

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
May 6, 2020

- Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Greene Township Board of Supervisors, held in the Municipal Building on Brink Hill Rd., Greentown, PA and live-streamed on the Township’s Facebook page due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was called to order by Chair Gary Carlton at 7:00pm, who suspended the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Adopt Agenda: Mr Obert made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr Krautter seconded, voice vote, motion carried
- Action on Minutes: Mr Obert made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 1, 2020. Mr Krautter seconded, voice vote, motion carried.
- Announcement of Meetings: None
- In Attendance: Chair: Gary Carlton, Supervisors: Barry Krautter, Gerald Obert, Solicitor: Jeffrey Treat, Treasurer: Sandra Oziemblo, Secretary: Amanda Seagraves
- Solicitor: Jeffrey Treat stated that the board should consider the resolution to allow tax payers to receive an extension on their taxes due to possible effects from the pandemic. Mr Obert made a motion to make a resolution, 20-6, for property tax relief due to the virus. Mr Krautter seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.
- Road Report: Mr Obert advised that at the last meeting there were complaints of potholes. Now that we have access to material, the roadcrew has been filling potholes. There are still a couple roads that are bad and need to be graded, but for the most part the roads are passable.
- SEO Report: Report received from Glen Martin.
- Solid Waste/Sign Report: Reports received from Ed Simon. The Board went over the solid waste report. Mr Carlton stated that, regarding the sign for Greentown Grill, the letter went out to the owner, but later than it should have. Jeffrey Treat stated that the sign looks like a billboard. It was discussed that the sign is right on the property line, instead of the required 25 ft back. Mr Carlton advised he doesn’t think it’s legal and the sign ordinance, Ordinance #54, and another letter needs to be sent right away letting the owner know that the sign needs to be taken down. The money they paid for the permit needs to be reimbursed. Then the process needs to be started from the beginning. Mr Carlton asked Mr Krautter if he would consult with Ed to get this straightened out. Mr Krautter advised he would. The Board went over the rest of the sign report.
- Old Business: Jeffrey Treat asked Treasurer, Sandra, about the call she received from the owner of Promised Land Inn, Jeff Barwick. Sandra explained that he wanted an update on the sign. Sandra told him that, as per his email, he requested everything to be taken up with his lawyer, so our township solicitor sent a letter to his attorney, Jack Spall. Jeff Barwick said he will leave it up to the lawyers then. Jeffrey Treat said that he has not received any response from Jack Spall so he will follow up.
- New Business: a. **All State Septic – Well Waiver for 159 Paunee Dr – Call In** – Secretary, Amanda, called Tiffann from All State Septic and put her on speaker phone for the Board. Mr Carlton inquired that they are asking for a well-waiver and that the septic services two properties. Tiffann stated that yes, the new well will be 51.5ft from the septic system, whereas it’s supposed to be 100ft, and it services two properties. Mr Carlton advised that there is a real liability to the township and we can’t approve it. If someone got sick then it would be the township’s responsibility. Jeffrey Treat asked Tiffann about the hold harmless agreement that was not executed by Michael Oleschak. She confirmed that he is the neighbor that shares the well and that she has a signed hold harmless agreement from him. Jeffrey Treat is concerned that the owner of the property, Matthew Lowrey, is not on the agreement so he could be sued and therefore sue the township. If these properties were to sell in the future, the new owners may have issues over the well. Mr Carlton made a motion to deny the waiver for liability purposes. Mr Obert seconded, voice vote, motion carried. Tiffann requested a letter from the township for the denial. Secretary, Amanda, will send a copy of the minutes and/or a letter of denial, to Tiffann.
- b. **Greentown Grill – Sign Ordinance #54** – see Sign/Solid Waste/Road Encroachment Reports

c. **Blacktop Bid for Beaver Dam Rd. Prep** – Mr Carlton opened all the bids from the contractors and read them aloud. They are as follows:

