

Ligonier Township Supervisors
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2021

The Supervisors of Ligonier Township met in regular session at 7:00 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.

Public Comment (none)

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the minutes from the November 23, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Supervisor's Comment

Supervisor Resenic asked about the property maintenance code enforcement process.

Manager's Report

Mr. Carcella reported that the County Tax Committee met last week and decided to extend the Berkheimer contract one year and will seek quotes to ensure competitive pricing, the current collection fee is 1.37%. Advent Communications has been on-site to correct a few bugs with the new camera system, it has been fixed now and training is scheduled for January 4. The recycling bins have been closed to the public as they are full and the vendor cannot provide a date when they will be emptied.

Correspondence

2020 Audit of District Judge Thiel

Ligonier Valley Police Department Report (attached)

Mrs. Keggs sent a thank you card and recognized Officer Barber for his excellent service.

Public Works Report

Mr. Carcella gave an update on the equipment – truck #8 needs a turbo, estimate is \$4500-\$5k and looking for an after-market part since they can't find a new one. The weather forecast looks good until mid-January, but that is subject to change. Lights were added to the new Ford F-150 truck. The paver wheels have been ordered at a cost of \$9,686 and will be in 2-3 weeks.

Engineer's Report (none)

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Korn postponed tonight's executive session until after the meeting, since formal action by the Board is not required.

Zoning & Code Report (attached)

Mr. Nieuwsma said the building permits are down compared to last year due to more interior renovating and less new home builds.

The Planning Commission reviewed some proposed Zoning Map changes and recommended they be approved pending there are no tax implications (staff verified there are not tax implications, as the only two things that would affect real estate taxes are the county's assessed value and the township's millage rate). The proposed changes would affect two different areas in the Township: Long Bridge Station parcels and Mountain Road parcels.

Long Bridge Station – there are several small, non-conforming lots currently zoned for agriculture use. The recommendation is to change the “Agriculture” zoning to “Village” zoning because it is a better fit. Parcels designated as Village are typically smaller and they would now be conforming lots. Additionally, the Village designation allows mixed use, including commercial use.

There is land along the creek owned by Festival Fun Parks (i.e. Idlewild) that is currently zoned Agriculture. Recommend changing it to Commercial use, so that it is consistent with the rest of Idlewild's property. There is one parcel that can be developed easily as it already has sewer / water.

Mountain Road – the residents would like eight parcels to be rezoned from Agriculture to Residential as the zoning ordinance prevents fracking in residential zones. The residents thought this batch approach would be easier than coming in one at a time to request rezoning. Supervisor Matson asked if this change would impact the resident building a garage and new home on end lot? No. Any complaints? No. Supervisor Verna asked why are we leaving the smaller lots with houses in this area zoned Agriculture? To be consistent, shouldn't we make them Residential too? They are too small for R1, they were not part of the group that approached the Township that requested the change. There was a discussion about how changing zoning might affect current land owners. Anytime updates are made, each owner needs to be notified as they have a right to attend a public meeting and approach the Board.

After discussion, the Board directed staff to work with EADS to update the map parcels and zoning colors based on current conditions (this involves a fee), label a “before” and “after” map clearly, provide a key that includes the different types of zoning and their associated uses / restrictions so that they can better understand the changes being proposed and the impacts.

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Dan Resenic to table this issue until the next meeting. Motion carried.

Solicitor Kornis noted that this was a review item only. A vote on the Zoning Map Changes would consist of whether or not to advertise for 30 days and notify the public of a potential changes.

Treasurer's Report

Supervisor Verna reported the account balances as of December 14:

General Fund	\$469,981
General Fund Reserves	685,088
APRA Fund	5,490
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund*	7,089
Capital Fund Reserves*	40,067
Ligonier Beach Park*	116,634
Mill Creek Memorial Park*	1,209
Charlotte Hi Acre Waterline*	46,548
Developers' Account*	3,407
Total Funds Balance:	\$1,375,513

*denotes funds are restricted

- A motion was made by Dan Resenic and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Paul Knupp to approve the Tibbott sub-division. Motion carried.

New Business:

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Paul Knupp approving the Pale Blue Eye Agreement. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Dan Resenic approving the Township's 2022 Budget with one minor adjustment – will not transfer \$50k from the Liquid Fuels Fund to the General Fund to pay for salt. Instead, the salt invoices will be paid directly out of the Liquid Fuels Fund. Motion carried, 4:1 with Supervisor Matson voting nay.

Supervisor Matson asked about the Public Works section of the budget, its history and wanted more money allocated to materials for the roads. It was noted that there haven't been significant increase or decreases to this part of the budget in the past 2-3 years.

Public Comment (none)

Supervisor Comments

Supervisor Verna – some residents have shared information regarding Rustic Ridge Coal Mining and their potential impact on the Loyalhanna Watershed. They have asked that Stacy Magna from the Mountain Watershed present at the 2nd meeting in January. Staff to coordinate with Annie McDougall. Mrs. McDougall continues to work on the air quality project.

Supervisor Matson – thanked Paul Knupp for his service and said that even though they haven't always agreed upon things, he has enjoyed sitting with him on the board for the past 8 years.

Supervisor Resenic – said Paul has been a good friend and a good colleague and appreciated his hard work.

Supervisor Knupp – said he started 8 years ago and at that time, the place was in dire need of change. Now there is a good township manager, a good solicitor, a good engineer, and good workers. He thanked everyone, said it's been an honor and hopes that more township folks step up and serve.

Supervisor Beaufort – said he's known Paul all his life, and he appreciates all that Paul has done, he stepped in and served the Township, and before that the Municipal Authority. Thank you Paul!

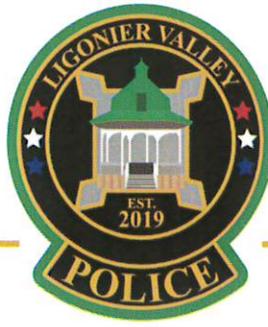
Supervisor Resenic asked if the December 21 meeting was going to be held. It will be cancelled.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Dan Resenic to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

John E. Berger
Chief of Police
724-238-5611



Michael W. Matrunic
Assistant Chief
724-238-5105

Police Activity Report
Month of November

Administrative Report

180 Regular Shifts Worked = 1,440
56 Total Court Hours
538 Complaint Handled
27 Criminal Arrests
41 Traffic Citations
15 Citations Issued in Ligonier Borough
26 Citations Issued in Ligonier Township
210 Calls in Ligonier Borough
339 Calls in Ligonier Township
54 Patrols/Calls Laurel Mt. Borough
384 Calls from 911

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JEB", is written over the typed name and title.

John E. Berger
Chief of Police

December 2021 Zoning Report

	Qty	Amount
Lien Letter Income	16	450.00
Permits		
Building/UCC	2	90.00
Zoning	1	75.00
Demolition	1	50.00
Driveway	0	-
Fireworks	0	-
No-Impact Home Based Business	0	-
Occupancy	0	-
Peddler	0	-
Right-of-Way	1	410.00
Sign	0	-
Sewage	2	300.00
Special Events	0	-
Total: Permits	7	925.00

Total **1,375.00**

Total Income Yr-#-SFH(MH)/Dup

2021 Permits 57-7 (0)sfh/0dup \$75k-500k	128/217	\$ 37,626.49
2020 Permits 73-7(1)sfh/0dup \$85k-1.1m	218/167	\$ 81,133.10
2019 Permits 72-8(4)sfh/0dup \$138-950K	171/187	\$ 64,312.32
2018 Permits 57-6(0)sfh/0dup \$100k-2.2m	141/200	\$ 67,625.93
2017 Permits 53-5(2)sfh/4dup		
2016 Permits 57-8(0)sfh/7dup		
2015 Permits 28-6(0)sfh/1dup		

