

# Clifford Township Supervisors Meeting May 12, 2020

**Supervisors Present:** Dennis Knowlton, Barry Searle and Chris Marcho

**Solicitor:** Joseph McGraw

**Secretary:** Joan Hertzog

Business meeting held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at the township building. Chairman Knowlton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Motion to approve April 14, 2020 township minutes by Mr. Knowlton. Seconded by Mr. Searle. All in favor. Treasurer's report reviewed and will be put on file. List of bills reviewed. Mr. Knowlton made a motion to pay all bills except Clifford Home and Auto. Seconded by Mr. Searle. All in favor. Motion to pay Clifford Home and Auto made by Mr. Searle. Seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor. Mr. Marcho abstained due to a conflict of interest.

## **Old Business –**

Barhite Excavating Payment Upon Bassett Engineering Approval – Mr. Searle made the motion to release funds to Barhite Excavating for contracted bridge work upon Bassett Engineering's approval. Seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor. Welsh Hill Road has been closed on Monday for bridge replacement.

Census – Residents are asked to respond to the Census to help with state/local funding. They do not mail to PO Boxes so if you don't reply someone will come out to your house. You can reply online. Clifford Township response rate is 32.8%.

Wind Turbine Ordinance – Planning Commission Chairperson, Sally Fischbeck, emailed the Planning Commission's recommendation for supervisors to adopt the changes in the SALDO section of Wind Turbines as written by Tom Shepstone. Mr. Searle made the motion to adopt the ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Marcho. All in favor. Atty. McGraw will have the ordinance ready for signatures next month.

Extend Cottage Ambulance Service – Mr. Searle made the motion to extend the contract and to authorize Mr. Marcho the too right to continue to extend the agreement as long as needed. Seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor.

## **New Business –**

Clifford Volunteer Fire Co. Picnic – Mr. Knowlton made the motion to approve the fire companies' annual request for their picnic, July 23, 24 & 25, 2020. Parade July 23, 7pm ending July 25 with fireworks and cash drawing. Seconded by Mr. Searle. All in favor.

Red Abbott Road Complaint – Mr. Searle explained a neighbor dispute complaint to the township regarding farm animals. Mr. Searle notified Constable Munley to contact everyone involved. He also recommended that they contact the PA Ag. Ombudsman Program to help mitigate any conflict related to agriculture as well as the Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP). Constable Munley will also go out to the location and write a report once the pandemic restrictions are lifted.

Public Comment – No public questions or comments have been received.

## **Township Representative Reports:**

Police Report – Greenfield Police Chief, Jeff Martin reported forty-seven 911 Dispatches. A lot of time was spent on Thornhill Road after last month's complaint and they will continue to keep an eye on it.

Road Report – Road Master Booths reported road issues on Janes Lane have been addressed. Welsh Hill Road will now be closed for about two weeks in order to complete the bridge replacement. New street signs have been ordered and the townships electronic speed sign has been posted.

Planning Commission- see Wind Turbine Ordinance under Old Business.

Park and Recreation – Mr. Marcho reported that there has not been any Park and Recreation meetings in the last few months due to the pandemic. Additional concrete pads have been poured in front of the garage. A meeting with DEP and Bassett Engineering regarding the park bridge had been canceled because DEP couldn't attend. Mowing issues were addressed. Mr. Wilson is working on the ventilation issue in the basement of the Children's Garden house.

Permit Officer – Joan Hertzog reported three permits issued: one Building, one Sewer and one Land Use.

Tax Collector – Jan Price wrote in 78% has been collected: \$98,107.83 Real Estate / \$17,836.90 Fire Protection.

Fire Company – No Report

Historical Society – No Report

## **Clifford Township Supervisors Meeting May 12, 2020 cont.**

Theresa Opeka asked for any thoughts or comments on the counties status not moving to the yellow phase. Mr. Marcho replied that the numbers are not there to keep us at red. Mr. Knowlton said we are not getting a fair shake, they are crushing businesses. Mr. Searle said adults should be treated like adults. He can't understand how they can open Pittsburg but not Clifford.