

MT. PLEASANT TWP. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2012

The meeting of September 26, 2012, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Grimm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Those present were: Larry H. Grimm, Chairman (LG), Arden B. McCartney, Vice-Chairman (AM), Bryan Smith, Supervisor (BS), William A. Johnson, Solicitor (WJ), Larry Chome, Zoning Officer (LC), Mary Ann Stevenson, Manager/Secretary (MS), and those citizens listed on the attached sheet.

Executive Session: There was an executive session held on 9/5/12 at 11:30 am to discuss personnel issues.

Public Comments: Charles Cooper (CC), 380 Ridge Road, McDonald, stated that he planted oak trees 15 -20 years ago along Ridge Road and that he has nursed them and fed them and then last week a public works employee mowed along the road with a brush hog and ruined these trees. He added that this person cut into the trunks of the trees, left branches everywhere and tore up the sod and he would like some sort of satisfaction or resolution to this problem. CC added that if he didn't know any better he'd think it was vandalism or some sort of retaliation against him. BS stated he did go out and see the trees and would like a couple of days to gather more information and to talk with the board and the public works director.

Jack Robinson (JR), 350 Ridge Road, McDonald, stated that the damaged trees are not run of the mill trees, that they are special oak trees and that he personally takes care of the lawn there and that he takes a lot of pride in the landscaping and his community and feels that this act was incomprehensible and it was complete and total damage. LG asked if the trees were in the Township's right-of-way and JR said they were not. AM asked how far they were from the center of the road and CC stated they are a good 20 feet from the center of the road. BJ stated that the Township's right-of-way is 33 feet (16.5 feet from the center of the road). JR added that the employees need to use some common sense when doing their job which was not the case here. HE added that a simple phone call could have prevented this as they would have had them professionally trimmed. LG asked how many trees were damaged and CC stated that 16 were damaged in total but 8 were severely damaged. BS said he would get back with CC in a couple of days.

Bill Mungai (BM), 23 Skyline Dr. asked the BOS if they've been on Skyline lately and BS stated he had. He said the drop offs created by RR when they repaired the road in some places are 2 feet deep and it is a real danger. AM asked if there were any markers or indicators and BM responded that there are not. He added that when he calls RR he gets the run around and is told to call Jim Cannon. BS stated he is aware of the situation and will get with Bill Dinsmore to speed up the process of fixing the drop offs. Mr. Mungai added that they also plugged up a Penn DOT culvert on Rt. 18. BS stated he was aware of this also and will bring it to their attention.

Don Fazzolari, 16 Washington Ave. stated there are a lot of dump trucks using Washington Avenue due to the facility there (Fulton Site) and would like to know why they aren't using Sabo Road. LG stated he thought they were to be using Sabo and that the Township would check on it.

Tom Atchinson, 14 Washington Ave. stated that he had complained to the Police Dept. about speeding on Washington Ave. and that they came out and painted lines on the road. He would like to say thank you because he stated it has slowed the traffic down considerably.

Stacey Brooks, 3 Antil St. requested that a school bus stop sign be placed on Antil Street because it is very dangerous for the children waiting for the bus due to the traffic and the kids stand in high weeds. There was a brief discussion on the location of the bus stop and per BS it is located on the Cecil side of the street. AM suggested talking to Brett Hoop who supplies the buses and BS added that maybe the school district could move the bus stop to somewhere safer like the parking lot of the SNPJ. Ms. Brooks stated her other issue is with the railroad and how the trains go by every ½ hour all through the night and how the whistle blows all the way from Browns to Weaver town for 13 minutes (she timed it). AM stated he was in favor of the rail project to decrease the amount of truck traffic on the road and that it is a federal law that they have to activate the crossing signals. She stated she understood that but it is the train whistle that blows constantly not the signal. BS stated this has to be coming from the Weavertown, Wussick or Brown crossings. Mrs. Brooks said it's not the crossing signal that is the problem it is the train whistle. LG stated he's not sure that there is anything they can do but the Township will check on it for her. BJ will check on it.

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Bill Orton, 140 Eberle Rd. wanted to thank the public works department and Supervisor for taking care of Martin Road.

Duane Scott wanted to make an announcement that there is a town meeting being held at the fire hall on Wednesday, November 7th at 5:30 pm set up by the post office. He stated he is not sure what it is about but wanted to bring it to the board's attention.

Brian Merlino, Heritage Public Library, McDonald addressed the board regarding the library's funding crisis. Mr. Merlino submitted his speech in writing and it is attached to these minutes. Mr. Merlino would like to request any additional funding that the Township could spare this year and asked for increased funding in 2013. AM stated that his children grew up using the library and that it is a valuable asset to the community. Mr. Merlino stated he would appreciate anything the board could do to help.

AM thanked George Yonker for his work on the Westland restroom project.

Reports

The following reports, if any, were submitted for the Board's review and are on file at the Municipal Office:

- Zoning Officer's Report – September, 2012
- Public Safety Report – 8/21/12 – 9/25/12
- Public Works Report – 8/23/12 – 9/26/12
- Planning Commission Minutes – 8/6/12
- Parks & Recreation Minutes – Board Inactive
- Municipal Authority Minutes – None
- Midway Sewage Minutes – 8/7/12
- Cross Creek Valley Region Minutes – None
- Washington County Sewage Council Report - None
- MPT Volunteer Fire Dept. Report - None
- Treasurer's Report - August, 2012
- Correspondence for the period of - 8/22/12 – 9/25/12

► LG motioned to accept the reports as given and AM seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Items:

1. **Bills:** AM motioned to authorize the payment of the invoices for the period of 8/22/12 – 9/25/12 as presented and BS seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
2. **Minutes:** LG motioned to adopt the minutes of the August 22, 2012 regular board meeting and BS seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. **Resolution 2012-Q:** LG motioned to adopt Resolution 2012-Q, a Resolution amending Resolution 2012-O; an Agricultural Security Area Addition for Edward Strnisa adding his wife Kimberly Jo Simms Strnisa to the application for recording purposes and BS seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Non-Uniformed Pension MMO:** LG motioned to approve the 2013 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the non-uniformed pension plan as \$30,793 and AM seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Police Pension MMO:** BS motioned to approve the 2013 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police pension plan as \$10,682 and AM seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Trick-or-Treat Hours:** LG motioned to set the Trick-or-Treat hours as October 31, 2012 from 6 pm – 7:30 pm and BS seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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7. **Matthew Cowden Senior Project:** AM motioned to approve the project and BS seconded the motion. LG stated they will need to advertise for the event so that residents know that the hockey deck is reserved that day. BS questioned Township liability. WJ stated there could be liability and would suggest an indemnity agreement and certificate of insurance for this event. WJ added that the Mario Lemieux Foundation should already have this type of coverage. AM motioned to amend the first motion to read: to approve a senior project for Matthew Cowden to have a hockey tournament on October 20, 2012 starting at 11 am with approximately 75 people in attendance to benefit the Mario Lemieux Foundation contingent upon them advertising the event, providing liability insurance coverage for that event and signing an indemnification agreement and BS seconded the amended motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items: *(board members may elect to discuss items presented to them since the last meeting)*

- Community Development Block Grant. The board discussed whether or not there was enough money available to do a project at this time and it was determined that it was not. AM motioned to roll the money over to the next funding round and LG seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

1. Fulton Subdivision – Deadline to comply with the Township Ordinance was February 29, 2012. Mr. Fulton has contracted with Attorney Saxton to address this matter. Per Mr. Saxton, they intend to fully comply with Township Ordinances. Mr. Saxton stated he will address any concerns with Bill Johnson. As of 4/17/12, Mr. Saxton is working with Mr. Fulton and needs a little more time. LG stated this had gone on long enough. BS stated they should have a deadline. WJ will contact Mr. Saxton to settle on a deadline. Attorney Saxton was contacted by Attorney Johnson and given a deadline of May 15, 2012 for definitive action. WJ stated he talked with Mr. Saxton who said he has been out of the office but reiterated that they are not planning on a challenge of our requirements. WJ added that he feels they are working in good faith. Mr. Saxton is still working on this issue per Bill Johnson. Attorney Bill Johnson gave Attorney Saxton until August 1, 2012 for a subdivision application to be filed or a citation will be issued. A subdivision application was not filed with the Township by 8/1/12 and therefore a citation has been issued but a hearing date had not been set yet. *LC gave an update stating that the hearing has been set for October 11, 2012.*

Adjournment: LG motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 pm and AM seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Stevenson
Township Secretary
Mount Pleasant Township
Board of Supervisors