ZHB cancelled no agenda

Rec Committee canceled

1 CC rcvd, Dog kennel improper disposal of waste, under investigation

Respectfully submitted by Jim Nieusma

Zoning/Code/Community Development Officer

#	December 2021 Lien Letter	Amount
1	Griffith, 51-18-00-0-032	\$ 25.00
2	McVicker, 51-11-00-0-022	\$ 25.00
3	Kotvas, 51-30-07-0-028	\$ 25.00
4	Gray, 51-15-00-0-090	\$ 25.00
5	D'Annunzio	\$ 25.00
6	Huston, 51-17-00-0-181	\$ 25.00
7	Sleasman, 51-17-00-0-294	\$ 25.00
8	Hebb, 51-17-13-0-050 & 51-17-13-0-051	\$ 50.00
9	DePalma, 51-23-00-0-056	\$ 25.00
10	Claycomb, 51-23-04-0-083 & 51-23-04-0-084	\$ 50.00
11	Kerklo/Kenchiova, 51-16-00-0-106	\$ 25.00
12	Graham/Norris, 51-23-00-0-032	\$ 25.00
13	Derk, 51-18-06-0-045	\$ 25.00
14	Parei Ventures, 51-23-00-0-050	\$ 25.00
15	Dowling, 51-17-09-0-041	\$ 25.00
16	Palmiscno, 51-16-16-0-062	\$ 25.00
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
	December Total	\$450.00

Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, PA
Bill Payments for All Vendors
December 14, 2021

Vendor	Type	Num	Amount
Dec 14, 21			
AA Septic Tank Service	Bill Pmt -Check	24574	150.00
AFLAC	Bill Pmt -Check	24575	102.92
Black's Specialty Service	Bill Pmt -Check	24576	650.80
Comcast	Bill Pmt -Check	24577	133.35
Credit Card Dept-First Commonwealth Bank	Bill Pmt -Check	24578	958.91
Fayette Parts Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24579	401.78
Feaster Pension Consulting, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24580	750.00
FirstNet	Bill Pmt -Check	24581	86.18
Glassmere Fuel Service	Bill Pmt -Check	24582	2,490.27
Grass Root Solutions	Bill Pmt -Check	24583	7,445.00
High Pressure Component Sales, LLC	Bill Pmt -Check	24584	344.46
JSB Holding, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24585	394.15
Laurel Valley Hardware Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24586	128.31
Laurel Valley Motors	Bill Pmt -Check	24587	4,175.95
Legacy Truck Centers, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24588	75.96
Level One	Bill Pmt -Check	24607	95.00
Ligonier Agway	Bill Pmt -Check	24589	42.97
LVTech	Bill Pmt -Check	24590	1,395.00
McInchok Sanitation	Bill Pmt -Check	24591	135.00
Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24592	36.58
Royal Oak Retriever, LLC	Bill Pmt -Check	24593	120.00
SWIF	Bill Pmt -Check	24594	4,411.00
Terry Carcella	Bill Pmt -Check	24595	60.02
The EADS Group	Bill Pmt -Check	24596	4,367.91
The Fastener Stop	Bill Pmt -Check	24597	16.90
The Latrobe Bulletin	Bill Pmt -Check	24598	459.43
Total Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24599	174.21
Tricia Levander	Bill Pmt -Check	24600	1,229.28
UAW LOCAL 204	Bill Pmt -Check	24601	327.86
UniFirst Corporation	Bill Pmt -Check	24602	175.76
Unifirst First Aid & Safety	Bill Pmt -Check	24603	133.44
Valley Landscaping & Lawn Care	Bill Pmt -Check	24604	616.00
West Penn Power	Bill Pmt -Check	24605	336.05
Western Pennsylvania Teamsters and Employ	Bill Pmt -Check	24606	22,773.15
Dec 14, 21			55,193.60

12-14-21
SC