

Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
May 1, 2017

A regular monthly meeting of the Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, May 1, 2017, at 6:30 p.m., at the township building. In attendance were Emery Fiely, Lew Staub, and Jim Waugh, Supervisors, and Christine Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer.

Call to Order

Emery Fiely called the meeting to order.

Pledge

Moment of Prayer

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

Public Comment

Several residents were in attendance to voice their concerns about inadequate ditching on Turkey Farm Road that is causing water to flood their properties. Gary Caldwell told the Supervisors that the township must do something and suggested that a study be done to find a way to resolve the issue. The water is backing up and flooding basements and yards. Additionally, the road is being washed away. Barry Bish also expressed concern and said that, after a heavy rain, the water is knee-deep in his yard. Another resident, Nancy Pieper, stated that the side of the road where she lives also washes out after heavy rain. Marilyn Drake stated that, if it would fix the problem, she would not mind having the township put a ditch along the road in front of her property (opposite side of road from Bish and Caldwell properties). The Supervisors did not think that would fix the problem, even if water was piped under the road to the south side of the road. Additionally, they did not think extending the ditch further down the road would be a feasible option. Lew Staub said that he was opposed to piping the section of road where the problem is occurring because the township would be responsible for maintenance. He said that a tail ditch would help, but the township would need to get permission from property owner(s) to create a tail ditch. It is possible that a tail ditch existed at one time, but was removed when a gas well was drilled many years ago. The Supervisors will look into the problem in an effort to find a solution.

Jamey Miller said that he incorrectly stated the speed limit on secondary roads at the last meeting. He said the speed limit was 45 miles per hour, when actually, it is 55 miles per hour. He asked the Supervisors to reconsider removing the "STOP" signs on Cherrytree Road at the intersection of South Perry Street and use speed limit signs to control speeding motorists instead.

Doug McWilliams, an Oil City resident who owns property in Cherrytree Township, told the Supervisors that his truck was severely damaged and is not drivable because he recently hit potholes on Cherrytree Road, between South Perry Street and Route 27. He said a strut and the axle are ruined and the truck is out of alignment and asked the Supervisors to compensate him for the damages (parts only). Jim Waugh said he was opposed to paying for pothole damage because, once the township starts paying, there will be a constant stream of people seeking compensation for vehicle damage and he feels that tax dollars should not be spent in that manner. He also said that Doug McWilliams must have been speeding to do that much damage to his vehicle and Doug

McWilliams responded by saying that he was traveling 30 miles per hour when the accident occurred. Ron Stewart mentioned that he experienced a similar situation in the City of Titusville and was told that, if a dangerous pothole is reported and not fixed, the city is liable for damages. However, if the pothole had not previously been reported at the time the damage occurred, then the city is not liable. The Supervisors asked Chrissie Kurelowech if she had received any recent complaints about potholes on the section of road in question and she said she had not received any complaints yet this spring. The Supervisors were in agreement not to compensate Doug McWilliams for vehicle damage.

Minutes/Treasurer's Report

The minutes, from the regular monthly meeting held on Monday, April 3, were read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Emery Fiely, seconded by Jim Waugh, and carried.

The treasurer's report, for April 2017, was read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Emery Fiely, and carried.

Correspondence

Dorothy Harry and Nancy Andrews – Ditch Issue

A letter was received from Dorothy Harry and Nancy Andrews, of 620 Old Route 8, asking the Supervisors to install a pipe in their yard. The road crew recently cleaned the ditch across from their property to prevent water from flooding their basement. Now, the water is flooding their side yard and they have offered to purchase a pipe to take the water across the yard and would like the road crew to install it. According to Lew Staub, he told Dorothy Harry, when he recently met with her, that the township cannot do work on private property and the pipe installation in her yard would be far out of the township's right-of-way. However, she is welcome to hire a contractor to install a pipe in her yard. The Supervisors were in agreement that township resources will not be used to install a pipe on private property.

PennDOT – Newsletter

Venango County Regional Planning Commission – 2016 Annual Report

PSATS News Bulletin

Zoning

Permits

Z-2017-05 Jason Kaster 675 Breedtown new deck around existing pool, adding more deck to
Road house

Zoning Report

There was no report.

Administrative Action

New Tractor/Mower/Ditcher – Financing Options

Chrissie Kurelowech presented financing options for the new tractor to the Supervisors. At the previous meeting, the Supervisors voted to purchase a 2017 Massey Ferguson 5711SL tractor (2-wheel drive), a Tiger 22 ft. Bengal Boom rotary mower, a Tiger Bengal Boom ditcher head, and an AgriMetal 3-Point Hitch Leaf and Debris Blower from Walsh Equipment, to trade in the 1998 Massey Ferguson 4245 tractor with boom and ditcher, and to finance half of the

