

Walnut Township Trustees Meeting

December 16, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. Trustees Doug Leith, William Yates and Terry Horn were present.

Comments from the floor

Larry Neeley, Deep Cut Road, mentioned his concern that the street sign for Deep Cut Road at St. Rt. 37 is missing. Tim has reported that to the county.

Sarah Weaver, St. Rt. 37, requested an extension on the temporary trailer on her property due to a delay in the completion of her home. Her contractor stated it should be completed by 1/15/15. Trustee Leith made a motion to extend the approval of the temporary trailer to 3/31/15. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Horn made a motion to approve checks 24563 through 24580, after being certified that funds are available and appropriations have been made by Fiscal Officer Kraner. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Department Reports

Chief Hite – Thurston Walnut Township Fire Department – Mike Carpenter has resigned. The \$.50/hour raise will be effective with the payperiod that begins December 28. There was a discussion regarding the funding of \$15,000 for the BWC self-funding. It was decided that the money will be set aside at the beginning of each year and any balance will be disbursed at the end of each fiscal year. Trustee Leith made a motion to approve all personnel recommendations. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Larry Neeley – RPC – Mr. Neeley mentioned that County Commissioner Levacy has been present at all of the RPC meetings. He mentioned that planes are now being used to take pictures of farms to check farm land use.

Kevin Clouse – Zoning Inspector – There was a hearing for Melfi variance to approve a 2nd accessory building. In early January Kevin will start the process to rezone all the B2 properties to Residential Mixed Use (RMU) at Fairfield Beach and Custer’s Point. RPC has already stated that they are in favor of this change. Additionally, he will be looking at state land and establishing zoning for them at the same time.

Tim Morris – Road Supervisor – The tires for Truck 3 will be \$720 at Kreager. The County Engineers have no design plans for Phase IV of Cherry Lane. Any plans they work on at this time will take at least 5 years to complete. Lockwood and Lanier are their preferred engineering group for design engineering because they are familiar with what the county requires. The cost for the engineering of the project would be in the range of \$35K - \$45K and require a 26% contribution, of the project cost from the township in order to complete the project. If Lockwood and Lanier complete the engineering, it will still take approximately one year. Tim will check to see if there are other vendors that the county works with that might keep costs lower. The key to receiving points is to have the engineering plan complete when submitted.

Cattail Road is in need of repaving.

Tim spoke to Jeff Baird (JB) at the Fairfield County Engineer’s office regarding Bob Myer’s statement that the township was liable for the storm drop on his property. Per JB, the township has no liability and to request Mr. Myer’s contact JB if the township is approached again.

Tim asked if Personal Days would be granted for 2015.

Trustee Leith made a motion to approve the purchase of tires for Truck 3 at \$729.00. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Old Business

The Resolution of Necessity was delivered to the Fairfield County Auditor. This is the first step in deciding whether or not to put a 1 mil levy for the road and bridge fund on the ballot.

The registration for the OTA conference was mailed. As email addresses were on the registrations, it is assumed that an email confirmation will be received. Trustee Horn and Leith have decided to attend the Public Records Training being held by Fairfield County on March 6th.

The Noise Resolution will be updated to a second degree misdemeanor and signature lines will be added.

New Business

Application 14-60 was presented at a Public Hearing earlier this evening. Trustee Horn made a motion to accept the rezone from B2 to R2 for this .459 acre lot at Custer's Point. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Horn requested that Kevin Clouse start a conditional use log. This will facilitate the collection of the conditional use fees on a yearly basis. It was mentioned that if a conditional use is not active, that the conditional use is rescinded.

Trustee Leith made a motion to approve the number of miles maintained by the township as 58.187 miles. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Horn made a motion to promote Alexander Fant from Alternate on the Zoning Commission to Full Member with a term ending 12/31/2019 and Mark Helms from Alternate on the BZA to Full Member with a term ending 12/31/2019. Trustee Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Trustee Horn mentioned that Jason Dolin is still willing to present a seminar on the Ethics of Being a Board Member for the Zoning Commissions and BZA's.

Trustee Horn made a motion to hold the Re-Organizational Meeting for the Township on January 6th at 7:00 PM with a regular meeting to follow. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Mailbox Policy and it was agreed that no further changes were needed.

Nothing has been heard from the Village of Buckeye Lake regarding the letter stopping salt availability after this winter.

There was a complaint about a tree that was removed. The branch was hanging over Alder Rd and once the branches were removed, it left a 5ft stump. Tim had them take it out. The homeowner was upset that they had no say in the removal.

A proposal was received regarding the renewal of the Anthem insurance or a comparable Aetna plan that was less expensive. Trustee Horn made a motion to accept the Aetna plan pending determining if Whetstone Medical accepts and Tim agrees. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

The list of attendees from the Zoning Commission meetings for 2014 has not been received. Fiscal Officer Kraner will contact the Zoning Secretary to obtain the information.

At 8:55 PM, Trustee Horn made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss Employee Compensation. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

At 9:21 PM, the trustees came out of Executive Session.

Trustee Horn made a motion to increase Tim Morris to \$19.09/hour, Mike King to \$14.36/hour, Kevin Clouse to \$15.50/hour – effective with hours worked in January 2015; and continue the 2 personal days in 2015. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

At 9:34 PM, Trustee Leith made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Horn seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Lynn Kraner, Fiscal Officer

William Yates, Chairman

Terry Horn

Doug Leith