce Cutler, Jamie Kuehn, Chris Ternowchek, Bob Helt, Sonia Bernetskie, Ron Bernetskie, Bonnie Witman, John Kalovcak, Theresa Cook, Alyssa Cook, Terry & JoAnne Doyle, Craig Witman, Richard Twigg, and Marian Twigg.

Brenda Helt calls the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Meeting start time: 6:38pm.

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 2019 minutes have been placed at each seat. Helt makes a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes and to accept them 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.

Mike Sorokach, Owl Road – Asks Supervisor Wentz if the road crew does regular checks on the trucks/vehicles. Wentz responds that he believes so. Mike explains that the reason he is asking is because the new GMC truck passed his area a few times in the past few weeks and it’s making a whining sound – he believes the power steering fluid may be low or the pump needs maintenance; he suggests that it be checked.
Joyce Cutler, Oak Lane – Asks if the customers of J.B. Cable can do anything - because the service is horrendous – every year the rates are jacked up - but they haven’t given the customers anything. She states that she has spoken to Tom O’Brien but got nowhere. She asks about the new fee that appears on the bill. Supervisor Helt states that the cable company has always paid the (1%) franchise fee to the Township, but this year they started putting it on the customer’s bills. Joyce asks if anything can be done by the Township to help the residents/customers because it’s terrible - we are paying close to $80 a month just for cable. This discussion continues. The Chairperson and the Solicitor stated that they will look into it and review the agreement/contract.

Chris Ternowcheck, Flag Lane – Asks Chief Clink if the Township gets paid for all the parking tickets that are given out up at Highridge. Clink states that follow-up has to be done on a lot of them; he explains that citations used to be written if the tickets weren’t paid, but now the police look up the DOT number and find a phone & fax number for the truck – a fax is then sent to the company stating there is an outstanding ticket – and a lot of the money is recovered that way – but if that doesn’t work, a citation is filed.

Jamie Kuehn – 240 Carbon Street, Minersville – States that he is the President of Minersville Borough Council and they have discussed some concerns during their meeting regarding Wolf Creek - where it enters underneath the Minersville baseball field/football field. There is a storm drain there – and on the opposite side of the football field (behind the score board) is Carbon Street. They have had residents of Carbon Street complain of sinking sidewalks and streets. The Borough is in the process of investigating the situation but their concerns involve the storm drain/grate – and in the greatest times of need, the storm grate gets removed. The Borough is asking the Township to possibly put some signage in that area and possibly help enforce that the grate does not get removed because what is happening is the storm drain is in place; there is heavy rains/flooding; and the debris is stopped – but when the grate is removed, the debris now enters the tunnel system. Councilman Kuehn also states that for the longest time, the grate had been set with the bars sitting vertical – but the grate is now turned anc the bars are horizontal – which defeats the purpose (of stopping the debris from entering the tunnel system). He asks if the Township and the Borough could work together to get the grate turned back to its previous position – and to get signage placed in the area. He states that the Borough cannot enforce it because it’s not their property. Supervisor Wentz states that there has been many discussions over the years regarding this matter – and the Township wanted to reach out to Minersville Borough to come up with a solution – because the Township doesn’t know if the piping is Minersville’s but the Township maintains the creek – and when the grate blocks, we have residents that gets flooded – and that is what leads to the issue of that grate getting pulled out – and usually it’s in bad conditions that debris is trying to be removed from the creek.
He states that collectively they should all look at it and come up with a solution that is easy to maintain, but does its job. Councilman Kuehn states that the Borough will help in any way to maintain it – but it’s not their property to just go into and start working. Supervisor Wentz states that Elvin (Brennan) would be the person to speak with, however, we need to first determine who the structure belongs to. Councilman Kuehn states that from he can see (researching Google maps), it looks like the property line is on the baseball field – so they believe that the fencing, the dug-out, and the culvert – is all on Cass property. This discussion continued…and it was agreed that the two municipalities will discuss and work together to maintain the drain properly to protect the residents of both areas.

