

## **Ligonier Township Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes**

*April 27, 2021*

The Supervisors of Ligonier Township met in regular session at 4:30 PM. Present were Chair, John Beaufort; Vice Chair, Paul Knupp; Secretary/Treasurer, Stephanie Verna; Supervisor, D. Scott Matson; and Supervisor, Dan Resenic.

Also present were Manager, Terry Carcella; Solicitor, Michael Korn; Engineer Ben Faas, Zoning Officer, Jim Nieuwsma, and Finance Officer, Bethany Caldwell (via Zoom).

### **Public Comment “A”**

1. Barth Ghetto, stated he was in support of the property maintenance ordinance being passed. He’s been living next to problems for years and nothing changes, despite having asked for assistance several times.

2. Julie Donovan, provided an update regarding the Ligonier Beach pool community group’s project – has a packet for the Supervisors and Mr. Teeter. Received an anonymous donation to complete their non-profit status application. Pursuing a natural pool concept, preserving the historical pool shape while being environmental friendly.

3. Douglas Finger, requested the Board take their time to allow for careful planning of the Ligonier Beach Park with community participation – cited the return of the Laurel Mountain Ski Resort as a successful example of what can be done.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Paul Knupp to approve the minutes from the April 13, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

### **Supervisors Comment**

Supervisor Knupp – thanked the crew for working at the Dumpster Day event.

### **Community Development Committee Report**

The committee met April 20 and discussed how the township can support the community’s recreation, tourism, and sport economies. They reviewed a list of community assets and stakeholders and discussed how the property maintenance ordinance will improve the community. The committee recommends keeping the Ligonier Beach Park closed until a master site plan is completed, while continuing work associated with the DCNR grants received. A new community map is being designed with a bicentennial celebration in mind – recommend partnering with the VFDs for fundraising events along with a community-wide weeklong (July 4) celebration at Waterford grounds, that includes food, vendors, and other entertainment. Staff will research the township’s historical events and a list of all the supervisors who have served over the past 200 years.

## **Manager's Report**

Mr. Carcella reported that the Dumpster Day event held this past Saturday, April 24 was a success: 4 dumpsters filled, 60 residents participated, \$487 collected.

Eight residents living on the private section of Edgemont Road have requested the Township work with its contractor (Quaker) to chip seal their section of road at their expense. There was a discussion regarding the township doing something similar in the past for non-profit organizations. It was noted this would be a new policy decision for residents. Mr. Kornis said the residents would have to pre-pay and all would need to sign a waiver. Supervisors advised staff to check with the contractor, ask if they are willing to do it, and if so at the same price? Will it affect the existing work schedule?

## **Correspondence**

1. Recreation Board – Thank You letter for donation from Marcy Larson
2. Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau – Open House, May 5 & 6, 3-6 PM
3. Charles Jacobina email – wood being cut and left, concern it could roll into the right of way or into the stream (the Township did not hire this contractor, this is a private property issue)
4. Loyalhanna Watershed Letter

## **Zoning & Code Report**

Teeter & Associates Ligonier Beach Park Feasibility Study – the scope of services for this project was handed out.

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes - 2 subdivisions approved with conditions

Lewis Thomas – name the ROW to develop the land-locked lot

Kim Miller – apartment in the barn cannot be used as a rental, resident's guest use only

## **Finance Report**

American Rescue Plan handout – Supervisor Verna asked the Public Works committee to present a proposal for their equipment needs.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Supervisor Verna reported the account balances as of April 27:

General Fund	\$114,948
General Fund Reserves	685,143
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund*	412,126
Capital Fund Reserves*	20,863
Ligonier Beach Park*	429
Mill Creek Memorial Park*	5,100
Charlotte Hi Acre Waterline*	1,548
Developers Account*	1,500
Total Funds Balance:	\$1,241,657

\*denotes funds are restricted

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

### **Executive Session**

The Supervisors held an executive session at 5:00 PM and resumed regular meeting at 5:32 PM. Mr. Korn's certified compliance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Laws as the discussions pertained to personnel and on-going litigation.

### **Old Business:**

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Dan Resenic to cancel Savvy Citizen subscription. Motion carried.

### Property Maintenance Ordinance 2021-01 discussion

Supervisor Verna said the current draft is too broad, e.g. references swimming pools and number markers. She drove around the township and looked at properties that received complaints. We are trying to solve specific problems – garbage, hazardous materials, safety issues. Is there another way to deal with abandoned properties? Mr. Korn's clarified this issue is enforcement – we have not had success trying to enforce violations. Supervisor Verna doesn't want to create redundancies – if there are existing laws we don't need to recreate them. Would like language restricted to address the specific problems we are having and address issues we actually have resources to enforce. Reduce evidence requirements, ability to fine residents. The supervisors recommended removing language referring to "interiors," sections 303, 304, keep 307, and 308. Section 302.2 applies to villages, residential areas – so it allows for some differences between rural areas and denser areas. Mr. Korn's and Mr. Nieuwma to pare it down more and present it at the next meeting.

- A motion was made by Dan Resenic and seconded by Paul Knupp to adopt a Resolution outlining the Board's Governance Policy (R-21-11). Motion carried.

### Ligonier Beach Financial Feasibility Study (Teeter & Associates) discussion

The project is about assessing whether or not there is any financial support from the local foundations –

- A motion was made by Stephane Verna and seconded by Dan Resenic to approve the Teeter contract – provided that the consultant's report based on interviews with the staff, citizens groups, & Rec Board be presented to the Board first, prior to meeting with the funders. Motion carried.

## **New Business**

### New Truck Lease or Purchase Quotes

Supervisor Verna asked for a report that summarizes the status of the Public Works fleet – including vehicles age, condition, mileage, how much anticipated life left, monthly payments etc.

### Indiana-Westmoreland COG Fuel Bids for 2021

Mr. Carcella cautioned that fuel prices are rising – Glassmere’s low bid for sulfur diesel (delivered) is \$1.966 and unleaded (delivered) \$1.979 / per gallon.

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Scott Matson to accept the low bid (Glassmere). Motion carried.

## **Engineer Report**

Mr. Faas to provide Mountain Road specs for road pave quotes since the stormwater drain was replaced recently.

Investigated a complaint regarding a ditch clean out and request to excavate / widen it along Old Route 30 and determined it cannot be altered as it will the residents and road at risk.

## **Supervisor Comments**

Supervisor Matson – asked how long Meyers School Road would remain closed? We gave Coal Loaders until July 2021.

## **Public Comment “B”**

Julie Donovan commented on the Teeter & Associate scope of project discussion and said best practice indicate more success when more specific. Please look at packet – their recommendation involves the big picture, addresses environmental concerns and provides economic benefit.


- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Stephanie Verna to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

**Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, PA**  
**Bill Payments for All Vendors**  
**April 27, 2021**

Vendor	Type	Num	Amount
<b>Apr 27, 21</b>			
AA Septic Tank Service	Bill Pmt -Check	24127	150.00
Andrews Sales & Service	Bill Pmt -Check	24128	14.41
Aqua Filter Fresh	Bill Pmt -Check	24129	17.90
Beaufort Services, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24130	3,770.58
Fayette Parts Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24131	196.89
Glassmere Fuel Service	Bill Pmt -Check	24132	1,903.71
Greensburg Minuteman Press	Bill Pmt -Check	24133	471.78
Hampton Office Products	Bill Pmt -Check	24134	12.59
James Nieusma	Bill Pmt -Check	24135	16.24
Legacy Truck Centers, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24136	6,083.92
Ligonier Township	Bill Pmt -Check	24137	500.00
Ligonier Valley Police Department	Bill Pmt -Check	24138	113,542.83
Maiello, Brungo & Maiello, LLP	Bill Pmt -Check	24139	3,044.25
Municipal Authority of Westmoreland Count	Bill Pmt -Check	24140	69.07
ODB Company	Bill Pmt -Check	24141	356.89
PSATS	Bill Pmt -Check	24142	3,786.77
Sal Vella (V)	Bill Pmt -Check	24143	1,232.30
Standard Insurance Company	Bill Pmt -Check	24144	818.70
Town & Country Motors	Bill Pmt -Check	24145	3,365.58
West Penn Power	Bill Pmt -Check	24146	685.84
Ligonier Valley Police Department	Bill Pmt -Check	24147	218.70
<b>Apr 27, 21</b>			<b>140,258.95</b>

  
4-27-21


OS

11:49 AM  
04/26/21

Ligonier Township-Liquid Fuels  
Bill Payments for All Vendors  
April 27, 2021

---

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Apr 27, 21 Ligonier Township	Bill Pmt -Check	1288	50,000.00
Apr 27, 21			<u>50,000.00</u>

  
4-27-21

OC