

WATSON TOWNSHIP MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2023

The Watson Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting on August 17, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Watson Township Municipal building, with James Seltzer, James Potter and Allen Green present.

Also Present: Rick Macklem, Wilbur Moore, Dennis Buttorff, EMC, Charles Knarr, Richard Lange, Kim Fye, Nick Klaras, Kira Bishop, and Zoning Officer Brent Petrosky

Chairman Seltzer called the meeting to order, and Brent Petrosky led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Seltzer asked if there were any questions or comments on the July 20, 2023, monthly meeting minutes, there being none, Supervisor Green made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Chairman Seltzer, MCU.

Chairman Seltzer asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's Report, there being none, Supervisor Potter made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted; seconded by Supervisor Green, MCU.

Correspondence:

1. Email from Jack Merinar regarding a zoning violation complaint he filed with Brent Petrosky about property located at 118 Becca's Path in February 2023. He also requested contact information for the DEP Representative who inspected the property and provided information to the Township regarding the property.

Zoning Officer Petrosky again reiterated that the property is in the Agricultural District and is not in violation of the township's zoning ordinance.

Secretary Macklem indicated that she provided Mr. Merinar with the requested contact information for the DEP Representative.

Nick Klaras stated that he has submitted the required paperwork to DEP and is in compliance with DEP regulations.

Roadmaster's Report:

1. Installed two "School Bus Stop Ahead" signs on Rte. 973
2. Mowing
3. Cleaned berms and ditches
4. Repaired water hydrant by the ball field
5. Hauled topsoil to Hiller Hill to repair area previously damaged by township

6. Purchased an electric pole saw, electric chainsaw and electric weed trimmer
7. Met with Dennis Norman, P.E., Engineers Kelly and Chris Ruppen of GeoStabilization International on-site of slide areas on West Side Road to discuss options to repair three different sections of the road, one of which is soil nailing which will create two feet of berm along the road. Kelly Ruppen, P.E. will provide a proposal and cost estimate to the Board for the needed repairs.

Chairman Seltzer reported he received an updated quote for a stainless-steel bed on the new truck of approximately \$12,500.00 verses approximately \$9,500.00 for a steel bed.

It was the consensus of the Board of Supervisors to purchase the stainless-steel bed for the truck.

Zoning Report

Zoning Officer Brent Petrosky provided the monthly zoning report which included:

Permits:

1. Permit issued to Peter Huggins for property at 3687 N. Rte. 44 for residence reinforcement.

Enforcement:

1. Issues with short term rental property at 1039 Torbert Lane owned by Leone Kanagy of Level Crest, LLC – many issues with violations of the regulations in the Short-Term Rental Ordinance adopted by the township. Possibility that the Short-Term Rental Permit could be revoked.

Kara Bishop who lives beside the Level Crest property in Torbert spoke to the Supervisors about various issues she has had with the short-term rental property including the flood lights placed at the pickleball court and visitors using the court all hours of the night, stating it is no longer a tranquil neighborhood.

Other:

1. Renu Solar permit for 1274 Ridge Road for solar panels.
3. Possible permit for Brian Mann for a new cottage at 41 Creekside Drive.

Emergency Management Coordinator Report:

Emergency Management Coordinator Dennis Buttorff had nothing new to report.

Old Business:

There was no old business presented for discussion as West Side Road was discussed as part of the Roadmaster's Report.

New Business:

Pine Creek Council of Government

Chairman Seltzer mentioned several points of interest for township residents from the Pine Creek Council of Government meeting, including: (1) PennDot is changing the intersection at the top of State Rte. 44 near the Mountaintop Restaurant to a three-way stop rather than the current right-turn keep moving; (2) The Carson Town Bridge on Route 4001 between Waterville and English Center is scheduled to be replaced; and work has started at the Whitetail Access to the rail/trail off of Route 44 where a three bay cold storage garage is being constructed, the parking lot is being expanded, a comfort station with new restrooms is being installed along with a new stone trailhead structure/information pavilion to provide maps, messaging and other relevant information to rail/trail users and will also provide some seating and shelter. The access is scheduled to be re-open in March of 2024.

Invoices:

Supervisor Green made a motion to approve the invoices as presented; seconded by Supervisor Potter, MCU.

Public Comment

Public comment was generally entertained throughout the meeting.

Adjournment:

Chairman Seltzer made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Supervisor Green, MCU.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene S. Macklem

Darlene S. Macklem
Secretary