\$113,131.68 balance. Chrissie Kurelowech obtained rates from Farmer’s National Bank, PNC Bank, Northwest Savings, and First National Bank. The lowest rate was 3.4% from First National Bank. Originally, the Supervisors intended to finance half of the cost of the new equipment, which is approximately \$57,000.00. However, Chrissie Kurelowech explained that the representative from First National Bank offered two options and it would actually be a better deal for the township to finance \$77,000.00 for three years, make a down payment of \$36,131.68, and make the first annual payment of \$26,542.86 up front, as opposed to financing only \$57,000.00. The total cost to the township, including interest and fees, will be \$3,112.58. On a motion made by Emery Fiely and seconded by Lew Staub (Fiely – YES, Staub – YES, Waugh – NO), the Supervisors voted to purchase a 2017 Massey Ferguson 5711SL tractor (2-wheel drive), a Tiger 22 ft. Bengal Boom rotary mower, a Tiger Bengal Boom ditcher head, and an AgriMetal 3-Point Hitch Leaf and Debris Blower from Walsh Equipment, to trade in the 1998 Massey Ferguson 4245 tractor with boom and ditcher, and to finance \$77,000.00 of the \$113,131.68 purchase price through F.N.B. (First National Bank) Commercial Leasing for 3 years with a purchase option price of \$1.00 at the end of the lease. The down payment will be \$36,131.68 and the annual payment will be \$26,542.86, with the first annual payment being made at the time of purchase. Christine Kurelowech is authorized to prepare and sign the paperwork, on behalf of the township, to secure the loan. Jim Waugh said that he is opposed to financing the equipment when the township has money in the bank to make the purchase outright. He cannot see paying interest and fees when it is not necessary and feels that the township and VFD would be able to get more grant money if they did not have so much money in their accounts. Emery Fiely stated that the interest rate will only get higher. The new equipment is expected to arrive near the end of June.

2017 Stone RFO – Review Quotes

The Supervisors reviewed quotes for stone submitted by seven vendors. On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Lew Staub, and carried, the Supervisors voted to award Item #1, Item #2, Item #3, and Item #4 to the lowest bidder, Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel, Inc. and to award Item #5 to the lowest bidder, Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. Quantities and prices are listed below. The full bid results are attached.

<i>Item #</i>	<i>Item Description</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cost Per Ton</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>
1	AS1 Antiskid	2,300	\$7.43	\$17,089.00
2	2RC Gravel – Tailgate Delivery	7,200	\$8.05	\$57,960.00
3	2RC Gravel – Stockpile	500	\$8.05	\$4,025.00
4	AASHTO#57 Type C	600	\$12.01	\$7,206.00
5	2A Limestone	150	\$25.50	\$3,825.00

Committee Reports

VFD

Don Deliman reported that there were 24 calls since the last meeting. Of the 24 calls, 2 were building fires (mutual aid), 1 was a trash fire, 1 was a brush fire (mutual aid), 15 were EMS, 1 was a service call (mutual aid), 1 was public service, 2 were dispatched and cancelled (mutual aid), and 1 call was for trees down.

The VFD recently purchased a used tanker from a fire department in Michigan. The truck is a 2001 GMC 8500 tanker that holds 3,000 gallons of water and has replaced the VFD's 1989 International.

The VFD recently performed an audit of its finances and has submitted a report to the township.

The 16th Annual 20-Gun Bash (gun raffle) will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2017. The doors will open at noon and the drawing will begin at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are available for \$10.00 each and can be purchased from any VFD member or at the township office.

The next flea market will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2017. There is a \$5.00 non-refundable fee per table. To reserve a table, contact Allen Wade at (814) 827-2567 or jawade@gmx.com.

The township's annual Clean-Up Weekend will take place on Saturday, June 3, 2017 and Sunday, June 4, 2017. The VFD will again manage the event and will require a donation from any non-resident wishing to leave junk.

EMA Office

There was no report.

Road

Lew Staub reported that the road crew scraped twenty dirt roads, cut up trees, checked the roads once, ditched spots on five roads, and cold patched two roads. They put in three driveway pipes and two road crossover pipes. Additionally, they cleaned the garage and mowed the grass.

The application of oil (E-1 Prime) has been scheduled for Thursdays and paving (Turkey Farm Road and part of Cherrytree Road) will possibly take place during the week of May 8, 2017.

As for equipment, the plows have been cleaned and oiled. The wiper switch was replaced and the yellow light was fixed on the JCB backhoe. The 2009 International received a new starter and was inspected. The 2014 Dodge has returned from Shults in Warren. A tire on the drag was fixed. The grader has new scar fire teeth. Rotary manifold parts have been ordered for the grader and it will be fixed in Waterford.

Don Deliman asked Lew Staub when the road crew will grade Cherrytree Road (near Route 27) and was told that it will probably be graded next week. Weather has been an issue. Jim Waugh asked Lew Staub if the road crew can do something to remove the excess anti-skid at the intersections and was told that the road crew does not have a tractor until the new one arrives.

Old Business

Culvert Repairs

Chrissie Kurelowech reported that she has been in contact with Mark Corey about the PA DEP (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection) permits needed to repair/replace three culverts. She said that he has submitted the application to the PA DEP and has not been contacted to provide additional information, which is a good sign. He feels that the permits should be issued within a week or two and that if he does not hear anything soon, he will contact the PA DEP. Additionally, he applied for Act 13 funding through Venango County to replace the culvert on Old Route 8. Chrissie Kurelowech will continue to contact him regarding the PA DEP permits.

Salt Brine Approval

Chrissie Kurelowech reported that she contacted PA DEP regarding the township's approval to spread salt brine and was told that the township has received approval, but that the format of the letter sent to municipalities has changed and is currently being reviewed in Harrisburg, so once the format of the letter is approved, it will be mailed. The PA DEP representative that she spoke with felt that the letter would be mailed by the end of the week.

New Business

There was no new business.

The bills were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer