

Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
June 5, 2023
6:00 p.m.

A regular monthly meeting of the Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, June 5, 2023, 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

Connie McFarland thanked the Supervisors for taking care of the township and said that she is proud to live in Cherrytree. She said that she lives on Fairview Road and that there used to be a speed limit sign, a weight limit sign, and a “Watch Children” sign, but that they are no longer posted. She also noted that the “Fairview Road” sign at the intersection of Fairview Road and Route 8 is so faded that it is unreadable. She expressed frustration with the dust on Fairview Road and said that it has been so bad that she cannot sit on her patio or open her windows. She said that brine was applied to Fairview Road, but that the dust was only controlled for about a day and then it became very dusty again. She told the Supervisors that speeding vehicles, including many trucks, contribute to the dust problem. She said that she understands that we need rain, but asked the Supervisors to consider putting a heavier dust suppressant down, like oil. Jim Waugh told Connie McFarland that the oil is too expensive and that holes form in it and it has to be graded up to remove the holes, which completely removes the oil, leaving the road dusty again. He said salt brine is less expensive. He also noted that there has been little rain this year and that the salt brine needs a little moisture to work well. As for the speeding vehicles on Fairview Road, he said that the speed limit is 55 mph.

Gail Bean, who lives on the corner of Buxton Road and Barker Road, told the Supervisors that PennDOT has recently been hauling dirt on Barker Road and has damaged the road and caused the road to be very dusty. He asked if PennDOT is required to bond roads when hauling dirt and said that he feels the state police do not have the manpower to enforce speed limits and overweight vehicles on the road. Jim Waugh said that the dirt delivery is considered local delivery, so PennDOT is not required to bond the roads it uses in the township. Lew Staub said that the township typically does not apply salt brine to Barker Road, but that he would try to put some near the houses this year due to the dust caused by the PennDOT trucks. Chrissie Kurelowech said that she would contact PennDOT (contact information provided by Troy Cyphert, PennDOT Municipal Serves Representative) to see if the trucks would stop using Barker Road and if PennDOT will repair damage done to the road or compensate the township for the damage.

Minutes/Treasurer’s Report

The minutes, from the regular monthly meeting held on Monday, May 1, 2023, were read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Dave Zdanko, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously.

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

Correspondence

Dale, Woodard, Gent, McFate Law Firm – Sheriff's Sale – 1202 Shreve Road

A Sheriff's Sale will take place at the Venango County Courthouse on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., to sell 1202 Shreve Road, Titusville, PA 16354.

Venango County Tax Claim Bureau – Repository for Unsold Properties - Bids

Two properties, located in Cherrytree Township, that are currently in the Repository for Unsold Properties, have received bids. A mobile home without land, located at 223 Fiely Lane, has received a bid of \$300.00, and a 0.22 acre parcel, located on Old Route 8, has received a bid of \$600.00. The township must notify the Venango County Tax Claim Bureau if there are any objections to the transfers. The Supervisors did not express any objections.

Venango County Tax Claim Bureau – Distribution of Overbid Monies from Judicial Sale

Chrissie Kurelowech said that two properties, located in Cherrytree Township (702 Dutch Hill Road and 1722 Breedtown Road), recently sold at tax sale. According to the "Schedule of Distribution" from the Venango County Tax Claim Bureau, it does not look like the township will receive any money from the tax sale. However, both properties will be back on the tax roll.

PSATS News Bulletin

Zoning

Permits

Z-2023-06 Toby and Norma Johnson 868 Hamilton Corners Road 5' by 6' chicken coop and fence

Zoning Report

There was no "Zoning Report".

Administrative Action

Resolution #23-44 (Annual 2023 Liquid Fuels Fund Budget Amendment)–Vote to Adopt

On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to adopt Resolution #23-44, an amendment to the 2023 Liquid Fuels Fund Budget. The amendment moves \$61,230.32 from account 438.00 (Roads and Bridges) to account 430.74 (Machinery and Equipment)/sub-account 430.74.740 (Equipment Purchased). This was done to meet the unforeseen expense of a payment for a new 2024 John Deere 670G grader. The need to purchase a new grader was unexpected when the budget was adopted in 2022 and the purchase was approved at the regular monthly meeting held on Monday, May 1, 2023.

