

**WALKER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Monthly Meeting
March 5, 2014**

Attendance:

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

Solicitor- **John Miller III**

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

Guests: **Dennis McDowell (Walker Twp Member of SBWJA)
Stan Wallace (Nittany Engineering)
David Knoffsinger (Township Resident)
Robert Cain (Township Property Owner)
Kay Emerick (Township Resident)
Jason Brown (Township Resident)**

Call to Order: James Heckman called the March 5, 2014 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 February Meeting Minutes: Ronald Burd motioned to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2014 Meeting as presented; motion second by Brian Saiers and approved by all three Supervisors.

Agenda Items: **Stan Wallace** discussed a **Land Development Plan for Walker Township Fire Company** and requested approval of a Memorandum of Understanding for the project. The Fire Company wishes to construct an addition to their building in Hublersburg. Ronald Burd motioned to sign the Memorandum of Understanding; motion second by Brian Saiers. James Heckman abstained as he is a member of the Fire Company. Motion carried.

Dennis McDowell inquired if the vacancy on the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority Board had been filled and if the Supervisors had seen the letter from SBWJA Solicitor. Chairman Heckman replied they saw the letter and a decision on the appointment had not yet been made. Mr McDowell stated there could be potential conflicts with the Shiloh Road area and SBWJA could incur a ‘significant loss of income’. Mr McDowell then asked the Board about the status of our Sewage Management Program which would implement mandatory pumping of septic systems in the Township. The Board stated they

are working on the issue but have not reached a decision. They will seek additional information at the PSATS Conference in April.

Guests: **Robert Cain** stated he recently purchased Lot 112 in the **Deerhaven Subdivision** which is currently designated for church use. He would like to subdivide the 3-acre parcel into two residential lots. Centre County Planning Commission advised him a Reclassification Plan was necessary to change the property's use from church to residential and then a Subdivision Plan to split the parcel into two residential lots. The Deerhaven plan does not permit any driveway access from Zion Back Road; however, Mr Cain would like to put a driveway from Zion Back Road to one of the proposed lots and inquired if this could be approved. The Board instructed Mr Cain to submit his plans to the Planning Commission for their review and recommendation.

Jason Brown introduced himself to the Supervisors as was requested at last month's meeting. Mr Brown went over his qualifications and expressed interest in serving on the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority Board. The Supervisors thanked Mr Brown for his interest and stated they had several applicants to consider.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Miller reported the Road Surety for streets dedicated in **Stony Pointe** expired February 24, 2014. Roadmaster Saiers inspected the roads and found no deficiencies. James Heckman motioned to return the Stony Pointe Surety; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors.

Solicitor Miller prepared a **Road Maintenance Agreement with Larry Cleaver Logging** to use 2.4 miles of Blue Ball Road and .7 miles of Hecla Road for a logging operation. A signed agreement was received and Letter of Credit in the amount of \$23,775.00 was reviewed by Solicitor Miller, but has not been received. Ronald Burd motioned to approve the Road Maintenance Agreement with Larry Cleaver Logging pending receipt of the original Letter of Credit; motion second by Brian Saiers and approved by all three Supervisors. Roadmaster Saiers stated he inspected the road.

Information was received from **ComCast** regarding a merger of ComCast with Time Warner. Our Agreement with ComCast is not affected and no action is needed.

James Heckman reported he signed a document on February 20, 2014 on behalf of the Township indicating the Township does not have any objection to the **Walker Township Fire Company** entering into a contract of not more than \$600,000.00 to finance building construction. This document does not impose any financial involvement or obligation on the part of the Township. Ronald Burd motioned to acknowledge the Supervisors confirmed Mr Heckman's action on behalf of the Township; motion second by Brian Saiers. James Heckman abstained.

Engineer's Report: Township Engineer Don Franson reviewed comments from McCormick Taylor and PennDOT regarding a Traffic Impact Study conducted for the

proposed **Dollar General Development Site**. Mr Franson gave McCormick Taylor authorization to proceed with the review.

Don presented preliminary plans for the proposed **restrooms** to be built near the soccer fields. He is waiting for confirmation of ADA requirements before proceeding. He received confirmation from West Penn Power that electric service is available from an existing pole.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer Vaughn Zimmerman issued 3 Zoning Permits and one Highway Occupancy Permit in February. Total construction value was \$285,000.00 and permit fees were \$615.00.

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

- Brian and Don Franson investigated an ongoing drainage issue on Cedar Lane in Zion Ridgecrest and determined a box culvert needs to be installed. Brian and Don also agreed a box culvert needs replaced at the Walizer Road/Route 64 intersection. James Heckman motioned to authorize Don Franson to proceed with engineering plans for these two projects as a 2014 road project; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors;
- Quotes have not yet been received for flashing warning signs for the Snyderstown Road/Sand Ridge Road intersection. Brian and Don discussed modifying the grade at that intersection as a future road project. Don suggested this project could possibly qualify for County Liquid Fuels Funds which are usually submitted in October.
- The new Bobcat excavator was delivered. However, it did not meet the specifications as quoted and a replacement has been ordered.
- The loader is at Groff Equipment for repairs for a cracked head. Rental equipment is being used.

Supervisor Burd inquired about the Township continuing to use the **easements on Lincoln Lane** as a truck turnaround. Solicitor Miller recommended the Board execute Turnaround Easement Agreements with the adjoining property owners for both of the turnarounds. Mr Miller will prepare the agreements and mail them to the property owners. The Township will be responsible for the maintenance of the easements.

New Business:

- Information was received from the Conservation District regarding the Dirt & Gravel Road Program Training Session to become ESM certified. James Heckman will attend the training session in State College on April 22-23;
- The Board acknowledged a request from Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority to notify them of any road resurfacing projects in the Township;
- Letters were received from Jason Brown and Joseph Swanderski expressing interest in appointment to the vacancy on the SBWJA Board;

- Information was received from the CCMPO regarding the 30-day public comment period for the Route 322 Potters Mills Gap Road Project;
- We received \$138,000 in Liquid Fuels allocation for 2014;
- We received \$15,025.83 for 2013 Cable TV Franchise Fees;
- Information was received from the County Association of Township Officials regarding the Spring Convention on March 31.

The Board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues at 7:35pm. The Regular meeting reconvened at 7:45m.

Brian Saiers motioned to appoint **Joseph Swanderski** to serve on the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority Board; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors.

Ronald Burd motioned to approve the February 2014 General Fund paid bills in the amount of \$59,482.20 and the February 2014 Treasurer's Report as presented; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Donna Reese reported Amber Buchanan, **Summer Camp** Administrator, is expecting a baby in July and will most likely not be able to perform all the Summer Camp duties she has in the past. The Supervisors requested the Park & Rec Board be consulted.

James Heckman motioned to adjourn the meeting; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors. The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.