

**WALKER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Monthly Meeting
November 4, 2015**

Attendance:

Supervisors- **James Heckman
Ronald Burd
Brian Saiers**

Solicitor- **John Miller, III**

Staff- **Leah Burd Vaughn Zimmerman – Zoning Officer
Donna Reese Don Franson – Township Engineer**

Guests: **Deb Zimmerman (Park & Rec Board)
Warren Miller (SBWJA)
David Emery (Twp Resident)
Angel Emery (Twp Resident)
Ron Stover (Twp Resident)
Penny Stover (Twp Resident)
Mike Chilcot (Twp Resident)
Dennis McDowell (SBWJA)**

Call to Order: James Heckman called the November 4, 2015 meeting of the Walker Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00pm in the Walker Township Municipal Building.

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

Approval of October Meeting Minutes: Ronald Burd motioned to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2015 meeting as presented; motion second by Brian Saiers and approved by all three Supervisors.

Agenda Items: There were no Agenda Items.

Guests: Deb Zimmerman gave the following report from the Park & Rec Board:

- Approved an **Eagle Scout Project proposal from Mitchell Holden** to raise funds to purchase and install benches and trees in the park. Mitchell discussed his proposal with Deb several months ago and has a three year timeline to complete his project;
- **Alex Genet completed his Eagle Scout Project** to mark the walking trail. The project was accepted by the Park and Rec Board and a letter of acceptance will be provided;

- Requested permission to publish a **Township Newsletter** this winter to include information on the Sponsorship and Donation Policy and upcoming activities for the park. Deb asked for input from the Supervisors;
- Thanked the Supervisors for approval to move forward with **construction of a pavilion** at the soccer fields. James Heckman questioned the size of the pavilion and Deb stated Park & Rec would like to include storage in the project and were looking to future growth. Don Franson will prepare drawings for the December Park & Rec Meeting;
- Requested and received permission to use the balance of the **2015 funds** in the Park & Rec activities and improvements accounts towards the restroom project.

Warren Miller reported on the upgrade to **Pump Station 7** at the entrance to Forest Heights. Warren stated permits were received from DEP and questioned what building permits would be needed as the property falls within the 100 year flood plain due to the 2009 Flood Plan update. He stated the upgrade will require additional land easements from the Forest Heights Homeowners Association and inquired if a variance will be needed. Solicitor Miller inquired if this project would fall under the Township Zoning or the County Flood Plain Zoning. Zoning Officer Vaughn Zimmerman will research the issue.

Angel Emery stated she has been in contact with the County regarding **rezoning property to allow for agriculture uses**. Ms Emery stated her property (15.91 acres located on Seclusion Lane in Nittany) is currently zoned urban residential which does not allow the keeping of livestock. The Emery's are requesting to have their property rezoned to agriculture to allow for horses and chickens. She stated several adjoining property owners are also interested in rezoning their properties to agriculture. Solicitor Miller stated they would need to submit an application to amend the zoning map to move the property from urban residential to agriculture. This would then go before the Planning Commission for approval. Mr Miller also suggested the Emery's notify the adjoining property owners of their intent.

Mr Chilcot was in attendance to observe the meeting.

Dennis McDowell reported that **Bellefonte Borough Waste Water Treatment Plant** has gone through several upgrades and as a result DEP is requiring them to update their 537 Plan. This will allow the SBWJA participating municipalities to provide input to DEP regarding these upgrades. SBWJA would like to work with the municipalities as this will have an impact on customer rates.

Mr McDowell then stated he is having some **trees removed** from his property that borders the park and asked for permission to allow the workers to drop the trees onto Township property. Verbal permission was given by the Supervisors.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Miller prepared and advertised an Ordinance to amend the Bellefonte Borough Waste Water Treatment Plant Pretreatment Rules and Regulations Ordinance. James Heckman motioned to adopt **Ordinance #205** amending Ordinance #127 to establish pretreatment limits for the Bellefonte Borough Waste Water Treatment Plant; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors.

Solicitor Miller received notice from **A M Logging, LLC** that they completed their logging operation using Walizer Road and requesting termination of their Road Maintenance Agreement and release of their bond. Brian Saiers motioned to terminate the RMA and release the A M Logging, LLC bond; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors.

Engineers Report: Don received a change order in the amount of \$288 from **SSR Contracting** for changes to the restroom. This amount should then be deducted from the plumbing contract. James Heckman motioned to approve the change order of \$288 from SSR Contracting for changes to the restroom; motion second by Brian Saiers and approved by all three Supervisors. Don also received Pay Application and Certificate for **Payment #1** from SSR Contracting for the restroom project. Don reviewed and approved the request. James Heckman motioned to approve Payment #1 in the amount of \$60,807.57 to SSR Contracting for the restroom construction; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors. The contractor was directed to use a clear coating on the cement floors.

Don sent a letter to the developer of **Glen Acres** requesting posting of a maintenance bond for Marie Lane. The road was accepted for dedication at the August meeting.

Maxwell Trucking & Excavating completed work on the **Cedar Lane Stormwater Project**.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Vaughn Zimmerman reported he issued seven zoning permits in August - including one new home and two five-unit apartments.

Roadmaster's Report: Roadmaster Brian Saiers reported the following:

- **33 loads of leaves** have been collected to date;
- The **park restrooms** have been closed for the winter;
- The trucks are ready for winter plowing and there is an ample amount of salt on hand;
- **Marion Township** accepted the agreement for the 2015-2016 winter road maintenance as proposed.

New Business:

- James Heckman motioned to approve **Junction House Lane** as the entrance road to the Junction House Apartments; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors;

- James Heckman motioned to accept the resignation of **Sewage Enforcement Officer Tom Bowes**, effective December 31, 2015; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors. Mr Bowes agreed to serve as alternate SEO for one year;
- A Letter was received from **Stan Wallace** requesting he be considered as the Township's Sewage Enforcement Officer;
- An invitation was received to the **Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority Christmas Party** on December 8th. RSVP by November 20th;
- Ronald Burd motioned to approve the **2016 meeting dates** as presented; motion second by Brian Saiers and approved by all three Supervisors. (Meetings will be the first Wednesday of each month except the January Reorganization Meeting which is the first Monday of January. All meeting are at 7:00pm);
- The **2016 Proposed Budget** is ready for review and comment. Ronald Burd motioned to tentatively approve the 2016 Budget and to advertise it for adoption at the December 2nd Meeting; motion second by Brian Saiers and approved by all three Supervisors;
- An **Employee Insurance quote** was received from the Hartman Group with a 29% increase for 2016;
- A request was received from the **PA Convention & Visitors Center** requesting input for a feasibility study for an indoor sports complex. There was no comment at this time;
- An invitation was received from the **County Conservation District** to attend 'Showcase of Conservation Projects' on Friday, November 6th. Two of the projects are located in Walker Township (Tice and Vonada);
- James Heckman motioned to give a donation of \$2,300 to the **Centre County Library** for 2015; motion second by Brian Saiers and approved by all three Supervisors;
- No action was taken on a request for support from **Home Nursing Agency**.

Ronald Burd motioned to approve the October 2015 General Fund paid bills in the amount of \$63,420.45 and the October 2015 Treasurer's Report as presented; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

James Heckman recessed the Board for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 7:38pm. The regular meeting reconvened at 7:59pm.

Ronald Burd motioned to adjourn the meeting; motion second by Brian Saiers and approved by all three Supervisors. The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.