

**WALKER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Monthly Meeting
March 2, 2016**

Attendance:

Supervisors-

**Ronald Burd
James Heckman
Keith Harter**

Solicitor-

John Miller III

Staff-

**Donna Reese Vaughn Zimmerman – Zoning Officer
Leah Burd Don Franson – Township Engineer
Terry Harter**

Guests:

**Deb Zimmerman (Park & Rec Board)
Mitchell Holden (Eagle Scout Candidate)**

Call to Order: Chairman Ronald Burd called the March 2, 2016 meeting of the Walker Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00pm in the Walker Township Municipal Building.

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

Approval of February Meeting Minutes: James Heckman motioned to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2016 meeting as presented; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Agenda Items: **Mitchell Holden** updated the Supervisors regarding his proposed **Eagle Scout Project** to solicit donations for benches and trees for in the park. Mitchell stated his project has been approved by Scout Council and the Park & Rec Board. He provided a list of preferred trees and a planting schedule. His project will be outlined in the Township Newsletter and on the Township Website. James Heckman motioned to approve Mitchell Holden's Eagle Scout Project, motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Deb Zimmerman discussed the following Park & Rec Board items:

- The proposed **park rules** were finalized and provided to Solicitor Miller for review;
- The **Newsletter** is printed and is in the process of being mailed;
- A **Fall Festival** is scheduled for September 24th. Patty Correll is chairing this event and will provide an outline of events for review and approval;
- Inquired about the progress of constructing a **pavilion** near the new restrooms, would like to have completed by September 24th;
- Discussed **park landscaping** for the coming year, Deb will contact Bill Workman to clarify what he is willing to do.

Guests: There were no additional comments from guests present

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Miller responded to a request for permission to hold a **wedding in the Park** and outlined our liability if an accident should occur. An inquiry was made to our insurance carrier regarding liability coverage for such an event. The Supervisors agreed to allow the wedding provided our insurance carrier states our policy covers any liability.

Solicitor Miller prepared a resolution for **2015 Hazardous Mitigation Plan** as required by the County. Each municipality has the option of preparing their own resolution or adopting one prepared by the County. James Heckman motioned to adopt **Resolution #16-418** adopting the Centre County 2015 Hazardous Mitigation Plan as the Township's plan; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

James Heckman reported he contacted the Enforcement Officer at the Centre County Solid Waste Authority regarding persons using the **Township dumpster** on a regular basis to dispose of household waste. He was told the Authority could install a surveillance camera and would then take appropriate action if an offender is identified. James Heckman motioned to send a letter of warning to the offending party before taking further action; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

James Heckman inquired what the guidelines are for selling **surplus Township equipment**. The old Township roller was dismantled and parts sold to a junk dealer. The 18hp motor was removed and will be advertised for sale. Solicitor Miller stated if the equipment has a value of less than \$1,000 there are no restrictions.

Engineers Report: Engineer Don Franson reported he has not met with Brian Chilton to discuss the construction of the new **pavilion** near the soccer fields.

Don investigated a complaint received regarding the condition of two inlets at the entrance to **Blue Spruce Drive** in Zion Ridgecrest. Don also looked into a stormwater drainage problem on **Hemlock Drive** and suggested creating a channel to divert the water. Don will consult with Matt Kenepp before drawing up plans and soliciting quotes for the improvements. Approval was given to proceed with both projects.

PBCI Allen presented a **change order** for additional work requested by West Penn Power in order to connect electrical service to the **new restroom**. James Heckman motioned to approve the change order in the amount of \$2,600 to PBCI Allen; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors. Don stated that PBCI Allen submitted an invoice for the total amounts for the plumbing and electrical work which he did not approve and requested they re-submit for partial payment.

Deb Zimmerman inquired what would be needed to provide electrical service to the **proposed new pavilion** and also if the proposal submitted by SSR Contracting would allow for future expansion of the pavilion. Don replied that the plan presented could be added onto.

James Heckman requested Don investigate a portion of the berm along Rodgers Road that washes out in heavy rains.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Vaughn Zimmerman reported he issued six Zoning Permits in February including two for new residences.

Vaughn reported the Planning Commission is still reviewing the **Future Land Use Maps** as requested by the Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission.

In response to a request from the February Meeting, Vaughn stated he reviewed our **Zoning Ordinance** as it pertains to upgrading plumbing and electrical systems. He further stated that although Building Permits are needed because UCC inspections are required, a Township zoning permit is not required. This zoning interpretation will stand going forward.

Vaughn investigated two **abandoned properties** and sent out a violation notice for an abandoned property on Forest Ave. The property on Pike Road has an active zoning permit in effect.

Roadmaster's Report: Roadmaster James Heckman gave the following report:

- Recommendation for **2016 paving project** were made as follows: all the roads in Zion View Vista; sections of Zion Ridgecrest; the short section of Crust Road from Rt 64 to Snyderstown Road and Snyderstown Road at Bill Beck's property. Approval was given for Jim to meet with Matt Kenepf;
- Approval was given to purchase **traffic control signs** for use at construction sites. Keith Harter suggested proper use of cones and training for worksite safety should be pursued;
- Jim will investigate a mobile service operated by **Midland FiberMat** which repairs pavement cracks;
- There was nothing further to report on repairs to **Blue Ball** through the Dirt and Gravel Program.

New Business:

- We are still seeking a representative to serve on the **Nittany Valley Joint Recreation Authority**, interested persons should contact Ron Burd;
- James Heckman motioned to approve the **2016 Summer Camp** proposal at a cost to the Township of \$7,000; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors. The dates for 2016 Summer Camp are June 20-July 29;

- Clearwater Conservancy's **Watershed Cleanup Day** is scheduled for April 23, 2016;
- An invitation was received from **County Extension** to attend breakfast on March 30, 2016;
- Four persons will attend the **PSATS State Convention**.

Keith Harter motioned to approve the February 2016 General Fund paid bills in the amount of \$40,230.46 and the February 2016 Treasurer's Report as presented; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Approval was given to Donna to dispose of several unused plastic filing containers.

James Heckman motioned to hold a **Township Appreciation Dinner**; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors. Zenda Fornicola and Leah Burd will head a planning committee.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:13pm.

James Heckman motioned to give **Paul Gentzel** a \$.50 per hour pay increase starting with Payroll #5; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

James Heckman motioned to adjourn the meeting; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors. The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.