

Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
May 1, 2023  
6:00 p.m.

A regular monthly meeting of the Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., at the township building. In attendance were Jim Waugh, Dave Zdarko, 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**

There was no "Public Comment".

**Minutes/Treasurer's Report**

The minutes, from the regular monthly meeting held on Monday, April 3, 2023, were read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Dave Zdarko, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously.

The treasurer's report, for April 2023, was read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Dave Zdarko, and carried unanimously.

**Correspondence**

Insurance Services Office (ISO), Inc. – Public Protection Classification (PPC)

*A PPC survey was recently conducted and Cherrytree Township's PPC is "06/6X".*

*This classification can be used by insurance companies to assist in underwriting.*

Venango County Tire Recycling Event – June 10, 2023

*A tire recycling event will be held on June 10, 2023 at the Venango County*

*Recycling Center (134 Hangar Drive, Franklin, PA 16323). There is a fee per tire*

*and a 20 tire limit. Pre-registration is required ((814) 432-9689) by June 2, 2023.*

PSATS News Bulletin

PennDOT Newsletter

**Zoning**

Permits

None

Zoning Report

There was no "Zoning Report".

**Administrative Action**

Financial Update/Recent Equipment Failures

Chrissie Kurelowech gave the Supervisors a brief financial report on 2023 finances. She noted that, during 2022, the township spent about \$397,000.00 on road maintenance (not including employee labor) and that approximately \$75,000.00 of the money spent was ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding, which was put towards the replacement of

Lamey Road Culvert No. 1. Considering the recently submitted quotes for stone, the 2022 expenses for salt brine and salt, and an estimate on the Old Route 8 Culvert Replacement Project, she said that those expenses alone total about \$336,000.00. Adding to the financial strain, the transmission recently went out of the grader (1989 John Deere 770B) and the 2002 International was recently towed to Hunter Truck with an undiagnosed issue.

Lew Staub, Roadmaster, presented available options, regarding the grader, to the Supervisors. He contacted Five Star Equipment, Inc. to get an estimate on the cost of a transmission rebuild. For a basic break-down, which is just gaskets, o-rings, and labor (no gears or other parts), the estimate is \$25,289.75. Realistically, once gears and other parts are added, the cost will probably at least double and be around \$50,000.00. He noted that \$4,036.55 was spent on grader repairs last winter and that the grader is 34 years old, so there will most likely be many repairs from this point on. He expressed concern that the bearing in the parking brake is ready to fail and that there are many other bearings that need replaced.

If the Supervisors do not wish to repair the grader, there is a used 2018 John Deere 672 for sale at Five Star Equipment, Inc. with 3,000 hours on it. The price is \$254,000.00. This grader has been rented, so Lew Staub was concerned about the number of operators that have been in it.

Another option is to purchase a new 2024 John Deere 670G grader from Five Star Equipment, Inc. Lew Staub met with a salesman from Five Star Equipment, Inc. and designed a new grader to meet the needs/specifications of the road crew. The new grader would be 4WD and would have standard antler rack hydraulic controls. It would have very few "bells and whistles". The list price of the new grader is \$452,847.00. With various discounts, including a large COSTARS discount, the cost to the township would be \$351,511.12 and the new grader would be delivered in October of 2023. He said that Five Star Equipment, Inc. would evaluate the township's old grader to see if there is any trade-in value. Since Five Star Equipment, Inc. is a COSTARS dealer, there would be no need to advertise. Lew Staub told the Supervisors that the township could lease the new grader for 5, 6, or 7 years and have the option to purchase for \$1.00 at the end of the lease. The annual payment for a 5-year lease would be \$80,366.95, the annual payment for a 6-year lease would be \$69,181.65, and the annual payment for a 7-year lease would be \$61,230.32. Additionally, if the township chooses to purchase a 2024 John Deere 670G grader from Five Star Equipment, Inc., Five Star Equipment, Inc. will allow the township to rent the 2018 John Deere 672 for 5 weeks at a cost of \$7,875.00 plus the cost of delivery, beginning on May 22, 2023. This would give the township 5 weeks to grade and put brine down while waiting for the new grader.

The Supervisors spent a great deal of time discussing the options. They were in agreement that the best option would be to purchase a new grader. It was suggested that the township cut part of the gravel budget and put the money towards a payment on a new grader, since the gravel budget has been doubled for the past few years. Chrissie Kurelowech noted that she checked with Troy Cyphert, PennDOT Municipal Services Representative, and he said that the township could cut the stone quantities in the RFQ (Request For Quote) that was awarded at the regular monthly meeting held on April 3, 2023, if the vendors agree to give the township the same prices specified in the RFQ. If the vendors do not agree to use the same prices if smaller quantities are purchased, then the township could cancel the RFQ and put out a new RFQ with smaller quantities. On a motion made by Dave Zdarko, seconded by Jim Waugh, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to purchase a new 2024 John Deere 670G grader from Five Star Equipment, Inc. (Quote 28690020) for \$351,511.12 (minus trade-in value of the 1989 John Deere 770B, if there is any, after evaluation), which will be lease financed for 7 years with the first payment of \$61,230.32 being due at the time of signing and six subsequent payments of \$61,230.32 being due annually, with the grader being purchased for \$1.00 at

the end of the lease. The Supervisors also agreed to rent a 2018 John Deere 672 grader from Five Star Equipment, Inc. for 5 weeks, beginning on May 22, 2023, for the price of \$7,875.00 plus the cost of delivery.

**Resolution #23-43 – Destroy Tax Collector Records – 2011, 2012, 2013**

On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to adopt Resolution #23-43, authorizing the destruction of tax collector records for the years of 2011, 2012, and 2013.

**Old Route 8 Culvert Replacement Project – Review Bids and Vote**

A public bid opening for the Old Route 8 Culvert Replacement Project was held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 27, 2023. Five bids were received, with the lowest being \$35,475.00 from McGregor Excavating. See bid results below. On a motion made by Dave Zdanko, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to accept the lowest bid on the Old Route 8 Culvert Replacement Project, from McGregor Excavating, for \$35,475.00. The township will receive \$10,000.00 in 2023 County Liquid Fuels Aid to put towards the project.

<b>Old Route 8 Culvert Replacement Project</b>	
McGregor Excavating	\$35,475.00
Northrock Construction	\$42,755.00
Shingledecker’s Welding, Inc	\$49,410.00
McLallen Construction	\$56,480.00
Amendola Construction & Maintenance	\$71,240.00
Konzel Construction	no bid
C. H. & D. Enterprises, Inc.	no bid
Terra Works	no bid

**Salt Brine – 150,000 Gallons – Review Bids and Vote**

One bid was received for approximately 150,000 gallons of salt brine (not regulated by PA DEP, guaranteed to contain at least 25% chlorides) to be delivered and applied, as directed by the township, for the purpose of suppressing dust. Seneca Mineral Company bid \$0.45/gallon (\$67,500.00). On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to accept the only bid submitted for approximately 150,000 gallons of salt brine (not regulated by PA DEP, guaranteed to contain at least 25% chlorides), from Seneca Mineral Company, for \$0.45/gallon (\$67,500.00).

**Roof Quotes - Review**

Chrissie Kurelowech told the Supervisors that Tim McGrath has been waiting on quotes to repair/replace the roof on the township garage. She said that she would put the item on the agenda for the next regular monthly meeting, which is scheduled for Monday, June 5, 2023.

**Committee Reports**

**VFD**

Tom Huffman, VFD Fire Chief, reported that there were 18 calls since the last meeting. Of the 18 calls, 1 was a building fire, 1 was a rubbish fire, 3 were brush fires, 6 were EMS, 6 were public service, and 1 was a smoke detector activation.

Don Deliman asked if the VFD plans to monitor Clean-Up Weekend, as it has done in recent years. Both the township and the VFD were in agreement that the VFD will monitor

the event and accept donations for doing so. Clean-Up Weekend is scheduled for Saturday, June 3, 2023 and Sunday, June 4, 2023.

**EMA**

There was no report.

**Road**

Lew Staub, Roadmaster, reported that the road crew spent 4 days pushing trees off of roads, spent 9 days grading roads, replaced 3 stolen STOP signs, and spent 1 day blowing antiskid off of roads. They took the spreaders off of the 2009 International and the 2002 International and cleaned plows. The road crew also spent 2 days hauling gravel to bad spots, put 2 driveway pipes in, pulled ditches in 3 spots, reset a pipe, fixed holes in 2 spots, mowed the yard, and spent 4 days on Drake Well Road with a backhoe cleaning under guiderails.

As for equipment, the road crew spent 3 days working on the 2002 International. They put on a new turbo sensor and thermostat, cleaned the fuel strainer, and performed trouble shooting, but still could not find the problem, so they had the truck towed to Hunter Truck. The turbo charger and exhaust gaskets were replaced on the 2007 JCB backhoe. A new hydraulic line was put on the 2009 International and the truck was inspected. The transmission went out of the grader and Jay Donovan had to tow it back to the garage (see “Administrative Action”, “Financial Update/Recent Equipment Failures” for more information). A new battery was put in the lawn mower.

**Old Business**

There was no “Old Business”.

**New Business**

There was no “New Business”.

**Adjournments**

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

The bills were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer