

The special June meeting, was called to order by Chairman James Zefran on June 29, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the Clinton Township municipal building. Chairman James Zefran, Vice Chair Brad Bates, and Supervisor Brian Non were in attendance.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance** - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**B. Hearing Check** – The hearing check was done.

**Public Comment –Items on Agenda Only** – Dan Fitzsimmons questioned Road Master Non to see if the township employs people with CDL licenses. The answer was affirmative. He asked if there were DVIR logs (Driver Vehicle Inspection Report), as well as pre-trip and post-trip reports. He stated that, by law, anything over 17,000 lbs., must have written, dated reports. Road Master and Supervisor Non said that they do inspect, but do not have a written report. Chair Zefran stated that, as of the regular June meeting, the Road Master will now report the mileage, damage, and maintenance of each vehicle. Fitzsimmons continued with the following questions: Are logs maintained for vehicle's hours of service? (No.) Are the CDL drivers employed elsewhere? (Yes.) Do you want me to go back and inform the authorities? Chair Zefran responded "You may." Vice Chair Bates said that time cards have logged on the back what roads each individual worked on. Jeff said that full time jobs count against driving time, even if the job does not include driving. Fitzsimmons continued that you will bankrupt this township because you are not in compliance with laws. He asked who did the road tests with new employees and whether it was documented? Non affirmed that he did the road test, but it was not documented. He continued by saying that he has driven truck for fourteen years, and some of this is new to him. When asked about random drug tests for CDL drivers, he was told it was done thru PSATS. Fitzsimmons said that if the road master needed help creating this and getting a program in place, he would help him. Chair Zefran stated that because we are ignorant of this, he would like to see the township have the help. Supervisor Non said he would like to run all of this by PSATS. Chair Zefran said that he wanted to make a motion on this and Non told him that he could not, as it was not on the agenda. Another citizen inquired about the lack of calcium on Ravnika, noting that it was spread heavily by the Sportsman Club. Supervisor Non said that the last load was not enough to go all the way through. He said he was supposed to put oil on some roads and it was pushed back two weeks. He is also looking into a system that goes on the back of a pickup and spreads calcium. Regarding Smith and Ravnika Roads, Chair Zefran said that last summer he had gotten loads of material from grading, rolling, and ditching roads that was 70% modified. He said that he wanted to put three layers of tar and chip. A company grinds up what's there, injects oil, rolls it, topped with three layers of tar and chip. Vice Chair Non said that trucks were needed to take care of the roads. Dan Fitzsimmons said that he would like to see you prove that you can work the program of legally documenting care for the trucks before purchasing more.

### **New Business**

- a. **Purchase of a big truck** - Chair Zefran said that the township had \$218,000 of COVID money. At the regular June meeting he had made a motion to add truck bays and a meeting room unto the pole barn. The motion failed due to not being seconded. He proposed putting half of it (\$110,000) to Ravnika tar and chipping by all of the homes. The second half was proposed to go to Smith Road. He continued by saying that a 120,000 truck had already been purchased and at the last meeting it was voted to purchase a new used truck for \$100,000.00 and a \$82,000 loader purchase was discussed. The vote to purchase a new used truck was not legal as it was not on the agenda. He asked for it to be on record that he felt \$300,000 on equipment vehicles is irresponsible. It is a huge amount of money for a township our size. His

belief is that, if these vehicles were purchased that Clinton II should succeed from Clinton I. Supervisor Non said that he was looking to replace the 1999 International as it is twenty years old and has obsolete parts. Additionally, he was looking to replace the New Holland tractor as the drive shaft had to be replaced two times and it was lightweight and not built for doing the work they were requiring of it. Chair Zefran said that he had been told by Josh Wilmarth that the 1999 International was used primarily for snow for roughly fifty hours a year. An audience member spoke up and said that Josh Debevec uses a pickup truck for snow and does fine. Supervisor Non said that PennDOT spends \$250 per hour for snow removal and if we have a blizzard this year, the purchase will pay for itself. Chair Zefran said our last blizzard occurred in 2017 and the equipment we currently own has gotten us through the last three winters. He asked how can we justify spending \$300,000 on trucks in one year? Chair Zefran made a motion to table the purchase of a truck until a maintenance program is set up for six to nine months. Supervisor Non said that he's not complaining but when the trucks break down, the grievances fall to him. This proposed purchase is for a truck that meets 75% of our criteria and important to allow road workers do their jobs. Chair Zefran countered that \$218,000 (COVID/ARP money) is a once in a lifetime windfall and most townships are using it to accomplish things to benefit a township that could never be accomplished outside of that windfall. It should not be used "chasing vehicles". Chair Zefran took an informal poll asking the audience to show with a raise their hands a preference for the money to be spent on roads or vehicles. The result was seventeen to two in favor of spending the money on roads. Non complained that this happens every year when a vote for vehicle purchase comes up and it gets tabled time and again. Chair Zefran brought everyone's attention back to the motion that he had made. *Chair Zefran made a motion to table the purchase of a truck until a maintenance program is set up for six to nine months. The motion was not seconded. The motion failed.* Supervisor Non made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bates to purchase the big truck for \$100,000. Fitzsimmons spoke up for the audience said that Non should suspend the CDL trucks being driven until things are done legally. Writing on the back of time cards is not true documentation. Doing it that way, you can't even determine that trucks aren't being driven for personal use. Chair Zefran asked for any other comments. He stated that in his mind, outsourcing is the way to go. Two years ago, Clinton Township put snow removal out for bid in October and it was too late. Recently, Augello said that he would be interested, but that it would have to be bid out in July before he was booked up. Supervisor Non said that Debevec gets \$90.00 per hour and Ron Poska, CDL driver for Clinton Township gets \$18.75. Chair Zefran interjected that Non is not taking into account the hidden costs of vehicle payments, insurance, wear and tear, and maintenance. Chair Zefran said that Prompton and Clifford subcontracts everything. He said that if the township spends \$300,000 on vehicles, taxes would have to be raised two mills to make that up. Supervisor Non countered that they can sell two pieces of equipment for an estimated \$60,000 which will bring the cost of this new vehicle to \$40,000. Chair Zefran said the township should use the 2 Fords, the newly purchased International, and the 1999 International without spending \$100,000. Chair Zefran brought everyone's attention back to the motion on the table. *Supervisor Non made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bates to purchase the big truck for \$100,000. Chair Zefran voted no. Vice Chair Bates voted yes. Supervisor Non also voted yes. The motion to purchase a big truck for \$100,000 carried.*

- b. **Purchase of a wheel loader** – Chair Zefran said that he had done his homework and that Logan Hall, owner of the equipment on the corner of Routes 170 and 6 in Prompton would help out if something broke down and the township needed a stopgap measure. He said that in Logan’s opinion, a purchase of a backhoe / loader made more sense than a backhoe. *Supervisor Non made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Bates to table the purchase of the wheel loader. All voted yes. The motion carried.* Bates said that he wanted to do more research before consideration of a purchase.
  
- C. **Public Comment** -In view of all that was said, Chair Zefran said that at the next meeting, we would look into three coats of tar and chip for the mile and a half of heavily traveled road. He asked how long it had been since the sewers in Browndale had been scoped. Ron Poska volunteered that he thought it had been about twelve years.
  
- D. **Adjournment** – *Following the executive session, Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. All voted yes. The motion carried.*