

WATSON TOWNSHIP MEETING
JULY 18, 2024

The Watson Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting on July 18, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Watson Township Municipal building, with James Seltzer, James Potter, and Richard Macklem present.

Also present: Wilbur Moore, Richard Bader, Rich Lange, Allen Green, Nick Klaras, Paul Fye, Zoning Officer Brent Petrosky, and Wm. Dennis Buttorff, EMC,

Chairman James Seltzer called the meeting to order, and Rich Bader led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Seltzer asked if there were any questions or comments on the June 20, 2024, monthly meeting minutes, there being none, Supervisor Macklem made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Supervisor Potter, MCU.

The Board reviewed the Treasurers Report and Supervisor Potter made a motion to approve the report as submitted; seconded by Chairman Seltzer, MCU.

Correspondence: None

Roadmaster's Report

Roadmaster Rick Macklem provided the Roadmaster's Report as follows:

- Mowing
- Employee Al Green completed mowing for Mifflin Township – 98.5 hours @ \$55/Hr.
- Met with Charlie Hill of Russell Standard and marked Fillman Road for Tar & Chip Project; Charles Construction is scheduled to do base repairs the week of July 22nd
- Met with Ryan Leitzel of Sunbury Motors and signed documents for the 2024 Ford F600
- Representative from the Conservation District indicated that the application submitted by the township for the soil nailing project on West Side Road is “at the top of the list”
- DCED Local Grant for equipment should be awarded in November
- Contacted HRI, Inc. about the amount of space they are using at the ball field for equipment

Roadmaster Macklem also reported that the ditches along Furnace Run and West Side Road need to be cleaned this Fall.

A discussion was held about the possibility of hiring Pine Creek Township to finish cleaning the ditches along those roads and whether it would be more cost effective than having the township employees do the work.

Zoning Officer's Report

Zoning Officer Brent Petrosky provided the monthly Zoning Report that included issuing Short-Term Rental permits for Craig Kissell for property located at 1570 West Side Road and James Wood for the Pine Creek Manor House at 1039 Torbert Lane.

Chairman Seltzer presented suggested changes to the Short-Term Rental Ordinance adopted in August 2022, that included:

- (1) Section 4044.4 of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance should limit the number of occupants to two people per bedroom.
- (2) Section 4044.5 – Septic must be pumped prior to issuing a permit for a short-term rental and owner must provide a report from the septic pumper to the Zoning Officer to confirm that the system is functioning properly. The septic tank shall be pumped annually with the septic pumper providing a report to the Zoning Officer that the system is functioning properly. If it is determined that the system is not functioning properly the short-term rental permit shall be revoked until the system is brought into compliance.

EMC Report

EMC Denny Buttorff reported that the drought report came out and indicated that the water levels for the next three months are going to be much the same as they are currently and provided the water level for Pine Creek and Susquehanna River to the Board, adding that the current heat wave would continue into next week.

A discussion was held about warning systems for Pine Creek.

Old Business

There was no old business presented for discussion.

New Business

2024 DCED Local Grant Application

Supervisor Macklem suggested the township apply for funding through the 2024 DCED Local Grant program for funds to construct a 40 ft. x 40 ft. steel building to replace the Trading Post building and a pick-up truck with a spreader and snow plow.

A discussion followed and it was agreed that the Board would move forward with applying for funding through DCED for a new building and pick-up truck.

Possible Cemetery Ordinance

Chairman Seltzer provided information on having a family cemetery on private property and noted a recent situation that occurred in the township where an individual was buried on the family property.

A discussion ensued as to whether the Supervisors would like to consider some type of cemetery ordinance. It was the consensus of the Board not to pursue such an ordinance.

Invoices

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

Public Comment

Public comment was entertained generally throughout the meeting.

Adjournment

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

Chairman Seltzer adjourned the meeting at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Darlene S. Macklem

Darlene S. Macklem, Secretary