

February 13, 2019  
Clinton Township Board of Supervisors Meeting

The regular February meeting of the Clinton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Ken Coles on February 13, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Clinton Township municipal building. Chairman Kenneth Coles, Vice Chair Brian Non, and Supervisor Russell Curtis were present. Solicitor Jeffrey Treat was also present.

**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** – Ray Vogt said that where it overflows on Rte 170 the erosion goes down seven feet in some places. His concern is that if the bridge goes out because of erosion damage there will be a great deal more traffic in front of his property on Town Hill Road. He wondered if the flood plain property adjacent to the frequently flooded road area could be eminent domain. Chair Coles responded that the bridge in question on this state road is due for inspection in late March. Mike Dolph asked why the township was cinderizing the church parking lot right before church. Supervisor Curtis said that the township owned the lower road, school busses use it, and the township must maintain it. Vice Chair Non said that he did plow the church for Grace Kohler's funeral and he found out that he couldn't do that, so he called the deacons and informed them of such. Ron Poska spoke up and said that the township does own some of the paved lot, and because township trucks use the church's paved driveway there has been a verbal agreement since the early 1980s to take care of the area. Attorney Treat spoke up and said that if it's our property we must maintain it. If we use church property then we must cinder it. He explained that there is a quid pro quo when the church and township work together over property that has shared use and mutual benefit. He encouraged the supervisors to get it in writing. Mr. Dolph then expressed concern over the backhoe running for over an hour with nobody using it.

**D. Minutes of Reorganization Meeting January 7, 2019** - Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to accept the minutes of the reorganization meeting of January 7, 2019. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**E. Minutes of Regular Meeting January 7, 2019** - Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 7, 2019. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**F. Minutes of the January 11, 2019 Special Meeting** - Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to accept the minutes of the special meeting of January 11, 2019. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**G. Minutes of the January 22, 2019 Special Meeting** - Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to accept the minutes of the special meeting of January 22, 2019. All voted yes. The motion carried. Chair Coles announced that the two special meetings in January were necessary for time sensitive issues but that all three supervisors had donated their time and that the meetings had not cost the citizens of Clinton Township supervisory meeting pay.

**H. Road Master Report** – Road Master Brian Non reported that all vehicles are in working order. He informed the audience members that the supervisors are talking about getting another big truck. The 1999 truck is almost twenty years old. A new truck would cost \$164,000. They have looked at trucks from Freight Liner, International, and Western Star. Non explained that the supervisors have looked at used trucks but they are not going to give us what we need, additionally, getting an automatic will add about \$8,000 to the cost. Josh Debevec spoke up and said that you have to think of the future and automatics will have more drivability. Chair Coles stated that Western Star is most popular for municipalities. Ron Poska reminded the supervisors that the township had bought a used International truck from Pleasant Mt. in the past, to which it was brought up that a new vehicle will come with a two to five-year warranty.

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Vice Chair Non said that he was just bringing it up to let the citizens know that this is what is being looked at. He would like to vote on it at the next meeting. James Zefran asked if snow maintenance for the whole township has ever been priced out to which Non replied that the township was too big. He explained that snow plowing for Clinton II and part of Clinton I are hired out, and even if the remainder of Clinton I was divided in two portions, the service given by township employees is done in a much more timely fashion than the township could guarantee if it were hired out. At that point Vice Chair Non said that Brad Bates had worked for the township before and he is interested in plowing and backhoe work. Vice Chair Non made a motion, seconded by Chair Coles to bring Brad Bates on as an employee. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**I. Open Issues**

- a. Browndale Sidewalk bids – Bids were opened as follows:

<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Bid Amount</b>
Maiocco Excavating, Inc.	\$470,000.00
Kohrs Excavating	\$481,800.00
Linde Corporation	\$568,189.00

James Zefran, when asked, said that there was roughly \$380,000 for the sidewalk project. It was noted that there was roughly a \$90,000 difference from that amount to the lowest bid. He suggested to have the engineer and supervisors meet with the bidders to discuss having the job extend to the available monies, with June 30, 2019 as the absolute deadline. Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to table the bids till the supervisors and engineer meet with the bidders.