1989 John Deere 770B – Vote to Sell

Chrissie Kurelowech told the Supervisors that Five Star Equipment, Inc. was supposed to evaluate the 1989 John Deere 770B grader for trade-in value, but said that they would not take it in on trade because it is not running (transmission went out). The salesman recommended selling it on www.municibid.com and said that the township would be further ahead to sell it, as opposed to trading it in on the new grader (2024 John Deere 670G). Chrissie Kurelowech asked the Supervisors if they would be in favor of selling the 1989 John Deere 770B grader on www.municibid.com and, if so, if they wanted to put a reserve on it and if they wanted to vote to approve the sale after the bidding ends. After a brief discussion, on a motion made by Dave Zdarko, seconded by Jim Waugh, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to sell the 1989 John Deere 770B grader on

www.municibid.com with a reserve of \$3,000.00 and to sell the grader without voting to approve the highest bid as long as the reserve is met.

2023 Municipal Insurance Renewal

Chrissie Kurelowech told the Supervisors that the renewal numbers for the township's municipal insurance (commercial package and workers compensation insurance) have not been made available by the insurance agent yet, but will be available soon because the policies renew on July 1, 2023.

Committee Reports

VFD

Tom Huffman, VFD Fire Chief, reported that there were 22 calls since the last meeting. Of the 22 calls, 3 were in Crawford County and 19 were in Venango County. All 3 calls in Crawford County were building fires. Of the calls in Venango County, 11 were EMS, 1 was a search for a person on land, 1 was a rescue, 1 was a power line down, 2 were public service, 2 were dispatched and canceled, and 1 was a sprinkler activation due to malfunction. So far, there have been 87 calls for the year.

The annual gun raffle will be held at the township building (1311 Cherrytree Road) on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Doors will open at 3:30 p.m. and the raffle/food will begin at 4:30 p.m.

A Venango County Fire Chiefs Association meeting will be held on June 21, 2023. Those in attendance will be learning more about the Venango County radio upgrade, a P25 digital system that is costing approximately six million dollars and does not include new radios needed by the departments. It is guaranteed to have 95% coverage.

EMA

There was no report.

Road

Lew Staub, Roadmaster, reported that the road crew spent 4 days pushing trees off of roads, spent 2 days on Drake Well Road cleaning under guiderails, installed 2 driveway pipes, mowed the yard 3 times, checked roads twice, fixed 2 bad spots, put in 4 crossover pipes, and cleaned the tail ditch on the first pipe. They spent 5 days grading roads, spent 3 days mowing berms, and saw cut the blacktop on Hamilton Corners Road for an upcoming pipe replacement. Seneca Mineral applied 8 loads of dust suppressant.

As for equipment, the road crew spent 2 days working on the old grader (1989 John Deere 770B). The transmission oil and filters were changed on the tractor (2017 Massey Ferguson). The 2002 International spent 3 weeks at Hunter Truck where the ICP sensor, oil sensor, cam sensor, and turbo were replaced (first visit). The truck did not make it back from Hunter Truck and shut down at the intersection near the township building. Hunter Truck came to the township and drove the truck back and it shut down 5 times on the way back for the second visit. Hunter Truck then replaced the cam gear, the air compressor, the oil pump, the oil temperature sensor, and the air filter line. New oil and coolant were put in the truck. It was returned to the township and still misses once in awhile.

Old Business

Clean-Up Weekend

Don Deliman reported that Clean-Up Weekend (June 3, 2023 and June 4, 2023) went very well and that the VFD received approximately \$570.00 in donations (\$357.00 on Saturday and \$213.00 on Sunday).

New Business**765 Drake Well Road – City Water Access**

Chrissie Kurelowech told the Supervisors that Scott and Louise Cramer, who live at 765 Drake Well Road, recently asked for the township's permission to connect their home to the City of Titusville's public water system. The City of Titusville will not allow them to connect without permission from Cherrytree Township because their home is located in Cherrytree Township. The Supervisors were in agreement to allow Scott and Louise Cramer to connect their home (765 Drake Well Road) to the City of Titusville's public water system, if they wish to do so. A letter will be sent to Scott and Louise Cramer that they can take to the City of Titusville to show that they have the township's permission.

Adjournments

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

The bills were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer