

**MT. PLEASANT TWP. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING OF FEBRUARY 24, 2016**

The meeting of February 24, 2016, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Farner with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Those present were: Gary Farner, Chairman (GF), Brian Temple, Vice-Chairman (BT), Don Reed, Supervisor (DR), Tom McDermott, Solicitor (TM) and Karen Fein, Secretary (KF).

**Executive Session:** GF announced there was an executive session held on February 15, 2016 to discuss personnel issues. There will be an executive session after tonight's meeting for personnel reasons.

**Matters Concerning Business of the Township:** None

**Public Comments Regarding the Agenda:**

Paul Batista (PB), 28 Johnston Road asked about Item P and if trees were being planted. GF stated they're going to be re-doing the infields on the ballfields. BT stated it's for the Southview Field which was entered into a lease with the Yanosiks and the Community Center.

Bill Clarken asked about Item R and what K2's qualifications are in enforcing the codes and if it is the same engineering company involved with the dispute with his neighbor and had allowed them to clear land. GF replied that the original approval and permits pre-dated K2 and that it was HMT that permitted that. GF stated that K2 is aware and involved in his situation and is familiar with our zoning and code requirements.

**Action Items:**

- A. **Serenity Farms Roadway Improvement Project:** BT motioned to close the bidding process and open the sealed bids for the Serenity Farms Roadway Improvement Project. . GF opened and read the bids as follows: John T. Subrick Inc. of Eighty-Four ,PA, \$59,900.00, El Grande Industries of Monessen, PA, \$49,200.00, J.E. Lyons Construction of Latrobe, PA, \$80,200.00, John Stewart of Canonsburg, PA, \$47,500.00 and WA Petrakis Contracting of Monroeville, PA, \$100,000.00. DR seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- B. **Serenity Farms Roadway Improvement Project Bid Award:** BT motioned to award the bid for the Serenity Farms Roadway Improvement Project to John Stewart of Canonsburg, PA for \$47,500.00 subject to review by the township solicitor and engineer. DR seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. **Reports:** GF motioned to accept the following reports, if any, as submitted for the Board's review. BT seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
  - Zoning Officer's Report – None
  - Public Safety Report – 1/21/16 – 2/18/16
  - Public Works Report – 1/22/16 – 2/22/16
  - Planning Commission Minutes –
  - Parks & Recreation Minutes – October 2015, November 2015 & January 2016
  - Municipal Authority Minutes – January 2016
  - Midway Sewage Minutes – January 2016
  - Cross Creek Valley Region Minutes – None
  - Wash. County Sewage Council Report – None
  - MPT Volunteer Fire Dept. Reports – Financials – January 2016, Calls – December 2015 & January 2016
  - Treasurer Report – January 2016
  - Correspondence – 1/22/16 – 2/18/16
- D. **Bills:** DR motioned to ratify the payment of invoices for the period of 1/22/16 – 02/18/16 as presented. GF seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- E. **Minutes:** GF motioned to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2016 regular board meeting. DR seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- F. **Resolution 2016-E:** BT motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-E; a resolution fixing the tax rate for hydrant assessments for 2016. GF seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- G. **Resolution 2016-F:** DR motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-F; a resolution fixing the tax rate for light assessments for 2016. BT seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- H. **Resolution 2016-G:** GF motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-G; a resolution of Mont Pleasant Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania, Authorizing and Implementing Changes to the Trustees of the Money

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Purchase Pension Plan, to Appoint/re-appoint the Current Elected Officials as the Designated Trustees to The Plan. BT seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- I. **Tax Collector 2016 Hours:** BT motioned to approve the tax collector's 2016 hours as: May 3, 5, 10 & 12 and October 4, 6, 11 & 13 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm in addition to Saturday hours from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. DR seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- J. **Planning Commission Vacancy:** GF motioned to appoint Gary Cowden to fill the Planning Commission Vacancy. DR seconded the motion. The motion carried 2 to 1.
- K. **Municipal Authority Vacancy:** BT motioned to appoint Steve Balta to fill the Municipal Authority Vacancy. GF seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- L. **Heritage Public Library Board:** DR motioned to appoint Kathy Farner to the Heritage Public Library Board. BT seconded the motion. GF abstained. The motion carried with an abstention.
- M. **Part-time Public Works employee:** BT motioned to hire Adam Lohr as a part-time public works employee on an as needed basis retroactive to February 1, 2016. DR seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- N. **Easter Egg Hunt Disbursement:** GF motioned to approve the disbursement of \$2,500 to the Parks & Rec. Board for the Easter Egg Hunt. BT seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- O. **Appalachian Bike Race:** GF motioned to approve the Appalachian Bicycle Racing Association bike race for Saturday, June 11, 2016 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm utilizing the same route as in the past (Ft. Cherry Road, Walnut Road, Waterdam Road & Cherry Valley Road) and that they get in touch with the police department to discuss any safety concerns. BT seconded the motion. DR stated that there are trails throughout the township, why do public roads have to be tied up. GF stated that the township can't stop them because it is a public road and you can't prevent them from using the roads. The board of supervisors vote on it so that they're aware of when the bike race will take place. DR stated it gets worse every year. Chief McQuillan stated they put their own signs up and have their own flaggers. Motion carried 2 to 1.
- P. **M.D. Murphy Tree Farm Agreement:** BT motioned to enter into agreement with M.D. Murphy Tree Farm for parks and recreation work using approved Act 13 money. DR seconded the motion. GF questioned whether the price included Southview. BT stated it was for the Community Center since the township received a donation from the owners of the Southview Ballfield we were going to use that for the Southview Field. GF stated the bid was for \$7,200 for two fields. BT amended the motion for a maximum of \$10,000 using Act 13 money. DR seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- Q. **Zoning Officer Resignation:** DR motioned to accept the resignation of Zoning Officer Larry Chome effective February 26, 2016. BT seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- R. **Appoint K2 Engineering:** GF motioned to appoint K2 Engineering as the township's interim Zoning/Code Enforcement official effective February 29, 2016. BT suggested amending the motion to change the effective date to February 26, 2016. GF amended the motion to change the date to February 26<sup>th</sup>. DR seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### Discussion Items:

1. GF motioned to hire DB McCalmont as part-time parks maintenance at \$12.00 an hour. BT seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
2. GF stated that there has been conflicts between the lower pavilion rental and ball teams regarding the concession stand. The small pavilion will no longer have access to the concession stand except for the one reservation that has already been paid for.
  - ▶ GF motioned to change the small pavilion rental fee to \$50 for residents and \$60 for non-residents. BT seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. DR asked if the fire department siren in Hickory and Southview were working, GF stated that neither are operational and both need to be completely replaced. DR stated that he has been approached by residents who want some sort of emergency siren because of all the train and truck traffic and gas activity in the township in case there is an emergency. GF stated that if the siren goes off people are going to think it's a fire call. 911 center has capabilities to do reverse calls in situations where something needs to be out there but it's only for land lines. DR mentioned that the gas companies should pay for it. DR motioned that emergency sirens be placed in Westland, Southview and Hickory to alert residents of an evacuation event. Motion died for a lack of a second. There was discussion between the board members concerning the siren and how it works. BT made a motion to explore the option of installing sirens. DR seconded the motion. Public comment: numerous

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unidentified people spoke about how they would know what the sirens were for and there was also discussion regarding evacuation plans and the confusion that would result when some areas would not need to be evacuated and the confusion that it could result. BT stated that the emergency management coordinator is responsible for the evacuation plan. TM stated that the county hazmat team would assist in evacuation plans. Motion carried unanimously.

4. BT stated that he attended a meeting at the McDonald Library regarding the retaining wall behind the building that's falling in. It was determined that each municipality would be responsible for about \$1,500 each for supplies. The municipalities will work together along with the contractor to do the work.  
▶ BT motioned to authorize up to \$1,500 for the library retaining wall project. GF seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
5. BT stated that Mickey Maga (MM) & K2 Engineering went out and looked at roads in order to apply for grants through the Washington County Conservation District. BT mentioned that two of the roads that may qualify are Galati & Allison Avenue.  
▶ BT made a motion to authorize the application to the Washington County Conservation District Dirt & Gravel Road Grant Program for Allison Avenue & Galati. DR seconded the motion. GF stated this is the same project as the Serenity Farms Project and that you may not get the grant. Motion passed unanimously.
6. BT stated there is a list of roads that will need sealed in 2016. There was back and forth conversation about which roads will need to be sealed and what the cost would be. It was determined the following roads will need to be sealed first: Kelso, Jacobs, Loffert, Bowen and Washington Avenue. DR suggested fixing Cowden Road but it was determined that Cowden Road is located in Cross Creek Township. BT stated that at the Cross Creek Region meeting he is going to use the following figures for Mt. Pleasant so that the region can bid materials: 34,000 gallons of oil and 954 tons of stone. These figures can be adjusted based upon money availability. BT stated that the bids are not yet in on these items but expects them to be lower than last year.
7. BT suggested the township start charging non local teams for the use of ballfields and for the solicitor to look into it. There was back and forth discussion as to who will be charged and what amount to charge them. TM stated that he would get example ordinances/resolutions from other municipalities to present to the board next month. It was determined that Fort Cherry Softball and Baseball teams should have priority and that those two organizations will communicate the schedule amongst themselves.
8. TM stated that the finalized draft of the comprehensive plan was sent to him. TM said that upon receipt by the county there has to be a public meeting about the plan within 45 days. TM suggested that the board motion for the meeting at a date to be determined once the county has received the plan. It is anticipated the meeting will be held in April. GF made the motion and BT seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**Other New Business:** None

**Public Comment on Matters of Concern:**

Jane Worthington, 135 Main Street, suggested that the Act 13 money be used for the fire department siren and an evacuation plan.

Paul Batista (PB), 28 Johnston Road, wanted to know if there was a way to keep the line of sight open on Johnston Road since he heard someone is going to be planting corn. PB also asked about the gate for the railroad. PB also stated that there is excessive gravel on the road. PB asked that the township look at this situation. PB also asked for Johnston Road be considered for sealing.

Kathy Yonker, 86 Baker Road, thanked Larry Chome for his years of service.

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Bill Clarcken asked about the status of his situation and thinks that his neighbor is not doing what he is supposed to be doing. GF stated nothing was given to him in writing and Larry Chome (LC) said that he just left him a phone message to call Clarcken. Clarcken stated that as he reads the ordinance he should be given a date to correct the problem by and if it's not corrected he should be cited. GF stated that he was going to be meeting with LC and that he would get with the solicitor and get back to Clarcken.

An unidentified male asked if Clarcken's situation was related to the slide on Martin Road. GF stated that it was not, that it was more of a ditch problem.

Jane Worthington (JW), 135 Main Street, asked about the status of the four impoundments. TM stated that on February 12, 2016 Range Resources submitted their groundwater and soil reports to the DEP concerning the Carter Impoundment. He anticipates that within a few weeks from today that they will file their paperwork with the DEP to close the impoundments. Once the reports are filed, the DEP has to respond to Range Resources and that affects the timeline. Range Resources is hopeful that they will be able to start closing the impoundments within 60 days of the filing. JW questioned the timeline and TM stated that he believes that they are following the agreed upon timeline as he has stated in previous meetings. TM also stated that DEP works on their own timeline. TM stated that he doesn't know the status of the other three impoundments.

**Adjournment:** DR motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM, and BT seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Fein  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Mount Pleasant Township  
Board of Supervisors