- b. Generator Bids – Bids were opened as follows:

<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Bid Amount</b>
Evans Electric	\$8,825.00 (without box)
Evans Electric	\$9,700.00 (with box)
R-3	\$9,619.66 (without box)

Supervisor Curtis made a motion to get the generator from Evans Electric, the lowest bidder, seconded Vice Chair Non. All voted yes. The motion carried. Chair Coles made a motion to replace the electric box the same time. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**J. New Business**

- a. **Put Burns Rd. blacktop out for bid** – Chair Coles noted that this would be taken care of by the Township
- b. **Open account with Haun Welding Supply** – Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice chair Non to have Clinton Township open an account with Haun Welding Supply to get oxy acetylene tanks. All votes yes. Mike Dolph spoke up suggesting Kinsingers as a better alternative. Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to open up an account with whichever company is closest that gives the best deal. All voted yes. The motion carried. It was agreed that Vice Chair Non would research it and tell Secretary Droppa with whom to open the account.
- c. **Wayne County Emergency Management Agency is having a quarterly training session on February 20, 2019 at 6:30 pm at Volunteer Drive Complex, 43 Volunteer Drive, Honesdale, PA**  
- Fire Chief Josh Debevec will be attending.

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**K. Treasurer's Report Including Bills for Payment** – Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to pay the bills as reported, including Attorney Treat's bill for \$425.00. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**L. Browndale Fire Department**

Chief Josh Debevec spoke about Browndale's need for income. He explained that initially the fire company was asking for a simple fee, but according to the law, it has to be a tax. Refurbishing a truck is not only expensive, but it does not come with a warranty that a new truck would have. A used ten-year-old truck would be similar to the one that needs to be replaced. He explained that the call volume has jumped from thirty a year to thirty or forty a month. When doing a fund drive, he explained, they don't even get 18% back. He did some research, and with a tax of two tenths of a mil, a property worth \$70,000.00 would have a tax of roughly \$14.00 a year. Likewise, the tax on a property worth \$150,000 and \$250,000 would be \$30.00 and \$50.00 respectively. These two tenths of a mil tax would generate around \$50,000.00 per year for the fire company. He continued, explaining that the fire department needs proof of income for a truck loan. He is seeking community support. Should the tax be instituted, they would want to set up a Fire Board made up of members comprised of: citizens, Supervisors, and fire department. Doing this is a move to look towards the future of the Browndale Fire Department. Ray Vogt inquired if some of the wage tax could be used instead of instituting a new tax to which the response was no. He then asked if the windmill yearly income could be used. Chair Coles explained that the windmill company was not legally bound to renew the agreement that currently earns the township roughly \$30,000.00 a year. Josh Debevec explained that the Foreign Fire tax would still be used for gear and training. Tom Baileys said that he was in favor of paying a tax and his wife Kim interjected that she did not want any of the Foreign Fire Tax funds to be distributed to any other local fire departments. Attorney Treat stated that the Supervisors would need to make a commitment to get a new fire tax on next year's taxes. Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to advertise that the Board of Supervisors will move forward with a fire tax at the regular April meeting and that citizens should come out and voice their opinions.

**M.** Two candidates running for the office of District Attorney; A. G. Howell and Kathy Martin were given the floor to share about their platform in the upcoming election.

**N. Public Comment** – Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Curtis to place a legal ad for bidding for grading and rolling, using a double drum ten-ton steel roller for grading. Weather permitting, the job must be done within 30 days from the start date. All voted yes. The motion carried. Supervisor Curtis made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to put out a bid for modified stone. All voted yes. The motion carried. The topic changed when Attorney Treat spoke up about the litigation against the company (Flagg) that damaged Burns Road. He stated that he was disappointed when a recent meeting date set by Flagg's attorney was cancelled. He continued by saying that he would need a check from the township to cover the necessary filing fee. He would also need a Supervisor's signature on a document to attest to the veracity of damage. Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non for the secretary treasurer to provide a check for that purpose. All voted yes. The motion carried. Tom Baileys asked for a copy of the contract with PPL for replacing Browndale streetlights with LED lights. Mike Dolph expressed concern over the supervisors' decision to drop the farmers' permit fee to \$20.00. He inquired as to whether 65%-75% of income has to come from farming? His concern is that people ask for a farm building permit to skirt around township and tax fees when it is more of a hobby than a true agricultural concern. Chair Coles said that he would review the issue to see how that could be contained.

**O. Adjournment** – Chair Coles made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Non to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. All voted yes. The motion carried.