

February 12, 2020
Clinton Township Board of Supervisors Meeting

The regular February meeting of the Clinton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman James Zefran on February 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Clinton Township municipal building. Chairman James Zefran, Vice Chair Brian Non, and Supervisor Russell Curtis were in attendance along with Solicitor Jeffrey Treat.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Hearing Check / Meeting is audio and visual recorded - Noted

C. Public Comment – Items on the Agenda Only – Scott Linde inquired about Flat Rock Bridge and he wanted the Supervisors to know that Linde Company was willing to work with the township to see what load the bridge can carry among other things for the good of the community.

D. Minutes of Reorganization Meeting January 6, 2020 – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Zefran to approve the minutes of the reorganization meeting on January 6, 2020. All voted yes. The motion carried.

E. Minutes of Regular Meeting January 6, 2020 – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Zefran to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 6, 2020. All voted yes. The motion carried.

F. Minutes of the Special Meeting January 23, 2020 – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Zefran to approve the minutes of the special meeting on January 23, 2020. All voted yes. The motion carried.

G. Correspondence

- a. **Flood Plain Management Activities Annual Report** – This was forwarded to Township Engineer Jeff Weinberger. Chair Zefran noted that Weinberger was a valuable resource to Clinton Township who was very kind to not charge for so much of what he does.
- b. **2020 Initial Boundary Validation Program (BVP) – US Census Bureau is asking the Highest Elected Officials to review and ensure the Census Bureau's boundary data for Clinton Twp. is accurate.** – Zefran noted that we had a map of the township available and that we would cooperate with the Census Bureau.

H. Road Master Report – Road Master and Vice Chair Brian Non gave a report, noting that a third round of cinders has been used. Also, he relayed that he had talked to the company that had been driving semi-trucks on Ravnikar Road. Additionally, he spoke of the \$40,000 set aside for fixing one mile of Burns Road. Burns Road can be fixed in one of two ways: tar and chipped or 2" overlay. Engineer Jeff Weinberger spoke up saying that part of it needs to be milled and that it won't withstand an overlay. Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Zefran that the Vice Chair would meet with Engineer Weinberger and see how to handle the Burns Road repairs. All voted yes. The motion carried. Vice Chair Non changed the topic and said that he had done vehicle price shopping as the 2015 Ford F550 is nearing the end of its useful life. A concern was expressed about the weight limit signs on Ravnikar and Flat Rock. Ken Coles interjected that signs should say "except for local delivery".

I. Open Issues

- a. **GlidePath** – Chair Zefran gave a detailed recap of what the GlidePath representatives said at the January meeting and that, with legal representation proposal and counter proposals were going back and forth regarding the easement GlidePath was looking for on Smith Road for power lines (some above ground and some below ground) to go out to 296 and Waymart. Zefran stated that some of his primary concerns included all power lines to be underground, keeping the roads in good condition, and to make sure that the township has control of how much power

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goes through those lines in the future. When John Lillie inquired as to why they want to move the power in such a roundabout way, Zefran said that GlidePath was currently in litigation with some landholders which prevented a more direct route. With legal advisement, Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to reject the proposal from Waymart Windfarm LLC from the June 2020 meeting and continue negotiations with said company. All voted yes. The motion carried.

- b. **2020 Budget Amendment** – Chair Zefran expressed appreciation to all of the citizens who came to the work session. Matt Curtis inquired about a rainy-day fund to which Chair Zefran stated that no allowance had been made for that. He also explained that the Road Master and Supervisors salaries had all been rolled into one category. Vice Chair Non made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis to adopt the amended budget. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- c. **Solicitor Jeffrey Treat attending each meeting at the cost of \$175 per meeting** – Vice Chair Non made a motion, Seconded by Supervisor Curtis that Attorney Treat could attend each meeting. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- d. **Junkyard permit fee** – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis to keep the junkyard permit fee of \$200.00 the same. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- e. **SALDO Addition** – Chair Zefran said that because Clinton Township is not zoned, he had gone to the Wayne County Planning Commission for information on being forward thinking before it is proposed to put more windmills in. Without zoning there's not a lot we can do, however, we can address the issue of setbacks. Joe Franceski said that currently setbacks range from 15' to 50'. Chair Zefran said that according to the Preston Township SALDO covering "telecommunication facilities" their setback is 1 and 1.5 times the height and width to protect citizens from having a tower placed outside their front door. Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to forward a copy of the Preston SALDO pertaining to windmills and towers to the Clinton Township Planning Commission. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- f. **IRS set the standard business mileage rate for 2020 at 57.5 cents per mile.** – Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to accept the IRS set standard business mileage rate for 2020 at 57.5 cents per mile.

J. New Business

- a. **Master Road Plan** – It was noted that Engineer Jeff Weinberger put a master road plan together several years ago to which Chair Zefran said it was important to have and adhere to a master road plan strictly with the exception of emergencies caused by weather. Weinberger explained that he put paved roads in a category from one to three with a monetary value included for each road, as well as including monies for grading dirt roads. He reiterated that he would love to sit down with all three supervisors to discuss a master road plan. Ken Coles inquired if the plan was for paved roads only, or were they looking at dirt roads as well? Weinberger explained that all roads needed to be maintained and that he would like to see a little more paved each year. Supervisor Curtis interjected that Long Pond Road was in the worst condition. Frank Paurer said that roads may be patched one day, and the patch will be gone the next, especially up on Town Hill Road. Chair Zefran said that he had already set up a date with Kris Kruger who will come out and look at the roads to see which sluice pipes need redoing. Additionally, the master road plan will maximize availability for funding and grants. Vice Chair Non said that a road plan is good, but that sometimes it's easier to do it (replace a pipe) and move on. Don Salak said that as far a funding for this year, Ravnikar will be approved. Engineer Weinberger said that he, himself, did the application for Waymart with Kris Kruger and it was approved. Chair Zefran pointedly asked Vice Chair Non and Supervisor Curtis if they were on board with adopting a master road plan and working hand-in-hand with Jeff Weinberger to which they both assented with a "yes". Chair Zefran went on to say that, in accordance with the Sunshine Laws the work session would need to be advertised.

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- b. **Sewer Advisory Committee** – Chair Zefran explained that there's a considerable sum of money in the sewer fund in case of an emergency when we have to replace a section of sewer pipe. The duties of the Sewer Advisory Committee would include looking into grants and funding. Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to set up a Sewer Advisory Committee made up of five volunteers to be selected at the March meeting. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- c. **Insurance** – Chair Zefran said that he had talked to BJ Tompson of H.A. Tompson and he is reassured that Clinton Township is well insured at the lowest price.
- d. **Banking** – Chair Zefran state that he had each of the four major local banks to present their best deal. The following figures were presented: FNB of Forest City (.6% with 1.6% on Money Market accounts with 6 checks per month), Wayne Bank (.05%), Brian Wilkin (.15%) of HNB and Rory McGee of The Dime Bank (.05%). He then explained that FNB offers the best deal with free checks for the General and State accounts at .6% interest. Lesser used accounts can be put into a money market at 1.6% interest. Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis to go with FNB effective as of March 1. All voted yes. The motion carried. Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non that the \$163.60 in the Dirt & Gravel account can be put in the general account and the Dirt & Gravel account can be closed. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- e. **Auditors meeting every three months** – Chair Zefran explained that the auditors will be meeting every three months. They will be examining the excel spreadsheet line item budget income and expenses and verifying that totals and code numbers line up. He explained that everything is done by state codes and that he'll be meeting with the CPA this Saturday and that some codes may change. He asked for leeway as he and the Supervisors are doing their best to show exactly what is being spent in each category and are seeking to be transparent. Chair Zefran made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to have the Clinton Township auditors come every three months to go through the bills and make sure that everything is coded correctly and that the addition is correct. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- f. **Set up account with Office Max** – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Zefran to have Secretary Droppa set up an account with Office Max. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- g. **Wayne County Emergency Management Agency would like to invite all Emergency Management Coordinators and Elected Officials to attend the quarterly training session on February 19, 2020 at 6:30 pm at 43 Volunteer Drive, Honesdale, PA 18431** – This was announced and Browndale Chief Debevec said that either he or Kerry would attend.

- K. **Treasurer's Report Including Bills for Payment** – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis to pay the bills as reported. All voted yes. The motion carried.
- L. **Browndale Fire Department** – The Fire Chief Debevec gave a brief oral report. A written report is on file.
- M. **Old Business** – Ken Coles brought up the fact that Chris Farrell and Jeff Treat both recommend looking into zoning. Supervisor Curtis responded with a "No." and stated that his concern was that it will cost people a lot more money to do things. Vice Chair Non stated that it was worth looking into. Ken Coles said that a goal of zoning was that certain things could only be done in certain areas, and that, as a whole it will protect the community and its citizens. Matt Curtis said that it was a good topic for the Planning Commission. Chair Zefran asked for five taxpayer volunteers who will report to the Supervisors at the April meeting. The following citizens volunteered: Jeff Weinberger, Zach Spiewak, Ken Coles, John Lillie and Karen Fitzsimmons. Attorney Treat reminded the audience that ultimately the Board of supervisors makes the decisions. On a different note, Chair Zefran said that Berkheimer sent a list that will be cross referenced with a list from Tax Collector Marianne Thorpe. Berkheimer says that people not paying will

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be responsible for the last three years. We will send a proposed list of names of those who we think should pay and Berkheimer will investigate.

- N. Public Comment** – Tom Baileys asked for confirmation that the Supervisors voted to give \$10,000 to be given to the Browndale Fire Department. Chief Debevec said that if there was a fire tax there would be no need for the board to do that. Solicitor Treat said that the lawsuit regarding Burns Road and Flagge be discontinued with prejudice. Matt Curtis asked about posting the minutes on the website. Chair Zefran asked if a volunteer would step forward to man the website. Supervisor Curtis asked about the road workers getting paid two times a month. Regarding payroll, Chair Zefran asked for him to be given to the end of this first quarter and he would address it in the April meeting. Weinberger asked if all of the bays in the new building were full, as he noted that the tractor was outside. Vice Chair Non responded that it would be housed downstairs.
- O. Adjournment** – Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Zefran to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. All voted yes. The motion carried.