

**Ligonier Township Supervisors**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
*July 14, 2020*

The Supervisors of Ligonier Township met in regular session at 7:00 PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary/Treasurer, Stephanie Verna took roll call. Present were Chair, John Beaufort; Vice Chair, Paul Knupp; Secretary/Treasurer, Stephanie Verna; Supervisor, D. Scott Matson; and Supervisor, Dan Weimer.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Dan Weimer to approve the minutes from the June 23, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

**Manager's Report**

Trane Energy Efficiency Proposal – this is a potential 2021 project and estimates were gathered for budget planning purposes. Trane's revised proposal is less than last year's proposal as the scope was reduced (not upgrading the outside lights that are rarely used) and we don't need to rent a lift now that we own one. The project costs will most likely exceed the maximum threshold and will need to be competitively bid. Replacing antiquated lights is an investment that would save \$5,900 annually in electricity expenses and could be financed by a lease.

**Public Works Report** – see attached

Staff put together a proposal based on Coronavirus safety guidelines. Mr. Carcella added if the plan is approved, we would coordinate a township roadside cleanup effort with Loyalhanna Watershed.

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Dan Weimer to approve the plan for Dumpster Days in September. Motion carried.

**Engineer's Report** – see attached

**Ligonier Valley Police Department Report** – see attached

Aggressive driving program continues.

**Solicitor's Report:**

Mr. Korn reported that an executive session was held at 6:45 PM and certified compliance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Laws as the discussions pertained to personnel and real estate.

The Planning Commission's updates to the Gas & Oil Ordinance were tabled until the EADS Group updates the GIS maps to show the impacts of the revised setbacks. Suggested the commission review the wellhead protection ordinance as it refers to a now defunct ordinance.

**Zoning Officer Report** – see attached

Very busy month issuing permits, added historical data to the report showing trends over time. The Zoning Hearing Board was canceled in June & July due to lack of agenda.

Blistan Lot request for re-plot: this is a simple consolidation on Hillside Avenue and was approved by the Planning Commission. Mr. Blistan wants to put up a garage on the lot line and it is easier to consolidate than ask for a setback variance.

**Code Officer Report:**

There is an unsafe building on Route 30 across from the Road Toad, Angela Williams is listed as the current owner. There are places where one can fall through the floor, needs to be condemned.

Received various complaints over yard issues, fumes from burning, loose dogs.

Three (3) pools were installed without permits, but are now in compliance.

No parking-signs were put up on Calvary Road by a homeowner; they need to be investigated for compliance.

Mr. Nieuwsma reported that he attended a presentation by “Archive Social,” a company that offers social media (i.e. Twitter, Facebook) records preservation for Right-To-Know purposes. The Borough of Chambersburg was sued and paid \$9k over an open records issue. This may be a liability we were not aware of, would like a supervisor or two to sit in on a presentation and bring back to the board for discussion. Mr. Korn asked Mr. Nieuwsma to send him more information on this.

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the “subdivision” consolidation? Motion carried.

**Correspondence:**

1. ISO Letter on UCC Code – notice our inspection process is being evaluated on a rating system of 1-10, where 1 is the best. Our current rating is 2 for commercial and 3 for residential, we don't anticipate much change.
2. Lehigh Hanson – notice there is a 30 day comment period open regarding the renewal of their asphalt plant's existing air permit.

## Treasurer's Report

Supervisor Verna reported the account balances as of July 14, 2020:

General Fund	\$243,907
General Fund Reserves	683,619
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund*	220,473
Capital Fund Reserves*	40,261
Ligonier Beach Park*	429
Mill Creek Memorial Park*	23,500

Total Funds Balance: \$1,212,189

\*denotes funds are restricted

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve the bills for as presented. Motion carried.

### New Business:

#### 1. 2020 Year-end Budget Forecast

Still showing a deficit, amusement tax revenue down as Idlewild just reopened. We have savings in fuel, overtime, and chip-seal road projects were cut back 2/3. We can transfer some money from Liquid Fuels; also trying to carry \$100k over in 2021 from the Liquid Fuels fund to soften the blow should the state cut next year's funds.

#### 2. Resolution #11-2020 PA Walkworks Grant – a joint application with the Borough

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Scott Matson to approve Resolution #11-2020. Motion carried.

#### 3. Myers School Road Report & Resolution

The road was supposed to reopen in August, but there is an opportunity to extend the closure another year at \$5k/per month with an MOU specifying Coal Loaders would be responsible for more repairs addressing safety/stormwater drainage issues.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the resolution in principle if Mr. Korn and Mr. Faas identify the specific issues to be addressed. Motion carried.

#### 4. Jim Ridilla's Offer to donate two (2) lots to the Township and pay for the transfer costs.

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Dan Weimer to accept the Mr. Ridilla's donation of two lots to the Township. Motion carried.

5. Miller Sewage Planning Module on Tosh Road (New Construction Home)

- A motion was made by Dan Weimer and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the Sewage Planning Module. Motion carried.

6. Hutch Lane Stormwater Complaint & Policy Review

In 2012, the township acquired a \$60k CDBG grant to address stormwater on Hutch Lane. The work only lasted 8 years – Mr. Faas tried, but found it difficult to assess. It is overgrown and he couldn't get close enough to review the work, but suspects it is covered in mud. The farm above discharges sediment. The property is in the floodplain, it looks to be wetlands. There are 3 abandoned homes and no new building, it's not ideal for development. Suggested digging a ditch or adding drainage around the house to move the water away from the house – but the home owner wants the Township to fix.

Discussion: there are many areas that have stormwater / drainage issues throughout the Township. Laughlintown was identified as a high priority with more residents, damage to the roads, etc. and is currently being studied. Laughlintown should be the focus unless there is an emergency. Follow the plan. Mr. Korn to draft a letter Mr. Yemick explaining the Township's policy and decision not to take further action on the Hutch Lane stormwater issue.

7. Fire Department donations, \$10k in the budget for each department. The Waterford Department's parking lot chip-seal project estimate is \$4k, would like deduct some of this expense from their donation.

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Dan Weimer to give \$10k to each fire department, minus \$2k to Waterford to offset the expenses to fix their parking lot. Motion carried.

### **Supervisor Comments**

Supervisor Verna – Mr. Faas made adjustments to make the options outlined in the Act 537 Plan more comparable. Requested that a present worth analysis be added, with supporting details, and an exhibit of the general alignments, then send this package back to Mr. Halmi with a request that he respond to the DEP's comments. She fully expects questions, but the more things we can address / resolve now, the better. Would like to approve the Plan's submittal at the next meeting.

Supervisor Knupp – Mentioned there are grants related to COVID available to the fire departments and gave a printout to Chairman Beaufort. He complimented Public Works regarding the work they did on Center Street.

Supervisor Beaufort – Complimented the crew on their Fire Hall Road work.

Supervisor Weimer – asked for an update on his request to have the speed limit reduced on Hotel Road and having new speed limit signs posted as he is worried about the children playing nearby. The houses are close to the street, cars parked along it reduce visibility, and the concern is still great going into the fall, especially if the children aren't in school.

- A motion was made by Dan Weimer and seconded by Stephanie Verna to advertise the ordinance modification required for the Hotel Road speed limit reduction, so that it can be approved at the next meeting. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Scott Matson to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer