

1209 Valley Road, Pottsville, PA 17901

Telephone: 570.544.5370

Fax: 570.544.3158 www.casstownship.org

E-mail: supervisors@casstownship.org

Typed: September 28th, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Wednesday, August 25th, 2021 at 6:30pm at the Township's Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting were: Mike Sorokach, Tina Skibiel, Ann Marie Studlack, Chris Ternowchek, Dave Walasavage of ARRO Consulting, Inc., Andy Studlack Jr., and Antoinette Purcell.

Brenda Helt calls the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## Roll Call of Officers:

Brenda M. Helt – present. David W. Califf – absent. Elvin E. Brennan Jr. - present.

## Other attendance/attendees:

Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary – present. Sean Logsdon, Solicitor – present. Gerard E. Daley, Chief - CTPD – present.

Chairperson Helt states that the minutes from the July 2021 Supervisor's meeting have been placed at each seat. She makes a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes if there are no corrections or omissions. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Helt opens the meeting for public comment. Please state your name and address for the record.

Mike Sorokach, Owl Road – asks Chief Daley for an update on the lines he requested be painted on Valley Road in Pine Knot to run speed. Chief Daley states that those were not done yet, but other areas were. Elvin states that (4) areas were done so far: Schaeffer's Hill, High Road, Forestville, and by the school. Daley states that the police need to measure the lines for Valley Road so they will get done soon. Mike states that Valley Road is a speedway. He also asks what is going on with Dave Califf because he saw Elvin at Califf's place the other day – and he was wondering if he got any information on Dave's status. Elvin states that he was up there to see if he could get a resignation letter – but when Dave saw Sorokach pass by, he refused and accused everyone of being up to something. Mike states that Dave questioned him about being on Thomaston Road – and he replied that he used to live up there and it's still a Township Road – so he likes to see how it's changing. This discussion continued.



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Tina Skibiel, Pine Knot - Asks for an update on the Board's decision regarding Clover and Minersville Fire Company. Helt states that they just spoke about this in executive session and the Solicitor recommends that the Board meet with Clover and Minersville representatives to talk over the details and expectations. This turns into a lengthy discussion regarding several issues – leases, merging, rosters, grants, etc. Tina states that what the fire company is asking for is, will the Township honor the fact that Minersville Fire & Rescue will be the fire company responding to Highridge Business Park. Brenda states that they already are responding to Highridge. Tina states but Clover Fire Company will be no longer – it will be Minersville Fire & Rescue - Heckscherville. Brenda again states that we should have a meeting where the Board of Supervisors, Solicitor, Clover Fire Company, Minersville Fire & Rescue, and Fire Marshal John Kellman will all be present to hold a discussion because as she understands, there are a lot of legal issues to work through when a merger takes place. This discussion continued.

Chris Ternowchek, Flag Lane - Asks for potholes to be filled on Low Road.

Antoinette Sep – Questions the Board about the Supervisor who does not attend meetings or contribute to the Township. Elvin states the last time we spoke about this, the Solicitor stated that we would have to impeach him. Attorney Logsdon explains the complicated process and reasons for impeachment. Mike Sorokach asks what if he doesn't live in the Township any longer. Attorney Logsdon explains that it wouldn't be an automatic removal - we would still have to petition the court. Elvin makes the point of stating that with only (2) Supervisors, if one doesn't show for a meeting, there is no quorum, no meeting. Brenda states that she is now working a new job and works (12) hours shifts on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday so she was thinking of not attending tonight. She states that Dave has not done any Township work since his first day in office - he doesn't even answer an email - nor does she have his new phone number. She asked Dave the one time he was at a meeting how she could get in touch with him and his response was to call Elvin and he'll get in contact with him. Brenda states that this has all gotten really old because we are doing all the work while he does nothing. Antoinette has suggestions about holding Supervisors accountable. Brenda asks what would happen next year if she decides to give up Chairperson and only agree to Assistant Treasurer and that's all - who is going to do all that needs to be done. Dave is on a free ride on our dime - it's ridiculous that he is protected and nothing can be done about it. This very lengthy discussion continued.

Mike Sorokach states that Brenda said she works a new job with (12) hour shifts and asks Brenda why the Board doesn't change the meeting date and/or time so she doesn't need to rush around to get here. This leads to a discussion about the possibility of changing the meeting time to 7pm.

Hearing nothing further, Helt closes the public discussion and moves on to the agenda items.



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Bid Opening — Road Project: Helt explains that Elvin chose (9) side roads to be improved; we were going to have them tar & chipped, but we ran out of time for that, so we needed to choose overlay instead. Attorney Logsdon opens and reads the bid results. The lowest bid is H&K Group — base bid = \$94,271.85 — bid alternate = \$152,225.35. After hearing the results, Brenda Helt states that it seems like a lot of money for little roads - especially when main/more traveled roads need to be done. Elvin states that these roads are bad, and there are an additional (6) roads that need to be done. Brenda states it just seems like a lot of money to fix alleyways especially when Woodside is falling apart — that money could go towards fixing Woodside. This leads to a very lengthy discussion between the Board members, Engineer, Solicitor, and residents. Elvin makes a motion to award the bid to H&K Group, Inc. to fix all (9) roads in the amount of \$152,225.35 contingent upon review by the Solicitor and the Engineer. Reluctantly, Helt seconds — stating that she would like to see work done on Woodside Road next year.

<u>Treasurer's Reports:</u> Helt states that the public summary and the list of transactions for the month of July 2021 have been placed at each seat; she makes a motion to accept the reports as printed and to pay all outstanding bills that can be paid at this time. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

# <u> Planning Commission / Engineer's Report – </u>

Dave Walasavage of ARRO Consulting, Inc. – to date, we received no revised information or plans from Noble Equities, LLC. Helt makes a motion to accept the report. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

<u>Police Report:</u> Chief Daley reads the police report. Helt makes a motion to accept the report as read. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. Reports are on file in the Police Department for review upon request.

<u>Road Foreman's Report</u>: Helt states that there is copy at each seat. She makes a motion to accept it as printed. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

# <u>Correspondence</u> –

Helt states that for anyone who was not at the last meeting, we are working with Comcast to apply for broadband grant funding. We will not hear back from them until November. It will not cost the Township anything if we get funding because Comcast has agreed to pay the



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difference if the grant does not cover the full cost. There will be no further updates on this issue until November.

## Old / New Business:

Attorney Logsdon provides a few updates:

Lease Requested – Oak Lane property - he and his staff are still working on gathering all the information to get the lease approved.

Forestville/Tweedsville Properties to be put out for bid – he is still looking for a map that would property depict the properties so that it can be provided to a realtor.

Elvin Brennan explains the issues relating to the installation of the PPL pole that was just installed on Oak Lane.

Brenda Helt explains more about the Tweedsville properties – stating that residents are supposed to be paying leases on the properties they are using, but only one resident is – so to compensate for the loss of funds, the Board would like to get the properties surveyed and sell them to the people that are using them - because a lot of those residents have garages and sheds on them, etc. Diane Lenick is stating she does not have a map – so we may have to have it surveyed again. Attorney Logsdon agreed to get prices from Brinkash.

A discussion takes place regarding the clean-up of the Yurkonis property, as well as, issues with Woodside Road.

<u>Motion to Adjourn</u>: With no further business, Helt makes a motion to adjourn. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST: Brenda M. Helt, Chairperson TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:54pm

ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan Jr., Vice-Chairperson TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:54pm