

Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
October 2, 2023
6:00 p.m.

A regular monthly meeting of the Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, October 2, 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, September 11, 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 September 2023, 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 (VCRPC)

Fairview Bridge is scheduled to be inspected on October 11, 2023. If any township officials would like to attend, they are welcome to do so.

Zoning

Permits

Z-2023-09 James Waugh 3515 State Route 8 12' by 24' porch added to existing garage

Zoning Report

Chrissie Kurelowech read a zoning report submitted by Tim McGrath, Zoning Officer.

Tim McGrath recently visited the Bliznesky residence at 1220 South Perry Street to address the junk accumulation. The owner has begun to clear the front driveway/yard. He has started to move vehicles to a specified area and is placing them in neat rows. Tim McGrath asked the owner to commit to a date to have more cleaning completed and the owner said he would get more aggressive with cleaning after he finishes his current roofing job. Tim McGrath suggested contacting Harley Richards to remove the junk for the owner and the owner was adamant that he did not want someone coming in and removing things because he is "sorting through" things to determine which things to keep and which things to remove. Tim McGrath also suggested erecting a fence to conceal the junk and the owner

had no interest and said that he does not like the look of his property and that he will get it cleaned. Tim McGrath will send a letter to the owner to confirm their conversation and to set up dates for progress.

Tim McGrath visited a property, at the intersection of Fairview Road and Stone Springhouse Road, where a mobile home was recently placed. The owners (Amanda and Nick) are buying the property on a land contract. Tim McGrath talked to the owners separately since one was out of town when he visited the property. Amanda said that the mobile home was placed on the property on September 6, 2023 and was not “hooked up” to anything, but served as a temporary home until the weekend of September 9, 2023. She said that she had started cleaning junk/garbage off of the property and that she was moving to another location to stay with a relative until the zoning could be resolved. The owners are expecting to receive a quote on drilling a water well and have paperwork from Todd Fantaskey, Sewage Enforcement Officer, for sewage system design to begin. Nick told Tim McGrath that this is his first attempt at building a home and that he is not familiar with the process, but does not want to get into trouble or be fined. Tim McGrath explained the process to him and will follow up with a letter. He asked Amanda to clean the junk/garbage off of the property to show the township and the neighbors of their intention.

On September 7, 2023, Tim McGrath investigated a complaint regarding junk/garbage accumulation on a vacant property located on Route 8 (parcel #03,016.-006.-000, owned by Michael Raven). The complaint states that someone is allegedly piling junk along the northern border of the property. Tim McGrath was able to locate the dump site and found it to be approximately 20 ft. by 50 ft. The area was filled with trash, bottles, cans, clothing, an old couch, etc. He took pictures and will notify the property owner of the complaint and request that the junk/garbage be removed.

The Zoning Hearing Board will hold hearings for 2 cases on Wednesday, October 4, 2023. Both cases are for special exception status. A third appeal is awaiting review by the township solicitor.

Chrissie Kurelowech recently received a report from the Venango County Assessment Office that listed 4 properties with new structures, even though no permits were issued for any of the 4 construction projects. The new structures were recently added to the tax roster because they were discovered by the county during field reviews/audits. Tim McGrath will contact the owners of the properties to get the proper paperwork in place.

In early August, Tim McGrath visited 1722 Breedtown Road (former Trojak property) and spoke with Samantha, who, along with her husband, has entered into a land contract to purchase the property. He asked for a clean-up schedule and Samantha said that they had been cleaning the inside by throwing everything outside. They were expecting a dumpster and some friends to help in the effort. Tim McGrath offered to help with his backhoe once the owners had a dumpster on-site. He stopped at the property again on September 7, 2023 and did not see any progress. He heard voices inside the house, but nobody answered the door or Tim’s calls. Tim McGrath will stop at the property one more time and if there is no response, he will issue a citation.

Administrative Action

Fuel Bids – Approximately 8,000 Gallons – Vote to Advertise

On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Dave Zdarko, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to put approximately 8,000 gallons of diesel fuel out for bid. Bids will be received until 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023 and will be opened and reviewed during the regular monthly meeting scheduled for Monday, November 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Committee Reports

VFD

Tom Huffman, VFD Fire Chief, reported that there were 13 calls since the last meeting. Of the 13 calls, 2 were in Crawford County and 11 were in Venango County. Of the calls in Crawford County, 1 was a cooking fire and 1 was dispatched and canceled. Of the calls in Venango County, 6 were EMS, 1 was a search for a person on land, and 4 were public service.

Fall shoots continue to be held on Tuesday nights. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the shoots start at 6:00 p.m.

A pumps class will be held at the Cherrytree Township VFD on October 14, 2023 and October 15, 2023.

EMA

There was no report.

Road

Lew Staub, Roadmaster, reported that the road crew spent 13 days mowing berms, 2 days using a backhoe for trees and pipes, and 5 days checking road name signs and installing old signs. They also spent 2 days stacking salt in the shed, 4 days fixing bad spots, and they mowed the yard once.

Lew Staub reported that there are approximately 80 road name signs in the township and 56 need replaced. Chrissie Kurelowech called 911 to see if there are any size requirements for signs and/or letters and found that the county does not have any requirements for road signs. Consequently, the road crew began replacing road signs with the signs that were already in stock. They will know better when they finish putting up the signs that they already have, but they will most likely need to order 25 to 30 new signs and will also need more brackets.

Lew Staub asked the Supervisors for permission to get a quote from Troy McGregor to replace another pipe on Old Route 8 (Shaffer/Burns inlet). The pipe is too deep, making maintenance a hazard. He would like to get a quote now and get the work scheduled for early spring of 2024, before any paving takes place. The Supervisors were in favor of moving forward with the pipe replacement.

As for equipment, 2 new front tires were put on the 2017 Massey Ferguson tractor and 2 hydraulic lines were fixed.

Old Business

There was no "Old Business".

New Business

There was no "New Business".

Adjournments

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

The bills were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer