

Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
March 7, 2022
6:00 p.m.

A regular monthly meeting of the Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, March 7, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at the township building. In attendance were Jim Waugh, Dave Zdanko, and Rob Kellogg, Supervisors, and Christine Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer.

Call to Order

Jim Waugh called the meeting to order.

Pledge

Moment of Prayer

Jim Waugh led those in attendance in a moment of prayer.

Public Comment

Carl Hazen asked the Supervisors if he could purchase salt brine from Seneca Mineral and have it applied to the road in front of his house after the road is graded in the spring to keep the dust down while waiting for the township to put down salt brine. Chrissie Kurelowech will look into this and report at the next meeting.

Tammi Clark asked the Supervisors to consider making the intersection of Stone Springhouse Road and Fairview Road a 4-way stop. She said that a family with several children and pets is living near the intersection and she is worried that someone is going to get hurt due to speeding vehicles. She also suggested that the speed limit be reduced near the intersection. Jim Waugh said that the speed limit is 55 mph unless otherwise posted and that a traffic study would need to be done in order to lower the speed limit and to be able to enforce the new speed limit. Roger Patterson said that he thought the township could reduce the speed limit to 25 mph, but any other speed limit would require a traffic study. Sue McDowell agreed. Chrissie Kurelowech will look into this and report at the next meeting.

Tammi Clark told the Supervisors that there is an erosion problem on Stone Springhouse Road and asked them if they have a plan to fix it. Lew Staub, Roadmaster, said that the township cannot do anything until the frost comes out of the ground. At that time, the road crew can begin spring grading. Ginny Pokoj said there is water over the road. Tammi Clark asked if cones could be put up to let people know there is a ditch across the road (Fairview Road near Fiely's). Lew Staub said that the road crew would set cones out, but that they never stay long because people steal them.

Minutes/Treasurer's Report

The minutes, from the regular monthly meeting held on Monday, February 7, 2022, were read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Dave Zdanko, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously.

The treasurer's report, for February 2022, was read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Venango County Regional Planning Commission – New Leadership – Fee Increase
Hilary Buchanan has been promoted to Director of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission, replacing Jason Ruggiero. The membership fee has

increased from \$.50 per capita to \$.55 per capita. However, since the results of the most recent census show a decrease in the township's population, from 1,540 to 1,308, the township will be required to pay \$719.40 for membership as opposed to \$770.00 in previous years.

Matthew Vargason - Act 14, 67, and 68 Notification - 138 Turkey Farm Road
The township has been notified that Matthew Vargason has applied to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and a Water Quality Management Part II permit with the intention of installing a single residence sewage treatment plant at 138 Turkey Farm Road.

PennDOT – 2022 Liquid Fuels Tax and Turnback
Chrissie Kurelowech reported that the township recently received \$191,312.93 in Liquid Fuels Tax revenue, which is \$3,448.45 less than last year. Additionally, \$24,240.00 was received in Liquid Fuels Turnback revenue for Dempseytown-Gresham Road.

Zoning

Permits

None

Zoning Report

Ben Breniman, Zoning Officer, reported that he recently spoke with a representative from Cove Solar who requested an informal discussion with the Supervisors regarding solar development in the township. He said he sent the representative a digital copy of the current regulations and has not heard anything else from him.

Ben Breniman recently performed several inspections and will send out enforcement letters. A property on Black Road (near Route 8) contains several vehicles and a motor home that is being occupied. Junk is accumulating again and is beginning to spread into the field at 1220 South Perry Street. He also inspected 903 Fairview Road and had a discussion with the person living on the property who said he has a dumpster and will clean the property up soon. Ben told the person that he plans to inspect the property every month. He also took pictures of the violations at the properties.

Administrative Action

Road Worker Resignation – Vote to Accept

On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to accept the resignation of Steve Anderson. On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to advertise for a new road worker for 3 days in The Titusville Herald. Resumes will be accepted through Friday, March 18, 2022.

Lamey Road Culvert #1 Bids – Review and Vote

Breedtown Road Culvert #3 Bids – Review and Vote

Chrissie Kurelowech said that bid openings were held on Thursday, March 3, 2022 for the Lamey Road Culvert #1 project and the Breedtown Road Culvert #3 project. The first bid opening, which was for Lamey Road Culvert #1, was held at 10:00 a.m. Nine bids were received with the lowest being \$88,000.00 from Shingledecker's Welding, Inc. See bid results below.

Lamey Road Culvert #1	
Shingledecker's Welding, Inc	\$88,000.00
Steel Nation Environmental, Inc.	\$97,750.00
Heckman Diversified Construction	\$98,922.00
Northrock Construction	\$106,291.00
McLallen Construction	\$106,450.00
Amendola Construction & Maintenance	\$132,600.00
XL Excavating	\$133,750.00
Konzel Construction	\$148,800.00
Horizon Construction Group	\$188,000.00
Paul Gosik Construction	no bid
Davis Demolition	no bid

The second bid opening, which was for Breedtown Road Culvert #3, was held at 10:30 a.m. Nine bids were received with the lowest being \$45,900.00 from McLallen Construction. See bid results below.

Breedtown Road Culvert #3	
McLallen Construction	\$45,900.00
Shingledecker's Welding, Inc.	\$53,000.00
XL Excavating	\$56,700.00
Northrock Construction	\$56,941.00
Heckman Diversified Construction	\$61,230.00
Konzel Construction	\$62,800.00
Steel Nation Environmental, Inc.	\$79,590.00
Amendola Construction & Maintenance	\$82,000.00
Horizon Construction Group	\$91,700.00
Paul Gosik Construction	no bid

The Supervisors discussed the financial situation of the township and 2022 expenses. Chrissie Kurelowech noted that the township will receive \$73,477.79 in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding in June of 2022 to put towards culvert projects. This will be the second and final sum of ARP money received by the township. The first payment of \$73,477.79 was put towards the Shreve Road Culvert #1 project during 2021. She also noted that it is time to put stone out for bid. The Supervisors have doubled the amount of 2RC gravel (from 7,200 tons to 14,400 tons) that is tailgated to various roads for the past 2 years. The 2021 stone bid(s) came in at \$161,636.00. Salt brine will most likely be another expense during 2022 and the salt brine contract for 2021 totaled \$49,500.00. Additionally, the garage roof is in need of repair/replacement and no decisions have been made yet on paving and seal coating during 2022. On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to accept the lowest bid on the Lamey Road Culvert #1 project, from Shingledecker's Welding, Inc., of \$88,000.00, and to accept the lowest bid on the Breedtown Road Culvert #3 project, from McLallen Construction, of \$45,900.00.

2022 Stone RFO – Discuss Quantities – Vote to Seek Quotes

The Supervisors discussed the amount of stone that the township should purchase during 2022, specifically 2RC gravel (tailgate delivery), and decided to put 14,400 tons out for bid. For each of the past 2 years, 14,400 tons of 2RC gravel have been tailgated to various roads, but more is still needed. In previous years, the township only had 7,200 tons

tailgated per year. The Supervisors discussed their concern over inflation and how it could affect the prices of stone this year. However, if the quotes are too high, the Supervisors could reject them all and put out another RFQ (Request for Quotes) with lower quantities. On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Dave Zdarko, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to seek quotes for the types and quantities of stone listed below. Chrissie Kurelowech will send out an RFQ (Request for Quotes) and have the quotes due before the next regular monthly meeting, which is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The Supervisors will review the quotes at that time.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Tons</i>
<i>ASI Antiskid</i>	<i>2,300</i>
<i>2RC Gravel – Tailgate Delivery</i>	<i>14,400</i>
<i>2RC Gravel – Stockpile</i>	<i>500</i>
<i>AASHTO#57 Type C</i>	<i>600</i>
<i>2A Limestone</i>	<i>150</i>

Emergency Management Coordinator - 2022

On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors appointed Tim McGrath as Emergency Management Coordinator for 2022.

Committee Reports

VFD

Tom Huffman, acting VFD Fire Chief, reported that there were 16 calls since the last meeting. Of the 16 calls, 5 were in Crawford County and 11 were in Venango County. Of the calls in Crawford County, 2 were building fires, 1 was a chimney fire, and 2 were swift water rescues. Of the calls in Venango County, 1 was a fuel burner malfunction, 7 were EMS, 1 was an MVA with injuries, 1 was dispatched and canceled, and 1 was for severe weather.

Tom Huffman thanked Cypress Creek Renewables for recently making a \$30,000.00 donation to the Cherrytree Township Volunteer Fire Department.

The spring shoots will continue to be held every Tuesday evening through Tuesday, April 12, 2022. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the shooting begins at 6:00 p.m.

The VFD's annual gun raffle has been scheduled for Saturday, June 18, 2022. Tickets will be available soon.

Tom Huffman also reported that the VFD will not be building a pavilion on the township's property as previously discussed. Instead, the VFD has decided to purchase a 3-acre property on Route 8 with the intention of constructing a new building in the future that will house the VFD. He said the VFD hopes to close on the property at the end of the month, pending the septic system passing (will be tested on March 15, 2022). Roger Patterson suggested that, with recent talks about VFDs merging in the area, the VFD constructing a new building could be premature and that the VFD might want to consider waiting. Jim Waugh said that there has been talk of merging for years and that he does not think it is possible in this area because there is a large area to be covered and few fire departments. He also said that the Cherrytree Township VFD was created because the residents did not want to have the township covered by the City of Titusville because it was too expensive. Tom Huffman noted that Franklin and Oil City fire departments have recently held meetings to discuss merging smaller departments because they feel they are spending too much money on overtime when they respond to calls that are outside the city limits. Several volunteer fire departments in the area, including Cherrytree VFD, were not even invited to the meetings. He said that, as of right now, there are no talks of merging

that involve Cherrytree VFD. Roger Patterson asked how much the VFD will pay for the property and Tom Huffman said that it will pay \$68,000.00 with closing costs, which will include 3 acres, a well, a septic system, and a building. He said that even if the VFD never builds a new building, it will be a good investment.

Road

Lew Staub, Roadmaster, reported that the road crew put antiskid down 9 times, plowed and put antiskid down 3 times, winged the roads 3 times, cleaned the trucks off 3 times, fixed 3 washouts, cleaned the garage, and spent 1 day cleaning pipes.

As for equipment, the air compressor line on the 2002 International was fixed, the air tanks were put on the 2002 International, and an air line leak was fixed on the 2009 International.

Mark McDowell said that Dempseytown-Gresham Road is too narrow and that there is only enough space for a single lane in certain spots. He feels that the township will be held liable if an accident occurs. Lew Staub noted that there are other single lane areas on other roads throughout the township, such as the hill near the Pokoj residence on Stone Springhouse Road. Discussion was held about the deep ditches on various roads throughout the township and whether the Supervisors would like to purchase shale during 2022 to put in them. During the summer of 2020, shale was placed in several ditches in an effort to make them shallow, but there is still a need to fix many more ditches. No decision was made.

Old Business

2021 Township Audit

Chrissie Kurelowech reported that the 2021 township audit was recently completed by the elected auditors (Stacey Armstrong, Roger Patterson, and Nicolas Matkozich). A report was published in The Titusville Herald and the 2021 Municipal Annual Audit report was submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PA DCED) and filed with the Venango County Prothonotary. There were no audit findings.

New Business

There was no "New Business".

Executive Session

The Supervisors went into an executive session at 6:35 p.m. and returned at 6:39 p.m. The reason for the executive session was to discuss a personnel issue.

Adjournments

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

The bills were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer