

Newton Township Board of Supervisors' Meeting
August 14, 2017

General Meeting called to order at 6:32PM with Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members in Attendance: Douglas Pallman, Kevin Carr and Robert Naegele (late)

Board Guests in Attendance: Joseph Sileo, Solicitor; Scot Haan, CEO; Francine Fawcett, Secretary/Treasurer

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Carr to approve the minutes as prepared from the General Meeting on 7/10/2017, 2nd by Pallman. Motion voted, all in favor.

Announcements: None

Correspondence: Correspondence is available with the Secretary's office during regular business hours for review.

New Business: None

Standing Committee Reports: POSTED - Planning Commission

South Abington Police: Officer Henry Zimmer reviewed the police report for the month of July.

NRVFC: Chief LaCoe reported that there were 47 total calls for the month of July.

Tax Collector: Kwiatkowski stated that everything was status quo.

Recreation Center: Carr reported that the golf tournament is this Saturday and need golfers. A new manager has been hired and starting Wednesday.

Solicitor: Sileo reported that DEP denied the request of a resident for the township to change our Act 537. If an appeal has been filed, the township has not been notified. A letter was received a few weeks ago regarding a resident thinking that their neighbor was going to put a cell tower. Though the township has not received any plans as such, Pallman asked Haan to investigate and reply to the resident his findings. A discussion continued regarding deeds for roads.

Planning Commission: Haan reported that the Planning Commission received a letter from Barahona requesting the township waive the time frame for review. The Janus Zoning Hearing is continued on August 28th.

CEO: A complaint regarding junk was given to the township. Haan went over and took pictures. Owner was not home so Haan will go speak with him and give him an opportunity to get it cleaned up.

Road Master: Naegele discussed that the DPW has been mowing, cleaning ditches, pavement repair and truck maintenance. Discussion on the dirt roads and the areas that the oil did not adhere to the rocks. Suit-Kote did come up to inspect and said they would work with the township but would not put anything in writing. Supervisors decided to not do anything with the areas this year. The driveway on Cherry Hill Road that was damaged by the township during the blizzard was repaired with no issues. Discussion continued regarding the drainage issue on Columbus Circle and the letter that Sileo will put together for the residents affected to sign. Discussion also continued with the road bids.

Unfinished Business:

Newton Village Signs: A letter was received from PADOT in 2016 stating they would put the signs up on the Boulevard in three to four weeks. A letter from the Township was sent in July, 2017 asking what the status is regarding these signs. Fawcett to call PADOT if a response is not received shortly.

Public Input:

Keith Eckel, Zoning Board Chairman: Mr. Eckel discussed with the Supervisors that there are ordinances that need to be changed. The first issue is with the ordinance that states an accessory structure cannot be above 15 feet high. The other ordinance that requires updating is the ordinance that states an accessory structure cannot be in front of the residence. Language needs to be better defined as there are many homes in Newton that have a barn in front of the house.

Bills: Naegele motioned to approve the bills as prepared, 2nd by Carr. Motion voted, all in favor.

Being no further public input and discussion, Carr motioned to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM

Respectfully submitted by Francine Fawcett