Sonia Bernetskie – States that her and her husband are trying to build (a home) on Forest Lane and they are having problems with the sewer planning. She states that they had Dave Popiak (SEO) at the property and states that he is giving a lot of excuses regarding an easement and another area that he said he didn’t think would perk. She states there is a waiver on the land that their lawyers are working to get removed – but they just don’t know what to do with the sewer planning because the SEO is saying that a sand mound is not going to work on their lot and they don’t know where to turn and are asking the Board for assistance. The Solicitor states that Mr. Popiak’s boss is DEP – so he feels the best thing to do is to work it out with Dave Popiak (who will most likely be more cooperative than DEP). Sonia explains that once the SEO saw the easement and waiver on the maps, he just stopped. The Solicitor’s recommendation is to get the non-building waiver removed and then move forward with a perk test, etc. – but that needs to be taken care of first. This discussion continues….and the Solicitor states that after the waiver is removed and if there are still issues, they can contact him and he will troubleshoot to see what options are available.

Alyssa Cook, Mountain View Lane – Thanks the Board for allowing her to raise her (2) goats at her home for 4H this year; she states that she had so much more time to work with the animals since she did not have to raise them in Orwigsburg at her friend’s house. She got 4th place with both of her goats in their weight classes. And also in showmanship, she got 6th place out of 19 kids in her age group. Alyssa states that she hopes the Board allows her to do the same thing again for the 2020 Schuylkill County Fair. Chairperson Helt replies that she is sure that they will allow it again…and tells Alyssa she did a good job. Alyssa provides a thank you card and photos of her with her goats at the fair.

Hearing no questions or comments; Supervisor Helt closes the discussion.

Helt moves onto the items on the agenda.
**Q2U2, Inc. – Zoning Amendment** - Chairperson Helt states that this item be tabled this evening because the Board does not have the proper paperwork – so it will be tabled until that is received. Helt calls for a motion to table. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Wentz – aye.


**Trick-or-Treat Night – Thursday, October 31st – 6pm-8pm – and the rain date will be Saturday, November 2nd – 6pm-8pm** – Helt makes the motion. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Wentz – aye.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Chairperson Helt states that both the Public Summary and the List of Transactions for the month of August 2019 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: Helt – aye. Wentz – aye. All Treasurer Reports are kept on file in the Township Office for review upon request.

**Planning Commission/Engineer’s Report/ARRO Consulting, Inc.:** Chairperson Helt states that the PC will hold an October meeting to review the Dollar General plans. Helt makes a motion. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Wentz – aye.

**Police Report:** Chief Richard Clink states that there were some issues brought up by residents during the last meeting – and he has sent emails out to PennDOT and is awaiting a reply. He states that he has instructed his officers to sit near Gordon Mountain Road to address the trucks coming down and they did make an arrest for a truck coming down the mountain, as well as, traveling past the speed limit – which raised another issue because there are still truck speed limit signs posted – but how can there be speed limits for trucks if they are not permitted to come down in the first place – he states that he will address that issue with PennDOT as well. Chief Clink states that his Chief in Minersville asked him to address the Board about the storm drainage issue and grate, but Councilman Kuehn has already done so. There was also a DUI checkpoint held this past month with
some positive and negative reactions – but there were a significant amount of arrests as a result. Chief states that he spoke with Officer Harry Brown of Minersville Police Department (who is the SRO in the school district) regarding the complaints that have been received relating to traffic problems from the high school that occur in Cass Township. He goes on to read the police reports from August and September 2019. Helt make a motion to accept both police reports as read. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Wentz – aye. Copies of police reports are on file in the Department and the Township office 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 as printed. Wentz seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Wentz – aye. Copies of all Road Foreman reports are on file in the Township office for review upon request.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Old / New Business:** None.

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

**Meeting Adjourned.**

**ATTEST:** Brenda M. Helt, Chairperson  
TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:04PM

**ATTEST:** Elvin E. Brennan Jr., Supervisor  
TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:04PM

The next regular monthly meeting of the Cass Township Board of Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, October 30th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.