

1209 Valley Road, Pottsville, PA 17901

Telephone: 570.544.5370 Fax: 570.544.3158

www.casstownship.org

E-mail: supervisors@casstownship.org

Typed: March 27th, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Thursday, February 29th, 2024 at 7pm.

Present at the meeting: See sign-in sheet (attached).

Brenda Helt calls the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call of Officers:

Michael Sorokach III – present. Elvin E. Brennan Jr. – absent. Brenda M. Helt – present.

Other attendance/attendees:

Mark Semanchik, Solicitor – present. Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary – present.

Chairperson Helt states that the January 2024 Meeting Minutes – and - the February 2nd, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes have been placed at each seat. She calls for a motion to approve both sets of minutes if there are no corrections or omissions. Sorokach makes the motion. Seconded by Helt. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Helt opens the meeting for public comment.

Frank Angelo, High Road – Asks for the status of the police department. Solicitor Semanchik states that he has made no further recommendations to the Board from that of their decision during the special meeting to suspend all operations of the police department. No action will be taken this evening to change that status. The Township continues to be under the enforcement of the State Police – Frackville Barracks.

Antoinette Purcell, High Road – Wanted to thank the road department for their efforts during the most recent storm; she received word from a friend who traveled from Reading to here – who stated that Cass Township's roads were above the best she traveled during the last snowstorm.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Helt closed the public discussion and moves on to the Agenda items:



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Approve the Purchase of 506 Tunnel Road Property - Solicitor Semanchik states that the Township started the process to clean up this property approximately (6) years ago. The efforts to the Township cost approximately \$30,000 of tax dollars. As of (2) months ago, the amount of delinquent taxes that accrued on this property were \$21,000. A compromise was reached with the County, as well as the School District, and the \$21,000 was waived. Based on that action, the Township held a public auction on 02/16/24. The Roshannon's offered a bid of \$34,000. The first action should be to accept the bid of \$34,000 submitted by Kathy & John Roshannon. Helt makes the motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt - aye. Sorokach - aye. Solicitor Semanchik goes on to explain that Roshannon's have been checking on other matters to find that there are also unpaid water bills from 2018 and 2019. The Township has been in contact with Blythe Township Municipal Authority and has asked them to consider waiving the unpaid balance. It is on their March meeting agenda -so it is possible that the balance owed to them may be waived as well. Pending a response from BTMA, the Solicitor recommends that the Board conditionally approve the sale to Kathy & John Roshannon. Helt makes the motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt - aye. Sorokach - aye.

<u>Accept Resignation – Tax Collector</u> – Helt states that Ann Marie Studlack has submitted a letter of resignation. Helt thanks Ann Marie for her many years of service. Helt makes a motion to accept the resignation of Ann Marie Studlack as Cass Township Tax Collector. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Sorokach – aye.

<u>Appointment – Tax Collector</u> - Helt states that Barbara Conville has submitted a letter of intent. Helt makes a motion to appoint Barbara Conville as Cass Township Tax Collector. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Sorokach – aye.

<u>DCNR Grants</u> – Helt makes a motion to authorize Benesch to apply for these grants. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Sorokach – aye.

<u>Schaeffer's Hill Road</u> – Helt makes a motion to authorize Benesch to apply for grants for improvements. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Sorokach – aye.

<u>Field Road</u> – Helt makes a motion to authorize Benesch to apply for grants for improvements. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt-aye. Sorokach – aye.

<u>Recreation Areas</u> – Helt and Sorokach both explain that due to continued vandalism, there is currently no power to the lights at the Forestville playground – and since the Township continues to absorb the cost of repairs, the Board is not clear on what they will do with this situation moving forward. Helt also explains that people walk their dogs inside the playground, but they are not properly cleaning up after their animals – and since the playground is for children to play, it should be kept clean. Helt states that this issue was



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discussed in executive session and all (3) Supervisors agreed that there should be no animals – no dogs – no pets – inside the playgrounds. Helt makes a motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Helt – aye. Sorokach – aye.

<u>Treasurer's Reports</u> – Copies of the Treasurer's Reports are placed at each seat. Helt makes a motion to approve the report(s) as printed. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Planning Commission/Engineer's Report - Nothing to report.

Police Department Report: Nothing to report.

<u>Road Foreman's Report</u>: A copy of the report is placed at each seat. Sorokach reads the report – and gives an update on issues that occurred during the month. He also adds that on 02/09/24, he, Matt, Cory, and Shane Ryan of Benesch walked Schaeffer's Hill Road, Field Road, and a portion of High Road to identify issues that need to be addressed should the Township be eligible for grant funding. Helt makes a motion to accept the report. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

*7:13pm - Supervisor Brennan enters the meeting.

<u>Code Enforcement Report</u> – Nick Hazlett reads his report. Helt makes a motion to accept the report. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Correspondence: Nothing to report.

<u>Executive Session</u> – Solicitor Semanchik states that he met with the Board in executive session on Thursday, February 22nd – it began at 6:15pm and lasted until 7:30pm – personnel and property issues were discussed.

<u>Vandalism</u> – Helt asks the residents to keep an eye out for vandalism and/or things that shouldn't be going on at playgrounds, etc. – and to please notify the Township office or one of the Supervisors if they see anything.

Old/New Business: None.

Motion to Adjourn:

With no further business, Helt makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.



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ATTEST: Brenda M. Helt, Chairperson

SEAL:

ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan Jr., Supervisor

02/24/24 Michael Keelperungs SOHN OLENICH John Kabucak FRANK PUGELO Um mais Studlack LINA SKIDIEL Judy Mull Brian MULL Jim QUINN Chris TERNOWCHEK Gody Studlack To John+Kathleen Roshannon Autornuthe Puncell