

Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
June 3, 2019

A regular monthly meeting of the Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, June 3, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., at the township building. In attendance were Emery Fiely and Dave Zdarko, Supervisors, and Christine Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer.

Call to Order

Emery Fiely called the meeting to order.

Pledge

Public Comment

Jamey Miller thanked the Supervisors for Clean-Up Weekend, which took place on Saturday, June 1, 2019 and Sunday, June 2, 2019. He said the event went smoothly and noted that there were several people available to help with the scrap metal collection. Emery Fiely, in turn, thanked the VFD for monitoring the event all weekend. Steve Anderson suggested allowing drivers to exit from the second driveway next year to make it easier for vehicles to leave the dumpster area when finished. During Clean-Up Weekend this year, the second driveway was closed.

Kristy Gould asked the Supervisors for permission to repair the existing horse ring and use it for horse shows throughout the year. She said she, along with other volunteers, have already cleaned a lot of brush from the area and that there are volunteers and materials to repair the horse ring and make it usable again. They would like to do a show this year with 50 – 60 horses. Kristy Gould told the Supervisors that she plans on having “Ride at Your Own Risk” signs displayed and having participants sign forms releasing the township and VFD from liability. The Supervisors were in favor of bringing the horse ring back to life, but were concerned about liability issues because the horse ring sits on land that is owned by the township. Emery Fiely said he was told that the forms intended to release liability do not hold up in court and, consequently, he feared that the township or the VFD would be held liable if someone were to get injured on the property. Chrissie Kurelowech noted that, even if forms releasing liability are required for participants, a person could use the horse ring outside of an organized event, without signing the required paperwork, and, if injured, the township could be held liable since the horse ring is on the township’s property. Jeff Nelson felt that the VFD’s insurance would only cover organized events (for example, the gun raffle, turkey shoots, etc.) and that the township would be responsible for anything that happens on the township property outside of the organized events. Kristy Gould indicated that she and the other volunteers are waiting on the township’s approval and have everything ready to repair the horse ring once the Supervisors approve of it. Emery Fiely told Kristy Gould that she and the other volunteers could continue to clean the property up, but that the issue with the liability will need worked out. He said he was unsure as to whether the liability would fall upon the township or the VFD. Chrissie Kurelowech will check with the township’s insurance agent and the township solicitor to determine how to allow the horse ring to be used without bringing liability to the township or the VFD and the effect this could have on the insurance premiums paid by the township and the VFD.

Minutes/Treasurer's Report

The minutes, from the regular monthly meeting held on Monday, May 6, 2019, were read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Dave Zdarko and seconded by Emery Fiely.

The treasurer's report, for May 2019, was read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Emery Fiely and seconded by Dave Zdarko.

Correspondence

State Workers Insurance Fund (SWIF) – VFD Workers Comp. – Premium Decrease

The premium for the VFD's workers compensation insurance (paid by the township) will decrease significantly this year. Last year, the estimated premium was \$16,058.00 and was lowered to \$14,738.00, leaving a \$1,320.00 credit. This year, the estimated premium is \$9,223.00.

Considering the credit on the account, the township should owe about \$7,903.00 this year. The VFD workers compensation insurance renews on July 1, 2019.

Lindy Paving, Inc. – Russell Standard Change in Ownership

Lindy Paving, Inc. has recently acquired Russell Standard Corporation, Erie Division, which includes the branch office located in Union City and asphalt plants in Waterford and Erie. All future correspondence from the Union City branch office will be from Lindy Paving, Inc.

Venango Area Chamber of Comm.–Oil Heritage Festival Bike 'n Brew-Approval

The Venango Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking approval from the township to take an organized bicycle ride through the township (parts of Route 417 and Route 8) on July 20, 2019. The bicycle ride is part of the Fourth Annual Oil Heritage Festival Bike 'n Brew and will begin in Justus Park in Oil City. There will be no road closures and between 5 and 35 people will participate. The ride will take place on state roads and the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce has applied for a special permit through PennDOT for the event. After a brief discussion, the Supervisors were in agreement to grant approval for the Fourth Annual Oil Heritage Festival Bike 'n Brew to pass through the township. Chrissie Kurelowech will send a letter of approval to the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce.

PSATS – Fulfilled Resolutions Report/Adopted Resolutions Report

PSATS has provided the township with a fulfilled resolutions report, showing progress that has been made, as a result of existing PSATS resolutions. Additionally, an adopted resolutions report was sent to the township showing the resolutions that were adopted during the 2019 Annual Conference.

PSATS News Bulletin

Zoning

Permits

Z-2019-07	Duane and Lorraine Burrows	4716 State Route 8	shed
Z-2019-08	Joel and Patrice Stafford	2221 Petroleum Center Road	carport
Z-2019-09	Thomas and Lou Ellen McGill	591 Miles Road	garage

Zoning Report

Ben Breniman, Zoning Officer, reported that 3 permits were issued during the month. Ron Stewart noted that an electrical box had been installed near the abandoned trailers on Black Road and Ben Breniman said he thought the property owner wanted to put a camper there.

Administrative Action

None

Committee Reports

VFD

Tom Huffman, VFD 3rdnd Assistant Chief, reported that there were 12 calls since the last meeting. Of the 12 calls, 2 were building fires, 1 was a rubbish fire, 2 were EMS, 1 was an MVA, 4 were public service (1 cat in tree), and 2 were dispatched and cancelled.

The VFD collected \$450.00 in donations while monitoring the Clean-Up Weekend that took place on June 1, 2019 and June 2, 2019.

A flea market will take place at the township building on Saturday, June 8, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

The VFD's annual gun raffle will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019. The doors will open at noon and the drawing will begin at 1:00 p.m.

EMA Office

There was no report.

Road

Lew Staub, Roadmaster, reported that the road crew ditched 6 roads (18.7 miles). They removed the ditcher from the tractor and put the mower on. They mowed on 4 roads, scraped 1 road, stacked antiskid, and mowed the yard 3 times. The road crew also started grading the roads in preparation for oil. The spreaders have been put on the trucks.

As for equipment, the parking brake has been fixed, a tie rod end has been replaced, and a fuse box has been replaced on the JCB backhoe. On the grader, a fan was installed, the parking brake and heater were repaired, and the articulation gauge was adjusted. The rear right quarter glass was recently replaced on the Case backhoe and a tire on the rake went flat and was replaced.

Weather permitting, oiling will begin on Thursday, June 6, 2019, and will continue to be put down every Thursday until complete. The new lawn mower works great.

Old Business

There was no "Old Business".

New Business

PennDOT – Miller Farm Bridge ROW - Ordinance

Chrissie Kurelowech reported that PennDOT has recently contacted the township regarding an ordinance that may need passed by the township, in the near future, that would allow PennDOT to acquire rights-of-way to complete the Miller Farm Bridge project. She is in the process of gathering information and will report on it at the next meeting.

Handicap Parking Spots

Dave Zdarko suggested putting handicap parking spaces in the front yard of the township building, near the flagpole. Currently, there are no handicap parking spaces near the front door of the building. On a motion made by Emery Fiely and seconded by Dave Zdarko, the Supervisors voted to have the road crew make 2 or 3

handicap parking spaces (gravel), with signs, near the flagpole in the front yard of the township building.

Adjournments

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The bills were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer