

GLENBURN TWP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING MINUTES September 17, 2012

Board Members in Attendance: Mike Savitsky, Dave Jennings and Bill Wicks

Board Guests in Attendance: Code Enforcement Officer Tom Wicks, Secretary/Treasurer Joanne Benson, Solicitor Malcolm MacGregor

Public in Attendance: Attachment

-Supervisor Savitsky called the meeting to order at 7:30pm with the pledge to the flag.

Minutes:

Supervisor Savitsky motioned to waive the reading aloud of and accept the minutes of the August 20, 2012 Township Meeting, Supervisor Jennings 2nd, All in Favor.

Financial Report/Presentation of Bills

Joanne reviewed the financial reports and the bills. **Mo. by Savitsky, 2nd by Jennings to pay the bills and accept the financial reports as presented. All in Favor.**

Hickory Ridge Sewer/Hotel: Malcolm reported that there was a status inquiry by the developer and he responded that the supervisors are waiting for the Border - So. Abington Sewer Agreement to be finalized. Dave Gromelski is in possession of a tentative agreement. Malcolm will meet with Dave and inform the supervisors of the progress. There also needs to be follow-up with the Joint Sewer Authority. Once those items are in place Glenburn's Sewer agreements can be finalized and the planning issues can be worked out with the Planning Commission.

Committee Reports

Police: No Report

Roads: Joanne read the report left by Road Master Mennig. The low shoulder on Fords Pond Rd. was filled in with concrete chips. 2 tons of hot asphalt were put down at the bottom of Park Ave. at the curve and sluice pipe. Ditches were re-cut on Waterford. Storm damage from 2 heavy rain events were repaired and cleaned up. Drainage ditches were sprayed with weed killer and trimmed. Several more VASCAR lines and stop bars were painted.

Sewage Enforcement: No Report

Code Enforcement: No report

Planning: No report

Recreation: Bill Wicks reported that there was still a vacancy on the board and that the Hillside Harvest Moon Fest was taking place on September 29th from 11:00am to 2:00pm. The next AAJRB meeting will be this Thursday.

Old Business:

Precision National Plating (PNP) Update: Mike reported that there was a status meeting with EPA, Precision and DEP a on August 29th at 11AM. Malcolm stated that the Precision Viewer program was demonstrated and will be released shortly. This is an online data repository that residents can query. It contains 40 years worth of data about the site. It allows you to click on a monitoring well and see the test results for that well. It was reiterated that all work done at the site and for the site is paid for by Precision no matter who does the work.

Another round of injections has been conducted at the site. The contamination is trending downward but there are still some hot spots and some rebounding. EPA anticipates sinking at least 6 new monitoring wells. There is no end date for the remediation and EPA plans to continue work on the site until the health of the site is restored. The supervisors have asked EPA representatives to hold a public meeting in October to demonstrate the Precision Viewer. Supervisor Wicks mentioned that no private wells would be tracked on the viewer. Supervisor Jennings commented that if results were not seen after 5 years of injections he would like to see other alternatives tried.

ACT 32 Tax Collection: Randy Campbell stated that a meeting is scheduled for the end of September.

Railroad Communications Tower: Malcolm stated that engineering drawings have been reviewed by Jack Scheuer and that he is maintaining communications with the RR representatives. There will be activity on the erection of the tower soon.

Fig Avenue Properties: Mike stated that neither Mr. Genovese or Mr. Mirabelli have come to a Township meeting to plead their case as was requested in the letter sent by solicitor MacGregor. Malcolm asked that the supervisors authorize him to do a title search on the properties to verify ownership. Once that is done Malcolm will provide the owners with a notice that the Township plans to proceed under the “Dangerous Structures and Conditions” Ordinance. There was discussion on whether the supervisors would entertain doing some cleanup of the properties. Bill stated that cleanup on the Sjogren property was done after the BIU inspection was performed. **Mike Savitsky motioned to authorize solicitor MacGregor to do the title searches, maintain contact with the BIU representative and move forward under the Glenburn Township “Dangerous Structures and Conditions” Ordinance. Dave Jennings 2nd, All in Favor.**

Comcast Franchise Renewal Issues: Bill Wicks reported that the Township is sending the Abington COG a check for \$200 to cover a portion of the legal fees associated with the contract negotiations. The COG was in the process of getting a progress report from legal council.

Scranton Commuter Tax: Bill Wicks reported that many Abington COG communities have already motioned to oppose the commuter tax. Al Chelik wants to get the communities together to hire a lawyer and strategize a way to block the tax. Al has been in contact with Mike Gianetta (Scott Township Supervisor) who was the legal council that dealt with the commuter tax issue a few years ago. At that time stricter requirements were put in place and the tax was not renewed after 2 years. Malcolm suggested involving PSATS in this issue as well. Bill will keep the supervisors up to date on the status.

New Business:

Resolution on Act 44 for the Township Pension: Malcolm reviewed the sample resolution provided by PSATS. One of the areas in the sample addressed conflict of interest. Malcolm stated that the Township does not have a policy on conflict of interest and that it might be prudent to look into adopting one. PSATS may be able to provide a sample of such a policy. He stated that he could have the Act 44 resolution ready for the next meeting and that the conflict of interest policy would not hold that up.

Engine for the Chipper: Butch Colombo donated an old chipper to the Township. The engine of the chipper had been exposed to the elements and no longer works. Road Master Mennig has called around and tried to locate a used engine. The prices were as high as \$9,000 for a used engine. He located a company, Nazar Diesel, that deals in used engines and their installation. He received a quote of \$4,275 for the purchase and installation of a Deutz F5L-912 100hp engine. **Mike Savitsky motioned to proceed with the purchase and installation by Nazar Diesel, Bill Wicks 2nd, All in Favor.**

Pension Investment Strategy: The Township has received a distressed pension rating of 2 by the state. A phone conference was held with the Joanne, Mike Savitsky, the PSATS Pension administrator, the actuary and a Nationwide Investment Fund manager. Various alternatives were discussed and portfolio data was supplied to the Township for possible investment strategies. After reviewing a 5 year hypothetical historical data model of 3 strategies, the 40-60 strategy had the highest historical yield. This had 40% of the money in equities and 60 % in fixed assets and the yield over 5 years was 3.8%. Current fixed assets are only getting a 3% yield. Joanne stated that she is fiscally conservative and that it was the supervisors’ decision as to how they wanted to invest the pension monies. Staying in the 100% fixed fund is also an option. **Supervisor Savitsky motioned to move the plan assets out of the 100% fixed fund into the 40-60 fund and David Jennings 2nd. Bill Wicks voted no.** Joanne will send quarterly pension reports to the supervisors for their review and oversight of the plan assets. She will see if PSATS or Nationwide can provide an alert if the plan’s assets start to drop below a certain level based on fund performance.

Announcements:

8th Annual Township Art Show: Joanne said that the 8th Annual Glenburn Township Art Show would have an opening reception on October 7th from 3-5 and that the show will be hanging through December 13th.

Public Input:

Gerard Hetman LC Community Relations Coordinator: Gerard reviewed current events taking place in Lackawanna County. Some of the current events include Hero's Day on Sept. 22, Wake up with the Arts Breakfast on October 22, Countywide Tire Collection the week of Sept 24-29, Boys and Girls Basketball Clinics, Car Seat Check on Sept 19th, the Steamtown Foliage Tours and the Jack O Lantern Carving Contest on Oct. 20th. He will hang posters for the Glenburn Art Show at the various municipalities he deals with. Dave Jennings asked for a status on Glenburn Pond. Gerard will follow up.

Creek Clean Out Needed: Ken Jenkins spoke to the supervisors about the need to clean out the creek behind Old State Road. His property has been flooded 3 times in the past year. Gerard Hetman stated that Lackawanna County is currently looking for ways to help out with those kinds of situations. He will follow up with a status. Bill Wicks stated that the problem was getting permits from DEP. You can only get a permit to remove rock bars and not to dredge. The DEP regulations are geared to protect the environment but are not necessarily geared to protecting people's property. The Township has previously done substantial work in the Old State Road area. Malcolm suggested that the previous work might give some leverage in getting additional permitting for cleanup. The Township can have Jack Scheuer look into it. Malcolm will contact Jack.

Correspondence:

Correspondence was reviewed following Executive Session. **Mike Savitsky motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm and Dave Jennings 2nd. All in Favor.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Benson, Secretary/Treasurer