Panther Trucking - \$23,000

Rylly Enterprises - \$46,448

William Heberling Excavating - \$36,800

Wayco, Inc. - \$17,887

Kohrs Excavating - \$12,800

Pioneer Construction - \$46,109

Jeffrey Treat advised the Board to make sure the same bid specs were relayed to each bidder. Mr Krautter confirmed that he gave the same specs to each contractor when they did their pre-bid review. Jeffrey Treat stated that Kohrs Excavating is a reputable contractor and the lowest bidder and, in the bid, it is stated “Road preparation as per advertisement” so he is responsible to comply. Mr Carlton made a motion to accept Kohrs Excavating’s bid of \$12,800 for preparation of Beaver Dam Rd. for blacktop, with them signing the advertisement. Mr Obert seconded, voice vote, motion carried. Mr Carlton suggested we put out bids for the blacktop to open for our next meeting. Secretary, Amanda, will advise Kohrs Excavating that they are awarded the bid and the bid results will be posted on the door at the township building.

d. **PPL Transmission Line Rebuild - Technical Deficiency Letter – Incomplete Submission** – Mr Krautter advised it is in regards to PPL replacing the poles. Mr Carlton said that as long as they are off of our right-of-way, we don’t have much to say about it.

e. **Promised Land Community Church on 390 – location of temporary sign** – Mr Carlton and Mr Obert stated they looked at it and temporary signs would be fine from May 15 – Sept. 5. as stated on the permit application. Mr Carlton made a motion to give temporary sign permit. Mr Obert seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

f. **Purchase of USA flag w/pole (\$173.95) and pole for state flag (\$123.95)** – Mr Obert made a motion to purchase a USA flag with the pole and the pole for the state flag we already have to display in the township’s meeting room. Mr Krautter seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

g. **Pike Co. Board of Commissioners – grant application – letter of support requested** – Mr Carlton made a motion to give a letter of support. Mr Obert seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

h. **DGK Insurance – quote – liability** – Mr Carlton advised that we need to give HA Thompson Insurance 60 days in advance if we decide to cancel our liability policy with them, therefore we need to get a quote from DGK Insurance by the first of June. Mr Carlton made a motion to get a quote for liability from DGK and the Board to look it over as soon as it comes in so we can let HA Thompson know in time so they can also give a new quote. Mr Obert seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

i. **PPL certified letter – Pocono Blooming Grove Line Rebuild** – Jeffrey Treat advised they are just letting us know what they are doing, as we have no jurisdiction over it.

Visitors (via live-streamed

Video comments):

Secretary, Amanda, read the following comments to the board for their response:

Dana Anolfo – “Will the patch that is left on Sawmill get black topped?” Mr Carlton advised that it will get blacktopped eventually. Mr Krautter advised that it won’t be this year.

Tammy Bazemore – “Is the rule to go with the lowest bid even if you don't know quality of work? Why go with someone you don't even know? use local contractor? Keep money in the township?” Mr Carlton advised that by law, we have to go with the lowest bidder who is reputable and our solicitor said he is reputable. Jeffrey Treat advised that Kohrs Excavating is out of Honesdale which is local.

Marcia Folenta – “with PLI sign if he did not hear from lawyer. I want know know what we do next!” Jeffrey Treat said that he is sending a letter to Attorney Spall to ask if his client has completed the survey and what the results are. Based on the results, if the sign must be moved, when will he move it.”

Allen Schiffler – “So you know I was out and checked the dams and streams”

Tammy Bazemore – “was item # 6 on the agenda discussed?” She was referring to the Solicitor Report for the property tax relief. Amanda advised that the supervisors will be signing a resolution for an extension of taxes.

Cheryl Mitchell – “can the Township fill in or seal the crack in the skating rink? Will there be more equipment installed on the playground? Will you put in more wood chips?” The Board advised that yes, wood chips will be put down, more toys are supposed to be coming since we go the extension for the park grant, and as far as the crack goes, we will have to check into it.

Solicitor Continued: Jeffrey Treat advised the Board that Bill Schoenagel indicated to him that there was a problem on a survey that was done a number of years ago and the owners will be trying to straighten it out. Just a heads up that Bill will be giving a proposed map for the correction.

Adjournment: Mr Obert made a motion to adjourn. Mr Krautter seconded, voice vote, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Seagraves
Secretary/Alternate Treasurer