

May 5, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Foster Township Supervisors was held at the Municipal Building.

Members present were Chairman Rob Sterling, Vice Chairman-John Barrett, Roadmaster John Carr, Secretary Janet Mitchell, Engineer Ed Bosack, Solicitor Ed Brennan.

A copy of the previous meeting minutes was given to the Supervisors there were no corrections or additions the minutes stand approved with a motion by Barrett second by Carr All in favor.

A copy of bills was reviewed by Supervisors, motion to pay the bills by Barrett second by Carr all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Zula question Carr on the repair of grass after the tree was cut by his property. Mr. Carr reports topsoil was purchased and it will be completed. Joe and Rich Zula discuss another tree they want cut before the property is sold to him. Chairman Sterling states the township will not cut the tree because that tree is alive. Rich Zula states tree by Mr. Frie property was cut down and was alive states Mr. Frie just wanted it removed from the side of his shed. Mr. Barrett suggest checking with the tree surgeon who removed Mr. Fries tree about the condition of the tree. Mr. Carr suggests looking at tree request from Zula again.

Rich Zula questions if the Police Department will be moved up to the Kachmir Garage. Sterling states the price received to bring the building to code of a Police Department was too expensive. Possibility of POTS building for the internet.

Mr. Burmeister and Gene Maley request to have comments after Supervisors Business is handled.

ENGINEER REPORT

Building and Zoning Permit>>>>Several Cell Phone tower projects under construction and one large project at 25 Keystone Blvd.

An Appeal to the Zoning letter issued for the timbering operation is currently being handled by Solicitor Brennan.

Utilities/Turkey Row Waterline>>>> The survey and design of the Turkey Row waterline project has begun in preparation of upcoming infrastructure spending. A proposal for this work under separate cover was prepared for review and approval. The Board asks to table this project at this time.

2020 Comprehensive Plan>>>>Meeting was held at the Mt. Pleasant Pavilion. Presentations were made by ECA Solar, Langen Development Economics, and Mr. Frank Zukas (SEDCO). Due to the outside temperature and snow, the meeting agenda was shortened, the next meeting will be held May 21, 2021.

Schuylkill County Municipal Authority Act 537 Plan Update>>>>A meeting was scheduled with the township and SCMA officials for May 4, 2021 at the SCMA Office to discuss future water and sewer planning.

2021 Floodplain Ordinance>>>>FEMA is requiring an update to the Foster Township Floodplain Ordinance from the PA Municipal League. Mr. Brennan review the ordinance states it has been

advertised is ready for adoption. A motion was made by Barrett second by Carr all in favor to adopt the 2021 Floodplain Ordinance.

Reading Anthracite Development>>>A work session with officials from Reading Anthracite was held on their proposed plans for development in the township.

CES Landfill development>>>>A workshop session with officials from CES Landfill was held on their proposed plans for development.

BBZ Subdivision and Lot annexation Phase I/Phase II Haney property>>>>>the BBZ Phase II Subdivision plans have been submitted for signatures, once signed they can be official submitted for the third-party Engineering review and both Foster Township Planning Commission and Schuylkill county Planning Commission. The Highway Occupancy Permit has been submitted to PennDOT for the Hosmer Driveway; the application is in the process for the Haney property.

2021 Road Program>>>>Last month's bids on two of the four contracts were received. Contracts were received for pipe (contract 1) and the Paving (contract 4). Bids were readvertised for the inlets (contract 2) and none were received for the April 28 special meeting. Per discussion at that meeting, contact had been made to the paving contractor to provide a change order price to supply the inlet to the township for installation The Board authorized up to \$30,000.00 for the cost of the change order to keep the project moving.

PennDOT recommendation to purchase the stone under the state contract and solicit quotes. Requests were made of 12 contractors and one was received from the H&K Group Pottsville Materials for a price of \$3,062.50, this was approved at the special meeting on April 28.

The Board also requested to provide a survey stakeout of the construction baseline and inlet location, in order to complete the PA One Call and prework road cutting.

Internet Development>>>.Copy files have been coordinated with Schuylkill County GIS Department for their files.

Sewage Enforcement Officer. A potential developer is looking to install a on lot sanitary sewer System. The Township previously used Bill Brior as primary and Alfred Benesch and Company as alternate Sewage Enforcement officer, Benesch no longer provide these services. Mr. Brior also works with Robert Fugate SEO a resolution was passed to appoint Mr. Brior and Mr. Fugate S.E.O. Roll Call Mr. Sterling- yes Mr. Barrett-yes Mr. Carr-yes. The 2016 fee schedule still applies.

PENNDOT Issues>> the process of rescheduling the site visit regarding several PennDOT related matters in the Township including the two new driveway s for the Hosmer and Haney properties. A request will be made for a safety audit at the intersection of I-81 and SR901.

Solicitor's Report

Flood plain ordinance all Municipalities are required to be updated. Mr. Brennan reviews the ordinance that was adopted at this meeting.

Zoning information needed for Reading Anthracite timber project. Bill Burke was contacted Brennan updates permits required. Hearing will be scheduled in 60 days. Discussion on RTK on this Zoning issue was handled by Mr. Brennan.

Internet public hearing was held at the High School contracts will be signed after the walkout. Exact date and time will be set up for the walkout. Mr. Burmeister question the lines and installation of infrastructure used. Discusses AT&T Lines and T-Mobile lines, Mr. Maley question costs to residents and will a survey be done again to see how many people will be interested.

Gober questions if the township is doing the infrastructure why should the residents have to pay.

Solicitor Brennan explains the lines ran along 901. Maley question if the contract has been awarded. Wire teleview will set rates. Gober questions if money is now available for the broad band project. Burmeister questions if First light will be wholesaler. Brennan discusses Wire-teleview is a family-owned business, Verizon will not come to Foster because of numbers.

New Business

Sterling reports a new wall is needed by the Rose garden quote received for \$8,000.00 from Mark Zokuskie a bid was also received from Burns contracting for \$16,000.00 motion to award to Zokuskie for the construction of the wall by Carr second Barrett all in favor.

Sterling reports Sewer from July 2021 -December 2021 will be free any residents who paid for the entire year will carry a credit for 2022.

Landfill check \$126,248.16 was deposited into the General Fund. Mr. Pat Barret from FNCB Bank was contacted for update on what new rates will be offered for CDs and money markets for the remainder of 2021.

ROADMASTER REPORT

Some roads were blocked.

Bulletin board was installed in front of building

Street Lights were installed in cul-de-sac in Lower Beechwood.

Mulch and top soil were purchased.

All grass and weed cutting being completed.

Barrett question Mr. Brennan on the process to form a Redevelopment Authority.

Solicitor Brennan discusses Redevelopment Authority vs Municipal Authority. Redevelopment Authority will incur development by applying for several loan and grants, the board will have 5 members by law the board does not get paid. Will help chances for federal grants and loans. Can Issue bonds for projects. No public hearings needed to apply paper work to form the Re-Development Authority, roll call vote to send the paper work to Harrisburg to form a Redevelopment Sterling -yes, Barrett- yes, Carr-yes. Gene Maley questions the rates on CD's Mr. Maley questions the Municipal Authority vs Redevelopment Authority, Mr. Brennan explains how the Re- Development Authority and Township works together. Brennan again explains the Municipal authority responsibilities, ownership of the sewer remained in the township was managed by the Rich Zula for the Municipal Authority.

Richard Zula asked for update on Neal Mansion new owner Mr. Mumma was given notice of violations, Mr. Roperto would not wait on appraisals. Mr. Maley states the township was asked to make an offer

and the township did not do so, Mr. Roperto went behind the township back to sell. Mr. Roperto was given notice the township had to get appraisals. Maley said two properties were purchased by the township without appraisals Brennan reminds those properties were sold on line, reports the township was patient while Mr. Roperto was in litigation, he would not wait for appraisals due to bad weather the appraisals were delayed. If violations are not addressed at the mansion property the township can take with conservatorship, Maley expresses disappointment because we did not get mansion.

Rich Zula complains on Mumma owned property at old Haney house for 5 years and building permits and clean-up a problem.

Maley questions when the township received the Cares Money Barrett said no money was received yet for 2021. Discussion on the 2020 Cares Act money, donation was made to the Minersville School District for T-Mobile hot spots then returned by the School District.

Maley questions money in budget for road projects and capital purchases which was money allocated for the new truck which is ordered.

Maley questions April 28 minutes on discussion on the Mt. Pleasant Fire Hose Co. Barret explained the Mt. Pleasant presentation on the merger, which money was requested to be donated once they accept the amount discussed they will take back to the board of trustee. Then it will be addressed in public of the details.

Zula complains that more should be put in the minutes about discussions Barrett again explains the details will be given to the public once the board of trustees and the township have reached some arrangement with the details.

Police report

Nettles reports 37 incidents.

Reports a drug arrest.

Discussion on ATV Crossing by guardrail down from 901 Pub. Reading was contacted for some guidance on the hazardous crossing.

Mr. Gober questions why we are not getting any money from Reading Anthracite. The Injunction was discussed by Brennan, suggests talking to Dan Cook on the Highway Occupancy permit for Reading Anthracite.

Spring has bear back in the township.

Complaint received on grass cutting and grass on street. Please remove clipping from the street area.

Nettles reports Line painting needs to be redone for speed enforcement.

Nettles reports training at HBC for active shooter scenario with state police and Township Police Force.

Motion to adjourn by Barrett second by Carr all in favor.

Attest: Janet Mitchell Secretary Foster Township

