

ROBESON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 16, 2019

Chairman Smith called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 7:01PM prevailing time. The meeting took place in the Robeson Township Public Meeting Room located at 2689 Main Street, in Gibraltar, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Supervisor Brown was absent. Also in attendance were Solicitor Bethany Emkey, Engineer Gary D. Kraft, Chief Mark Phillips, Sergeant Dennis Cassel, Crew Leader Butch Matz and Manager Colleen Easterday.

Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Silence

ROADS, CODES & PUBLIC PROPERTY

Road Maintenance – Crew Leader Matz reported he took care of water issues on Cold Run Road & Briarwood Drive; will be going back to Briarwood to work on the drainage issue on the Boulevard. A resident had an issue with getting into their driveway due to the swale which will be corrected. Met with Engineer Kraft on Seyfert Drive regarding water issues. Will meet with Martin’s Paving about fixing White Bear & Furnace Roads where the chip came off.

Engineer Kraft noted that H&K’s blacktop plant failed; not sure when it will be repaired however they anticipate being back to work on Mullen Hollow Road on Monday.

POLICE

Chief Phillips – Nothing to report.

The meeting was taken out of agenda order to address items requiring a vote prior to hearing Citizens Concerns.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL - The minutes for the Workshop of June 13, 2019 & BOS Regular Meeting of June 18, 2019 were unanimously approved upon a motion by Supervisor Steve that was seconded by Supervisor Graham. Minutes of the June 17, 2019 RTMA Meeting were provided for information only.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL - Supervisor Steve moved to pay the bills as revised for the period of June 13, 2019 thru July, 16, 2019; following a second by Supervisor Graham, the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS - The June 2019 Treasurer's Summary/Report, EEMA Sewer Report, Sewer Aging Report (thru 2nd Quarter 2019), SEO Permit, Road, Building, Police & Friendship Fire Company Reports were reviewed and approved upon a motion by Supervisor Steve that was seconded by Supervisor Graham.

SOLICITOR

Wickliffe – No update.

Resolution #19-09 Removal of Pension Trustee – Solicitor Emkey addressed the Ordinance that goes with the pension changes to coordinate with the Resolution and Ordinance and recommended that the BOS hold off on adopting the Resolution until the Ordinance is enacted so that the pension plan is updated together at the same time. The Township’s Actuary should review the Ordinance as well as the new pension advisor. This will be on the August BOS agenda.

PHMC Update – FYI: The PA Historical & Museum Commission has a new record retention schedule; Township will need to update manual.

Municipal Video Gaming Opt Out – for category 4 casinos; terminals in gas stations, truck stops, etc. If the BOS wishes to opt out of allowing MVG’s in the Township jurisdiction, it must be done via Resolution prior to August 30th.

Sewer Billing – Supervisor Steve asked about sewer bills needing to be in a property owner’s name. Manager Easterday stated the RTMA recommended to the BOS to prepare a Resolution that all sewer billing be in the property owner name, not the renter. Solicitor Emkey stated this would be considered an “administrative action” and would not require a Resolution or Ordinance; Ms. Emkey will check on this and report back.

PLANNING & ENGINEERING

Raysor Special Exception Application – Engineer Kraft reiterated what was stated at the Workshop Meeting. The BOS had no comment to pass on to the ZHB.

FINANCE / OTHER

Aqua Update / Delinquencies – Supervisor Steve stated he met with representatives of Aqua on Monday at Fire Tower & Cold Run. They have not applied for their permits yet and they want to be started in the area within the next 2 weeks and work is expected to last about 1 week after that. When they are done, road restoration is trying to be negotiated that will benefit everyone. Also, the Geigertown sewer project is supposed to be complete in 3 weeks, including all restorations with the exception of tar & chip which the contractor will do.

CITIZENS CONCERNS

Edgar Hussman of Seyfert Drive, he explained at the Workshop the water issue he is having which began in 2018. Engineer Kraft stated Crew Leader Matz reported on that earlier and stated they have some ideas, need to get a plan together pending approval and get it worked into the schedule. CL Matz stated they plan to find each section where the most water is coming from the other side of the road then look at the pipe and drain box (similar to a concrete trough). He asked who put in the drains currently there; Mr. Hussman stated he did as well as the little catch basin. Review & discussion of the issue followed; budgetary issues will be addressed at a later date for repairs.

Robert Horst of 1339 Old River Road stated he has a storm runoff issue from 1341 Old River Road. Photos of the issue were reviewed. Mr. Horst reiterated a discussion he had with the Codes Officer. Manager Easterday stated her discussion with the Codes Officer showed that the amount of disturbance caused by the owner of 1341 did not dictate a need for a stormwater management plan and is in compliance; this is now a civil issue. Engineer Kraft stated he is not familiar with this and will speak with the Codes Officer.

Bernard Katarakis of 237 Bard Road asked about the situation with his pipe. Manager Easterday stated it was discussed that there was no real need to replace that pipe. CL Matz & Engineer Kraft commented they have looked at the pipe under the road and could not find anything that would merit replacing it. Mr. Katarakis' concerns will be reviewed.

Jeff Nye of Briarwood complained about a site issue due to a shrub on Cold Run @ SR82. Written permission is required from the property owner to cut the shrub back.

Jim Miller, Ron Putt, Dave Barth, Cindy Coots, Lisa Arters, Bill Reynolds & Jason Rohrer complained about issues they are experiencing in or from the paving in Briarwood; residents were advised this is still a work in progress / there is still work to be completed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The BOS recessed to Executive Session @ 8:00PM to discuss Litigation & Personnel issues.

The BOS reconvened @ 8:18PM; Supervisor Steve moved to adjourn @ 8:19PM. Seconded by Supervisor Graham, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
By Kathleen C. Haight,
Township Assistant