

Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
August 1, 2022
6:00 p.m.

A regular monthly meeting of the Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, August 1, 2022, 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 Tuesday, July 5, 2022, were read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Dave Zdarko, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously.

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

Correspondence

STV Incorporated – Bridge Inspection Report – Stone Springhouse Bridge

The township has received a report from STV Incorporated regarding an inspection of the Stone Springhouse Bridge that took place on March 25, 2022. On a scale of 0 to 5, with 0 being the most critical and 5 being the least critical, there were several recommendations marked as 2 ("priority") including to improve drainage, to install rock protection, and to remove fallen trees. There was just one recommendation marked 3 ("add to scheduled work"), which was to update the guiderails to meet current PennDOT standards. The only recommendation marked 4 ("add to programmed work") was to backfill potholes and the final recommendation, marked 5 ("routine") was to clean/flush the deck.

PennDOT Newsletter

Venango County Association of Township Officials – 109th Annual Convention

The Venango County Association of Township Officials will hold its 109th Annual Convention at the Oakland Township Fire Hall on Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. (registration begins at 8:30 a.m.). Chrissie Kurelowech told the Supervisors to let her know if they are interested in attending so she can make reservations.

The Venango County Prayer Ladies – Letter of Appreciation

The township received a letter from the Venango County Prayer Ladies (Alice Jean Parker, Robin Montgomery, Peggy Hamm, Susan Seth). They recently have been praying for Venango County, the churches in Venango County, and the municipalities in Venango County. They prayed at the township building on May 31, 2022. The letter stated that they are appreciative of the township officials and employees and

they encourage anyone needing prayer to email them at prayvenangocounty@yahoo.com.

Zoning

Permits

Z-2022-08 James and Leigh Reed 467 Stone Springhouse Road pool deck

Z-2022-09 Gregory Marsh 197 Marsh Lane home-based vehicle detailing business

Zoning Report

There was no “Zoning Report”.

Administrative Action

Subdivision of Township Property (Parcel at Buxton Road and Cherrytree Road)

Discussion was held regarding the subdivision of an 8.5 acre parcel that is owned by the township and located on the corner of Buxton Road and Cherrytree Road. At the previous meeting, *“Tom Huffman asked the Supervisors if they would consider subdividing the 8.5 acre property on the corner of Cherrytree Road and Buxton Road and giving the VFD part of it. He said that the VFD cannot get grants for a new building unless it owns the property on which it intends to build. Previously, the VFD wanted the entire parcel, but there are two pavilions on it that belong to the township and were built with money from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) and, consequently, the property cannot be transferred without the township having to return the grant money used to build the pavilions, as long as the pavilions are less than 25 years old, which is the case”* (taken from July 5, 2022 meeting minutes). Also at the previous meeting, *“the Supervisors agreed to begin the process to subdivide the property by having the VFD get the property surveyed and provide survey maps to the Supervisors for consideration”* (taken from July 5, 2022 meeting minutes). Jim Waugh told those in attendance that he has been in contact with the surveyor and, though the maps are not finished yet, the subdivision consists of a new 6.12 acre parcel on the corner that will be deeded over to the VFD and the township will be left with a 4.86 parcel. The township owns two parcels, one that is 2 acres (includes the township building, garage, etc.) and one that is 8.5 acres (includes pavilions). An issue that was pointed out was that the parcel to be subdivided is 8.5 acres, yet the total acreage of the new parcel and the residual parcel total 10.98 acres. Either the county map is incorrect or the survey is incorrect. Dave Zdarko expressed concern regarding whether the township would be left with enough property to expand, possibly to build a new garage, in the future and whether or not the township would be able to meet setbacks required by the zoning ordinance for new structures. Jim Waugh noted that the township could seek a variance through the Zoning Hearing Board if there was not enough space to meet the setback requirements. It was also noted that, according to the zoning ordinance, only 20% of a parcel in the R/A (Residential/Agricultural) district can be covered with structures. Dave Zdarko asked Jim Waugh how much space would be needed for a new VFD building and Jim Waugh said that the VFD would like to build an L-shaped building consisting of two 50’ by 80’ sections that would include 4 or 5 truck bays and a meeting hall. The truck bays would have doors on the front and back to allow the trucks to drive into them from the back and out the front, eliminating the need to back the trucks into the truck bays. He estimated that, in addition to the building itself, the VFD would need to pay about \$40,000.00 for a septic system and \$20,000.00 for a water well. Jeff Nelson asked if the property has been tested for a septic system and Jim Waugh said that it has not, but that he has talked to Todd Fantaskey, Sewage Enforcement Officer, about putting a septic system on the property in

the future and what type of system the VFD will most likely be required to purchase. The Supervisors decided to wait to see the subdivision maps before making a decision. Additionally, Ron Stewart suggested that the VFD provide a sketch of the building that is being proposed.

