



MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

www.millcreektownship.info • millcreektwp@comcast.net

81 East Alumni Avenue • Newmanstown, PA 17073-9159 • Ph: 610-589-4750 • Fax: 610-589-9923

MINUTES OF AUGUST 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Chairman Dan K. Hogeland, commencing with the Pledge to the Flag.

Present: Dan K. Hogeland, Chairman
Eric J. Weidman, V. Chairman
Scott Moyer, Supervisor
John D. Enck, Solicitor
Lorie J. Kupp, Sec./Treas.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

John DeSantis, 51 W Main St. – was present to question if the Board would consider looking into Opticon again for the Fire Co. Possible grant funding was questioned as well.

REPORTS OF ORGANIZATIONS:

Planning Commission – Karen Krater present with report. Solicitor suggested that the Planning Commission should start looking into Utility scale solar farms, and also Zoning Ordinance variance criteria which doesn't match the MPC.

MRJA – minutes & financial reports received.

Recreation Board – minutes were received.

Newmanstown Water Authority – minutes & audit report were received.

GLRA – July & Aug. minutes were received.

Western Berks Ambulance – report received.

Police Activity report was received.

MINUTES: Motion by Weidman to approve as printed. Seconded by Hogeland. All aye, motion carried.

SOLICITOR:

Comcast franchise renewal – Solicitor reported that he has yet to receive a response from Comcast since sending the last draft to them.

Police Policies & Procedures – Juvenile Holding Policy was reviewed and presented to the Board for their adoption consideration. **Motion by Weidman to adopt the Juvenile Holding policy to**

be incorporated into the Millcreek Township Police Department Policy & Procedures Operations manual. Seconded by Moyer. All aye, motion carried.

Steiner – ASA proposal for an addition of 110.62 acres – Solicitor reported that he received a letter from the Marion Township Solicitor that they have no interest in adding this acreage to their ASA, and have no objections to it being added to Millcreek Township's ASA. The Township can go through the regular requirements or can choose to wait the 180 days of receipt and the proposal would be deemed to be approved. At the end of that a Resolution would need to be prepared and adopted by the Board and recorded with the Recorder of Deeds. Solicitor did recommend if the Board chooses to wait it might still be a good idea to have the Planning Commission review and comment on the proposal. The Board agreed they would wait the 180 days and to have the Planning Commission to review the proposal for comments.

Act 172 of 2016 Tax Credit for active members of Volunteer Fire Company was reviewed and discussed. Chairman Hogeland stated he wondered what we could do to foster volunteers. Solicitor explained some of the highlights he has found while reviewing the Act. He also explained that the Act was amended with 2020 Act 91. School Districts was added in the 2020, Act so that they could do this also.

- *First the township must provide public notice, hold public a hearing, and notify the State Fire Commissioner

- *Credit for Earned Income tax (EIT) – a credit amount would need to be fixed, and the EIT form has to provide a mechanism separating the liability of the volunteer.

- *Property tax - property must be owned and occupied by the active volunteer. Not sure how it would be worked if the property is owned jointly by the volunteer and someone else.

- *Annual requirements would need to be established by the Board for certification of the volunteer. The Fire Chief and Supervisor of EMS should provide a notarized certification of volunteers eligible submitted 45 days prior to tax notices being distributed. They must also establish and maintain a service log that documents the activities of each volunteer that qualify for credit towards active service. This is subject to periodic review by the State Fire Commissioner, the Auditor General and the township.

- *Volunteer would need to sign and submit their application signed by the Fire Chief or EMS Supervisor attesting to the individual's status of being eligible.

- *Ordinance and appeal process would need to be established.

Hogeland asked if the Board could have a copy of Solicitors notes to have look at since they just heard a lot of information. Board agreed it should be looked into further.

Zimmerman Property, Ash Rd. – Solicitor said that he received an email from Womelsdorf Borough Solicitor questioning the sale of the property and rumors he heard.

ACTION: *none*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: *none*

Revised - Line painting quotes were reviewed. (Berks Traffic Control \$8496.54; A-1 Traffic Control \$9,440.60; DE Gemmill \$11,517.53) Motion **by Moyer that we contract Berks Traffic Inc to paint the yellow double center lines on all roads being oil and chipped this year at a cost of \$8,496.54. Seconded by Weidman. All aye, motion carried.**

Walking Path RFP's were discussed with Karen Krater. Secretary to call Steckbeck for clarification on the Service Agreement.

CDBG Entitlement grant program – application time line, projects were reviewed and discussed.
Motion by Weidman to apply for the 2022 CDBG program for the following oil & chipping projects: E. Park St., Church St., Locust St., Walnut St., Ash Rd., Sites St. and W. Alumni Ave. Seconded by Moyer. All aye, motion carried.

Website update – design options were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trick or Treat– Chiefs of Police Assoc. has set it for Oct. 27th, but Halloween is actually Monday the 31st. Decision tabled until the Sept. meeting.

Sonnen Rd. railroad crossing - reported it will be closed next week.

ROADMASTER REPORT: Foreman Risser reported on recent road work. Also reported on a reclamation project recently done in Heidelberg Twp.

BILL'S/TREASURERS REPORT: Motion by Hogeland to accept the Treasurers Report and pay the bills, as money is available. Seconded by Weidman. All aye, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Weidman to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 P.M. Seconded by Hogeland. All aye, motion carried.

WITNESS:

Lorie J. Kupp, Sec./Treas.

Dan K. Hogeland, Chairman