

WALKER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Monthly Meeting
September 6, 2017

Supervisors - Ronald Burd
Keith Harter
James Heckman

Solicitor - John Miller III

Staff - Donna Reese Vaughn Zimmerman - Zoning Officer
Don Franson - Township Engineer

Guests – Ken McMullen (Resident)
Deb Zimmerman (Park & Rec Board member)
Cindy Kunes (Park & Rec Board member)
Sam Beiler, Jr. (Walker Township Fire Company)
Chris Roan (Walker Township Fire Company)

Call to Order: Chairman Ronald Burd called the September 6, 2017 meeting of the Walker Township Board of Supervisors to order at 6:00 pm in the Walker Township Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Burd led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of August Meeting Minutes: Jim Heckman motioned to approve the minutes from the August 2, 2017 meeting as presented; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Agenda Items:

- **Sam Beiler, Jr. & Chris Roan (Walker Township Fire Company)** spoke to the Supervisors about proposed back-up generators that would be used in case of an evacuation emergency. They had two generators donated from the County last year, but are unable to use them because additional materials are needed to connect them. They would like to use one at the satellite station and one at the main station, although it would not be large enough to provide service to the entire building. They anticipate the approximate cost of the materials would be \$6,000 and the labor would be donated to hook them up. A second option would be to purchase a 3rd generator for the Hublersburg station so the entire building could be used as an evacuation shelter; that cost would be approximately \$13,000. The Supervisors agreed that some funding might be available to pursue this request; however they would like to see more detailed information on the generator sizes, kw output and the costs associated with the options.

- **Cindy Kunes (Park & Rec Board member)** invited the Supervisors to an upcoming **Nittany Valley Joint Recreation Authority Board** meeting to be held on September 27th at the Bellefonte Borough Building. Cindy stated the Authority has been very active regarding the status of the **Kepler Pool**. She reported they have met with several people/organizations regarding possible options regarding the pool's future and what is necessary to keep the pool operational. She reported they are considering a feasibility study, but that comes with a sizeable expense. They would like to apply for grant funding but a feasibility study is usually necessary in order to obtain a grant. She stated without municipal financial support they can't apply for a grant. Cindy state a lot of information will be discussed at the September 27th meeting and encouraged all the Supervisors to attend. She also reported Howard Long has left his position with the YMCA and therefore is no longer a member of the NVJRA Board; (Mr. Long was Walker Township's other representative to the NVJRA Board).**** The Supervisors will actively seek another Township resident to be a representative on the NVJRA Board. Cindy also suggested Deb Zimmerman and any other member of our Park & Rec Board attend the September 27th meeting.

**** **Mr. Long did not resign from the NVJRA – he resigned from the YMCA. He is still a Walker Township representative on the NVJRA Board. Correction to minutes made at the October 4, 2017 Supervisors' meeting.**

Guests:

- **Ken McMullen** asked about the status of the Hemlock Drive Stormwater Project. He was told we are expecting a late September/early October start date for the project. Mr. McMullen also reported he spoke to the owner of the farm and was told they did not remove a fence row. They stated they will let an area of grass and not mow that area; however once the soybeans are harvested the ground will be bare and the water will flow.

- **Deb Zimmerman (Park & Rec Board member)** requested two picnic tables be placed at the Zion Park and one placed by the tot structures (digger). Deb also reported the soccer league would like to use the storage area at the new restroom and three people will need keys. A combination lock was discussed but rejected because there would be no way to control the access to the storage area. It was suggested the soccer league be permitted to use 'some' of the storage area, but not all of it.

- Deb reported the **new Park Path/Trail Walkway** is great and a big improvement over the old one. She stated the **Fall Festival** will be held on Saturday, September 23rd and the path/trail will be put to good use.

She also inquired on the status of the Park Board's request to combine some of their budget line items and was told the Supervisors were not prepared to discuss it yet.

Solicitor's Report:

- Discussed a situation with **Solicitor Miller** regarding a roof painter who has not done work he was contracted to do. The Township provided a down payment to this individual back in April, but the work has not been done and the individual is not responding to our attempts to contact him. Mr. Miller will send a letter to the individual requesting our deposit back. If no response is received by our October meeting additional legal action will be taken.

- Jim Heckman motioned to release the bond for the Road Use and Maintenance Agreement with **Spigelmyer, Inc.** for using Nittany Ridge Road and Snyderstown Road; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Engineer's Report:

- Engineer Don Franson reported he received the bill from John Claar for the **Park Path/Trail Walkway** and it is okay to pay the amount of \$46,446.00, which was the bid amount.

- Don stated he thinks it will be early October for the work to be done on the parking lot at the soccer field. He stated the weather has caused delays with many work schedules.

Zoning Officer:

- Zoning Officer Vaughn Zimmerman reported he issued permits in August with a value of \$722,592 and the zoning fees collected were \$1,614. He also reported the clean-up continues at the Burris property and he requested they mow closer to the outbuildings.

Roadmaster's Report:

- Roadmaster Jim Heckman reported on routine road and machinery maintenance. He also reported we received a Grant from Centre County Conservation District to install 4 culverts on Blue Ball Road to help with stormwater run-off and erosion. This project will be done by Township personnel in the near future. The road will be closed while the work is being done. Ron Burd motioned to sign the agreement with the Conservation District; motion second by Jim Heckman. Keith Harter voted 'no'. Motion passed-2 for and 1 against.

Other New Business:

- A report was received from Amber Buchanan, Summer Camp Coordinator stating the **2017 Summer Camp** was a big success with 78 campers registered and others put on a waiting list. The Supervisors acknowledge the success of the Summer Camp Program and appreciate the work of the Coordinator and the Summer Camp Staff.

- Information received from Sue Hannegan (Centre County Planning Office) regarding **Marion Township's request** to review data from a 2011 survey of the SR0026, Section 147 – Jacksonville Road Project.

- Information received from **Centre County Association of Township Officials** regarding this year's scholarship winners and notification of the County Fall Dinner Convention on October 30, 2017.

- Jim Heckman motioned to schedule **Trick or Treat night** in the Township for Tuesday, October 31st from 6 to 8pm.

- No action taken on **Spring Creek Watershed Commission's** letter regarding possible request for increased municipal contributions.

- No action taken on request from **'Friends of Bellefonte Little House'** for donations/contribution to the Girl Scout Little House.

- Received notice from PA Labor & Industry that the yearly insurance premium for the **Fire Company's Workers Comp Policy** will be increasing to \$19,046.00.

Keith Harter motioned to approve the August Paid Bills in the amount of \$42,544.78 and also the August Treasurer's Report; motion second by Jim Heckman and approved by all three supervisors.

The Supervisors went into Executive Session at 7:00pm to discuss personnel issues – meeting resumed at 7:10pm.

Keith Harter motioned to adjourn the meeting; motion second by Jim Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors. Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna L. Reese, Secretary

Approved

Ronald Burd

James Heckman

Keith Harter