

Clifford Township Supervisors Meeting May 13, 2014

Business meeting held on Tuesday May 13, 2014. Chairman Dennis Knowlton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Motion to approve the minutes by Mr. Knowlton, second by Mr. Searle. All in favor. Treasurer's report reviewed and will be put on file. List of bills reviewed. Mr. Searle made a motion to pay bills except Clifford Auto and Clifford supply, seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor. Mr. Searle made a motion to pay Clifford Auto and Clifford Supply, Mr. Marcho Abstained, seconded by Mr. Knowlton. All in favor. Mr. Marcho abstained due to potential conflict of interest.

Old Buisness:Mr. Searle made a motion to pass a resolution to accept Mountain Laurel Drive as a Township road. Mr. Knowlton seconded. All in favor.

Mr. Marcho reported that the township sold some old equipment at auction for \$11006.00 and that the new tractor was delivered and is waiting for brush hog and rake to come in. We are under budget on the new tractor and attachments.

Barhites are working on the roads with some completed. Barhite is also doing some patch work, ditching and pipe work on Elkview Road. This is a temporary fix until they can find the funds to do a complete paving job on the road.

Spring Cleanup took in \$602.00 in donations. Dumpsters cost the township \$300.00 and tires picked up from along the roads cost \$67.50 for a total expense of \$367.50 with \$234.50 left to go towards recycling expense for one month. Special thanks for Robo Keating, Nel Daniels, Chris Kraft, Brady Walsh, Sally Fischbeck and Buzz Boomer for all their help.

Mr. Searle reported on his trip to the PSATS conference in Hershey. He attended conferences on Urban Blight and the problems township are having and the effects on property owner. Mr. Searle is looking to find a way to help people cleanup their properties. He also talked to some people about cross walks for the township. Cross walks would be for Dundaff and Main Street Clifford. No one was at the conference with speed indicators but had a catalog with pricing and a solar sign would cost about \$4000.00 each. The state is trying to get the gas money instead of the township. If this happens we will still have two more years before this could go in effect. This is still just being discussed. A resolution to do away with a tax collector and use a commercial outfit was voted down. Mr. Marcho reported on Sunday he had face time with people from DCNR, DEP and DCED. He and Mr. Wilson go through the booths and talk to a lot people about different problems in the township. On Monday they split up and go to different seminars and get together later to disguise what they learned.

Mr. Searle wrote a mission statement for the Parks Committee to explain the duties of the board.

Mission Statement for the Parks Committee

The Clifford Township Parks and Recreation Board supports the Clifford Township Comprehensive Plan by developing and recommending future plans and facilities, oversees and administers approved plans and programs, and maintains township recreational facilities in order to improve the quality of life of township citizens through enhanced recreational, athletic, and cultural opportunities.

Mr. Marcho made a motion to pass the statement. Mr. Knowlton seconded. All in favor. Mr. Marcho announced that Bob Lopatofsky would be Chair and Tom Roberts will be Vice Chair for the Parks Committee. Mr. Marcho made a motion to add Patty Walker and Jennifer Long to fill the last two positions Mr. Searle seconded. All in favor.

Mr. Pettinato wanted to know about the sand built up under the bridges in Clifford. A call will be made to the state about this problem.

Mr. Marcho pointed out all the work done in the hallway by the Historical Society and that he talked to PPL about free LED lights for the outside of the building. 10 lights had to be in place by May 9th and the township would be reimbursed. The lights were \$3600.00 plus installation with \$4500.00 reimbursement from PPL and we should save on electric bill going from 250 watts to 64 watts per light. Mr. Pettinato Thought the township should get better security system put in the building.

New Business: Mr. Davis came to take question on the Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan. Mr. Davis feels the township should form a steering committee to study what would work best for Clifford Township. Mr. Davis will have everything ready for approval as a resolution at the next meeting.

Mr. Searle made a motion to purchase a property that is going on Sheriffs sale adjoining the township property to enlarge the recreation area. Mr. Marcho seconded. All in favor.

Mr. Searle made a motion to approve to maintain the side walk on the bridge over Dundall creek. Mr. Marcho seconded. All in favor.

Tax Collector reported that 79% of the property taxes have been paid with about \$39919.00 left to be collected.

Planning Commission reported that Leo's subdivision was ready for approval and they declined to approve because it doesn't meet township codes. Solicitor, Joe McGraw explained that the subdivision was a court order. Mr. Searle made a motion to approve the subdivision. Mr. Knowlton seconded. All approve.

Fire Co. had a total of 57 calls both fire and EMS. That averages out to 2 calls a day. Mr. Phillips wanted to assure the board that Clifford Fire Co. has in place a lot of safe guards to make very hard if not imposible for anyone person to embezzle money for the department. Because the fire co has had several robberies in the past few years they are putting in two new gates and six new dusk to dawn lights on the grounds to better protect their property.

Mr. Phillips pointed out that the flags both out on the pole out front and out on the baseball field and also on the poles along the drive should be replaced. Mr. Marcho will have the Alliance replace them.