Committee Reports

VFD

Tom Huffman, acting VFD Fire Chief, reported that there were 21 calls since the last meeting. Of the 21 calls, 1 was in Crawford County and 20 were in Venango County. The call in Crawford County was a building fire. Of the calls in Venango County, 1 was a building fire, 8 were EMS, 2 were searches for people, 4 were public service, 3 were dispatched and canceled, 1 was a smoke detector activation due to malfunction, and 1 was for severe weather.

He told those in attendance that the VFD is still waiting to hear if it has been awarded a federal grant that it applied for several months ago.

EMA

Tim McGrath, Emergency Management Coordinator, stated that it has been a quiet month and that he has recently been having trouble communicating with the Venango County Public Safety Director, Tim Dunkle, due to technical issues.

Road

Lew Staub, Roadmaster, reported that the road crew spent 13 days mowing berms, mowed the yard twice, spent 6 days grading roads for dust suppressant, and put 9 loads of dust control down. They spent 3 days opening pipes, checked the roads twice, spent 5 days grading one-lane roads, and spent a day pushing trees off of roads.

As for equipment, 2 hydraulic lines were fixed on the 2017 Massey Ferguson tractor. Lew Staub asked the Supervisors for permission to purchase a new spreader for the 2014 Dodge. He recently obtained quotes, one from Seigworth Road Supply for \$5,174.40 (delivered to the township, not installed), and one from Stephenson Equipment for \$5,300.00 (installed). On a motion made by Dave Zdanko, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to purchase a spreader for the 2014 Dodge from Seigworth Road Supply for \$5,174.40.

Old Business

There was no "Old Business".

New Business

2023 County Aid

Chrissie Kurelowech reported that applications for 2023 County Aid are due by September 30, 2022. Since the application requires the Supervisors to pass a resolution outlining the project specifics, the township needs to choose a project early to allow enough time to put the application together, along with the resolution, pass the resolution at a regular monthly meeting, and get the application to the county by the due date. Last year, the PennDOT Municipal Services Representative suggested the township not submit an application because the township received \$25,000.00 to put towards paving Dutch Hill Road during the summer of 2021. He said there was a good chance that the county would begin penalizing townships that submit an application every year, especially after receiving an award. He also suggested applying for a project that will yield a long-term benefit, like paving or pipe replacement, as opposed to a project that will only yield a short-term benefit, like seal coating. Chrissie Kurelowech said that Lew Staub and Rob Kellogg suggested applying for money to replace 6 culvert pipes on Old Route 8. Old Route 8

desperately needs paved, but it does not make sense to spend the money to pave the road until the aging pipes are replaced. There are 16 inches of concrete under Old Route 8, so the road crew does not have the equipment to replace the pipes themselves and a contractor must be hired. Chrissie Kurelowech said that she obtained a quote to replace the pipes from Shingledecker's Welding for \$28,000.00 (plus \$2,000.00 worth of cold patch from the township) and Mark Corey, Township Engineer, has estimated engineering fees to be \$7,500.00. She asked the Supervisors if they would be in agreement to ask for \$28,000.00 in 2023 County Aid (labor, pipes, gravel, rip-rap) and have the township cover the cost of the engineering fees (\$7,500.00) and the cold patch (\$2,000.00). Of the \$37,500.00 total for the project, the township would pay \$9,500.00 if the county awards the full \$28,000.00. She said that she has discussed the project with the PennDOT Municipal Services Representative and he thinks it is a great project and that the township stands a chance of getting assistance from the county for it. She also said that it would be nice to be able to pave the road during the summer of 2023, but it will depend on the cost of paving and the timeliness with which the pipes are replaced, so she will word the application so the township is not required to pave the road next summer and will state that it is the township's intention to pave the road as soon as possible after the pipes are replaced. The Supervisors were in agreement to ask the county for \$28,000.00 in 2023 County Aid to put towards the replacements of 6 pipes on Old Route 8. Chrissie Kurelowech will put the application together and the Supervisors will vote to pass a resolution committing the township to the project at the regular monthly meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 6, 2022. If the project is approved, the contractor work will need to go through the formal bidding process.

Salt Brine

Ron Stewart said that he feels the salt brine has not held up as well this summer as it did last summer and asked the Supervisors if they had an explanation. Lew Staub, Roadmaster, said that the township applied the salt brine as heavily this year as last year, but that this summer has been very dry compared to last summer and that could be the reason.

Adjournments

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

The bills were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer