

ROBESON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Robeson Township was called to order by Chairman Feeg at 7:02PM prevailing time. The meeting took place in the Robeson Township Public Meeting Room located at 2689 Main Street, in Gibraltar, Berks County, Pennsylvania. The following members of the Board were present: Supervisors Love, Smith and Deeds. Supervisor Brown was absent. Also in attendance were Solicitor Christopher Hartman, Engineer Gary Kraft, Road Master Bill Lanza & Manager Thomas C. Keim.

Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Silence

ROADS, CODES & PUBLIC PROPERTY (taken out of order)

Road Master Lanza stated he attended the PSATS convention and talked about a slip in pipe. Received a rough estimate from Snap Tight @ \$190.00 per foot, \$2,000.00 freight + 20 – 30 yards of global fill, maybe more; comes close to \$24,000.00. Also, an excavator may be necessary to assist to help slide the pipe in. Mr. Lanza asked if the BOS wants an excavator to review the work that needs to be done. Discussion followed; this will be for 2016 or 2017 Budget.

PUC Meeting re Seyfert RR tracks has not yet been confirmed for April 29th @ 10:00AM. Mr. Lanza will follow up.

Gibraltar Park – PVC pipe around perimeter of playground equipment has been repaired / replaced & certified playground mulch has been ordered (and will be spread upon receipt).

Authorize Advertisement for Bids Sale of Sterling Truck – Discussion was held re advertising the truck for sale or repairing it. The truck works but has problems. Chairman Feeg stated repairs would need to be made prior to advertising for sale; Mr. Lanza has an estimate to make repairs - approximately \$13,000.00 +. Discussion followed re advertising, repairs, etc. Supervisor Smith moved to authorize the advertisement; following a second by Supervisor Deeds, the motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Deeds asked Engineer Kraft if he was coming to look at Seton Road; EK answered yes. Mr. Deeds said Rock Hollow Road is cracking. Mr. Lanza said the road is cracking on Rock Hollow, Carnis & Seton.

Chairman Feeg said he attended the Road Masters Roundtable at the PSATS convention this past Sunday; he brought up the situation with the defunct part of old SR82 (that goes into the dead-end off of Rock Hollow) where the school buses cannot turn around and it's hazard, etc., and how the Representative from PennDOT has been contacted and he stated that portion could be turned over to Robeson Township but it would have to be done in its current condition. Mr. Feeg stated there is no way RT was taking it needing so many repairs. There was a gentleman sitting in front of Mr. Feeg & after the statement was made he turned around & gave Mr. Feeg his card; his name is John Davis & he's a rep. of PennDOT from Allentown. He said after the BOS discusses the issue & makes a determination to give him a call & he will come look at the area in question.

POLICE

Chief reported that a couple of significant cases from last year (ie, burglaries) and the homicide are moving thru the "system" quickly.

CORRESPONDENCE

Invitation to Grand Opening of the Ephraim Malickson Wildlife Sanctuary – RSVP by 5/1/15

River Run Meadows Apartments – BOS Needs Response by April 24th – No comment.

The meeting was then taken out of order to address Agenda Item 9.B.

Authorize Chairman to Approve MOU between Township, RTMA & HDC – Solicitor Hartman stated he had not seen this document prior to this meeting. Discussion followed re contents of the MOU. Supervisor Smith moved to authorize Chairman Feeg to approve the MOU; following a second by Supervisor Deeds, the motion passed unanimously.

West Nile Virus Study – FYI only.

Respond to Natural Lands Trust re:

- Agricultural Land Addition to NLT's Green Hills Preserve
- Woodland Addition to NLT's Green Hills Preserve – Gundy Woods Property
- Pursuing a Conservation Easement Purchase – Crowell Property

The BOS unanimously approved letters of support to be sent upon a motion by Supervisor Smith that was seconded by Chairman Feeg.

CITIZENS CONCERNS

Dave Henry thanked the BOS on behalf of the residents of Evergreen for the new bridge. Chairman Feeg thanked Mr. Henry for his advice in the past to help the Township expedite the process for a new bridge.

Rich Jones thanked the individual who is responsible for reviewing & coming to a decision regarding his complaint although it was not favorable. Mr. Jones stated he's reviewed the R-2 Residential Zoning Code; his neighbor has started a business out of his home, a heavy-haul trucking company. The tractor is the only portion brought to the residence and the neighbor works on them in his driveway; it is effecting quality of life. The interpretation of the code by Code Enforcement is that there is no violation however the neighbor is bringing more than one tractor onto the property to work on. The Zoning Code should be reviewed for Home Occupation. Mr. Jones read from the Zoning Ordinance for the R-2 District.

Tom Schmidt agrees with Mr. Jones; the neighbor has both trucks at his residence every weekend and is using his garages as repair shops. Solicitor Hartman suggested the Zoning Officer review and report back to the BOS. Mr. Schmidt also complimented the new website.

Manager Keim will follow up on the Carnis Drive issue with Code Enforcement Officer.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Supervisor Smith moved to pay bills for the period of March 14, 2015 thru April 17, 2015. Following a second by Supervisor Deeds, the motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

Minutes of the Supervisors Workshop Minutes of March 12, 2015 & Regular Meeting of March 17, 2015 were reviewed & unanimously approved upon a motion by Supervisor Deeds that was seconded by Supervisor Smith.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

The Treasurer's Summary, Sewer, SEO Permit Report, Road & Building Reports & Police Reports were reviewed & unanimously approved upon a motion by Supervisor Deeds that was seconded by Supervisor Smith. It was duly noted the March Fire Report for Friendship (Geigertown) FC Gibraltar was not available and the Gibraltar FC Reports for November & December 2014 and February & March 2015 were not available.

Supervisor Brown joined the Meeting at 7:44PM.

PLANNING & ENGINEERING

Evergreen Road Bridge – Contract #1 [Contech] Request for Payment #1 & **Evergreen Road Bridge – Contract #2** [Flyway] Request for Payment #3 – taken care of in Bills for Approval.

Evergreen Road Bridge – Contract #2: Change Order #1 – Engineer Kraft stated paving is scheduled for next week. Supervisor Deeds moved to accept the Change Order; following a second by Supervisor Smith, the motion passed unanimously.

Green Hills CT Variance Application – Engineer Kraft reviewed the application for construction of an outdoor rack storage shelter. The applicant wishes to be able to place the structure within 5 feet of the rear property line along Interstate 176. There are existing storage racks however they'll be removed. The PC reviewed the request & recommended approval subject to the shelter having a "uniform and aesthetic appearance from the highway with no signs." The ZHB is scheduled for April 23. Chairman Feeg moved to support the PC's decision; following a second by Supervisor Love, the motion passed unanimously.

SOLICITOR

Adopt DROP / Pension Ordinance #15-02 – Supervisor Smith moved to enact the Ordinance; following a second by Chairman Feeg, the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda items taken out of order.

Review Ordinance (#15-03) amending the OLDS Ordinance to Alter the Requirement for Submission of the Inspections Reports & Pumper Receipts from the Pumper / Hauler to the Property Owner for Consideration for Authorization to Advertisement for Adoption in May – Solicitor Hartman handed out the Ordinance and reviewed alterations. A lengthy discussion followed regarding issues relative to changes. Supervisor Smith moved to authorize changes and advertise Ordinance #15-03; following a second by Chairman Feeg, the motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Feeg | - Yes | Love | - Yes | Brown | - Yes |
| Smith | - Yes | Deeds | - No | | |

Allen Madeira to Discuss Robeson Township SMP (**OLDS**) Fees (Ordinance #15-01) – included above.

Solicitor Hartman reported on the County's Blighted Property Program – Robeson Township does NOT need to enact an ordinance to participate in the program. The form that is used by the County can be completed with the property / properties the Township wants included in the program & submitted respectively. The BOS would have to direct the Manager or Code Enforcement Officer to handle this.

Special qualifications for playground mulch was discussed.

FINANCE/OTHER

Reaffirm Backhoe Lease Agreement – Supervisor Deeds moved to reaffirm the agreement; following a second by Supervisor Smith, the motion passed unanimously.

Award 2015 – 2016 Cleaning Contract – Supervisor Deeds moved to award the contract pending Manager Keim ordering a background check and checking references.

Budget 1st Quarter Review - Reviewed

The BOS recessed to Executive Session at 9:14PM; reconvened at 9:43PM.

Supervisor Smith moved to approve the Police Chief's contract. Following a second by Supervisor Deeds, the motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:44PM; following a second by Supervisor Brown, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted
by Kathleen C. Farrell,
Recording Secretary