

CONEWAGO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MAY 4, 2009

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, at 7:00 P. M. Those in attendance were Lois Leonard (Chairperson), Mark Jordan (Supervisor), John Baranski (Solicitor), Jeff Shue (Engineer) and Lou Anne Bostic, (Secretary).

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as prepared.

Minutes: Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to approve the previous meeting minutes.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC REQUESTS:

-Chris Lau, 1270 E. Butter Road requested a waiver of the road widening or pay fee in lieu of requirements for the proposed subdivision of his property. Mr. Lau would like to subdivide a one acre lot to convey to his daughter. Mr. Lau explained that when the road was originally widened he gave approximately 10' of his entire property road frontage to the township in order to complete the project. He is requesting his land donation be considered as meeting the SALDO requirements. The supervisors are in the process of updating the SALDO and are planning on addressing this issue in the new ordinance. Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to grant the waiver based on the individual circumstances surrounding this property and the donation of land to the township.

-Cathy Craley, 5485 Lewisberry Road, presented a letter to the board asking for assistance in correcting a nuisance lighting situation. Ms Craley informed the board that the communication tower located on Lewisberry Road recently changed their tower light to a bright light is annoying and prevents her from enjoying her property. Ms Leonard informed her that the zoning officer, along with the property owner, is looking into the matter. Ms Craley should be receiving a call from the property owner.

-George Herman, 960 E. Butter Road asked the board if they will be looking at the SALDO road widening requirements during the update. He thinks that the requirements should be different for a minor subdivision and a major subdivision.

-Sharon Beck, 1605 Copenhaffer Road asked that the speed limit on Copenhaffer Road, from Butter Road to the top of the hill, be raised from 25 mph to 35mph. She states that she has trouble maintaining that speed limit, going up the hill in the winter, and down the hill in her school student van. The supervisors will request a traffic study to determine the correct speed limit.

-Kevin Baker, 5465 Lewisberry Road agrees that the communication tower light is a nuisance. He also stated that he feels the lower 25mph speed limit on Copenhaffer Road is causing vehicles to use Lewisberry Road instead and they are traveling at a high rate of speed.

SEALED BID AWARD:

Bids were received for the 2009 road projects. The township intended to have this project bid as one project and not three. Mr. Jordan is not in favor of splitting the bid. Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to award the bid to Stewart & Tate, Inc. for the total cost of \$506,133.30.

PLANNING & ZONING:

- Public Hearing is scheduled for August 3, 2009 to present the proposed Zoning Ordinance for public comments.

-Groff, Lois & Duane - 2 lot subdivision sketch plan. David Hoffman, surveyor, presented the sketch for direction from the supervisors. This property is approximately 8 acres and located in the agricultural zone. The sketch proposed one lot with 150' of frontage and the second lot with 65' of road frontage. Mr. Shue told the board that the sketch meets township ordinance requirements. The property is located on Lewisberry Road and will require a highway occupancy permit from PennDOT. If site distance is a problem the plan could contain an easement. The board does not have a problem with the sketch.

-Roth, Mike - 4 lot subdivision sketch plan. Mr. Roth presented the sketch for direction from the supervisors. The proposed plan includes frontage on Andersontown Road and Bremer Road. Each lot will have 300' of road frontage. Mr. Shue stated that the configuration meets township ordinance requirements. The board does not have a problem with the sketch.

REPORTS:

The following reports were distributed to the Supervisors: Treasurer's Report, Police Report, Fuel Usage Report, Road Report, Sewer Report and the Building Permit Report. Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to approve the reports.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REPORT:

Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to approve the accounts payable report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

-Attorney Baranski presented a voluntary rubbish hauler ordinance revised draft to the board. The supervisors are not in favor of the billing procedures set forth in Section 14 of this copy. They feel the township should not be involved in any collections. The board will review and comment at the next meeting.

-Sharon Beck, 1605 Copenhaffer Road wanted to know why the township is considering the ordinance. Ms Leonard informed her that the board is checking this option for lower rates and curbside recycling for all residents. This option would also cut down on damage to roads from truck traffic.

-Charlie Eckenrode, 154 Butter Road, asked if this option would include commercial

properties. The proposed service would only be for residential service.

-Don from York Waste Disposal was in the audience and suggested that a pre-spec meeting might be beneficial to the township.

-Mark Golicher, 100 Mill Run Road, asked the solicitor if he is looking at other township ordinances when drafting our ordinance. His concern is customer service along with cost. Attorney Baranski explained the two stage process to Mr. Golicher. The township would have to adopt an ordinance first and then advertise bid specifications.

-Nick Blitva, 220 Hunter Creek Drive, asked if the ordinance will include recycling.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Copy attached.

- Cross Farm Lane truck traffic problem on Greenspring Road is being addressed by Jeff Shue and the developer.

-Charlie Eckenrode, 154 Butter Road, suggested that the road could just be posted with a weight restriction. Mr. Shue explained, that the problem would be better addressed by the modified adoption of Cross Farm Lane.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

-Copenhaffer Road zoning violation. Attorney Baranski would like to further review the township files before commenting on this matter.

-Sharon Beck, 1605 Copenhaffer Road, states that she is familiar with this issue and the property owner has built a porch overhang over the property line.

-Animal Waste ordinance request continued from the April meeting. Attorney Baranski explained that this type of an ordinance is difficult to enforce. The supervisors have instructed the manager to contact Manchester Township and the Northern Regional Police to see how they handle their animal enforcement ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

-Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to authorize the manager to contact Spott, Stevens and McCoy to draft a new Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance for the township.

-Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to authorize a donation of \$500.00 to the Strinestown Community Fire Company to be used to host the 2009 Northeastern Community Independence Day Celebration. The committee states that they expect expenses in excess of \$10,000.00 to host the event and they are asking all the municipalities in the Northeastern School District for contributions to help offset some of the expenses.

-Mr. Jordan instructed the road crew to repair the shoulders on Copenhaffer Road, from Test Road to the church. The edges of the road are compromised.

-Mr. Jordan asked the solicitor who the public would contact if they have a concern with discharging of firearms on neighboring properties. The attorney advised that they should contact the police or the game commission.

-Mr. Jordan announced that the township purchased a property to construct a new recreation park. He asked if grants can be obtained for the property.

Mr. Shue told him that a "master plan" would be necessary in order to compete for the grants that might be available.

-Mr. Jordan informed the board that the new bleachers for Zion View arrived. He also

requested approval to purchase a new picnic table for use in the snack bar area. Ms Leonard feels that the athletic association should purchase the picnic table because it will be used to benefit their snack operation.

-Mr. Jordan announced his resignation as the Conewago Township Emergency Operation Coordinator and Monroe Snyder's resignation as the Emergency Management Fire Officer. Both resignations are effective immediately. Mr. Jordan stated that the resignations are due to lack of support and the trainings that are beneficial to keeping the TMI plant operating. The township will have to replace the coordinator and other positions as soon as possible.

OTHER BUSINESS:

-The board did not have any other business to discuss. Ms Leonard opened the floor to the public for comments.

- Sharon Beck, 1605 Copenhaffer Road, asked where the new park property is located and stated that she feels the public should be included in any real estate purchase negotiations. The solicitor advised her that real estate negotiations are held in executive sessions. Mr. Jordan told the public that the property is located on the corner of Canal Road and Millcreek Road.

-Charlie Eckenrode, 154 Butter Road, voiced concern over tax dollars being spent on the property purchase. Mr. Jordan informed him that the money used to purchase the property was developer contribution funds, no tax dollars were spent. Mr. Eckenrode voiced his disapproval of the way his personal commercial operations have been treated. He feels that the township has signaled him out and caused him to spend money to comply with zoning and UCC requirements.

-Sharon Beck, 1605 Copenhaffer Road, asked why news reporters do not attend the township meetings anymore. The board informed her that they do not know.

-Lorreta Wilhide, 120 Witmer Road, asked the board why the Zion View pavilion concrete has not been installed. Mr. Jordan informed her that he is volunteering to do the installation and has not had the time to schedule the work. Mrs. Wilhide again questioned him on the reasons for not doing the work. Mr. Jordan, after explanations involving scheduling and economy concerns, withdrew his offer to install the concrete. The township will obtain bids for the project.

-Ms Leonard announced that the board will be holding an executive session, immediately after the meeting, to discuss personnel and legal matters.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Mr. Jordan, second by Ms Leonard, unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Anne Bostic