

The February 3, 2020 meeting of the Bear Creek Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Municipal Building. Mrs. Koval called the meeting to order. Roll was called. Mr. Petlock, Mr. Krumsky, Mr. Popple and Mrs. Koval were present. Mr. Suchocki was absent. Pledge to the flag followed.

Mrs. Koval announced that an Executive Session was held on January 23rd to discuss personnel and real estate issues.

MINUTES: Minutes from the January 6, 2020 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Petlock to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Popple. Vote: Mr. Petlock and Mrs. Koval; yes. Mr. Krumsky and Mr. Popple abstained. Motion approved.

Treasurers Report: For month ending January 31, 2020 net income was \$45,239.67. Cash at the end of the period was \$1,683,140.04.

RECEIPTS: Deposits for the month of January 2020 were \$76,664.88. A motion to approve the receipts, subject to audit was made Mr. Popple, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: Mr. Petlock, Mr. Krumsky, Mr. Popple and Mrs. Koval; yes.

DISBURSEMENTS: Expenses for the month of January 2020 were \$51,939.34. A motion was made by Mr. Popple to approve the disbursements, subject to audit, seconded by Mr. Krumsky. Vote: Mr. Petlock, Mr. Krumsky, Mr. Popple and Mrs. Koval; yes.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Watkins reported for the month of January 2020: 1 Building Permit, 3 Zoning permits, and 1 Occupancy permit for a total of \$280.00. There were 3 UCC permits issued for \$864.96 and 4 complaints were received for the month with one being corrected and Mr. Watkins keeping an eye on the other 3. Mr. Petlock asked Mr. Watkins if he checked on the deck on Laurel Run Rd that he reported to him. Mr. Watkins said he did and a permit was issued.

FIRE DEPT REPORT: Mr. Jason Krumsky reported there were 19 calls for the month of January 2020, with the majority being 11 motor vehicle accidents.

STATE POLICE REPORT: Report was made available to the public.

ACT 537 REPORT: No update.

ROAD DEPARTMENT: Mr. Krumsky reported that all the trucks are up and running. They have been plowing and treating roads as needed. He also reported that the locks on the buildings at the Rec field are being changed over to keyless entry. All groups will receive their own code to use during their season.

Mr. Popple asked Mr. John Krumsky how the salt was holding out. Mr. Krumsky said it is the snow squalls that are using up the majority of the materials. Mr. Popple asked about road department hours and overtime and if they work the same hours each week.

Mr. Krumsky stated the road crew start and stop times vary depending on the weather but they have been able to keep overtime relatively low.

Mr. Popple stated he had concerns about rushing to purchase a new truck especially since they are all cosmetically in good shape. Discussion followed pertaining to the trucks and maintenance. Mr. Krumsky said he felt he could hold off one more year on the purchase.

Mr. Krumsky stated that he had met with Mr. Petlock the previous week to show him around all the township buildings and inventory. Mr. Petlock had concerns about the old firehouse on Swanson that is used for storage. It currently has a tarp over the roof because of leaks. Mr. Popple had concerns that there may be underground oil tanks on those properties. Mr. Krumsky said there is an old fuel tank. Mr. Popple felt we should remove that tank this summer to prepare to sell the property when the time comes.

Mr. Petlock mentioned that attachments are available for the Kubota for street sweeping that would run around \$7200.00. This would put the guys in a cab while running the machine. Other attachments are also available.

ROAD DEPARTMENT FINANCES: For the month of January expenses were \$12,432.87. Biggest expense being payroll. Overtime was underbudget for the month.

OPEN RECORDS REPORT: One request received and answered.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS: None

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

Resolution 11-2020: A resolution authorizing the Board of Supervisors to fund the balance of the Forest Park reconstruction and paving project up to \$255,285.00 should they receive the grant monies requested. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Popple, seconded by Mr. Krumsky. Vote: Mr. Petlock, Mr. Krumsky, Mr. Popple and Mrs. Koval; yes.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Attorney Vinsko reported:

Barna-Blum lawsuit: Attorney Vinsko reported the Township has been named in a double fatality lawsuit pertaining to a motor vehicle accident on the PA Turnpike. He said it is pretty standard to name the municipality in the suit where the accident occurred. Our insurance company will handle it.

Property Maintenance Ordinance Draft: Attorney Vinsko reported there are two changes that have been made for 2020. The first one being that we could appoint someone specifically to do inspections and that person would be allowed to go onto a property. The second change gives us the ability to take the matter to the court of common pleas.

Weiss Road: Attorney Vinsko said the matter is complete with the exception of getting the Liquid Fuels money for the road assigned directly to Bear Creek Township.

OLD BUSINESS:

New DPW Building: Waiting on Joe Mullen from Pennoni to come back with the revisions that were discussed.

Resolution 12-2020: A Resolution naming Mr. Petlock as the Supervisor to which the Roadmaster is to report. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Popple, seconded by Mr. Krumsky. Vote: Mr. Petlock abstained. Mr. Krumsky, Mr. Popple and Mrs. Koval voted yes.

Supervisor Insurance: Mr. Petlock had questions about Mr. Suchocki's request to be added to the Health Insurance plan. He said he understands that according to Second Class Township Code the supervisors are entitled to the benefit but feels that since the job is very part time that they should not be taking part in the plan. Discussion followed.

CORRESPONDENCE/NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mike Defrancesco: Mr. Defrancesco said he was there on behalf of Bear Creek baseball and wanted to bring to the Board's attention a hazard at the field. There is a large hole in the fence in front of the bench at the back field and kids could get hurt trying to crawl through it. They would also like a fence added behind the dugout bench to keep the kids where they are supposed to be. Mr. Petlock said maybe the fence could be replaced in sections. Discussion followed. Mr. Krumsky will seek quotes.

Linda Evans: Ms. Evans complained about a nuisance property located between 31 and 63 Blossom Road that is owned by David and Scott Kresge who live in Florida. Chris Roberts uses and manages the property for the Kresge's. She said she was aware of 2 complaints made in January to the township code officer who said he was in contact with Scott Kresge about the property. She said she offered to allow the code officer to view the property from her property which is adjacent to it but he did not take her up on her offer. She did note that they have noticed some clean up being done since the complaints were made. She feels the township needs to continuously monitor the property and the cleanup because she is afraid that only the minimum will be done to pacify the township and then they will go back to more dumping. Pictures of the nuisance property were submitted to the Board.

Mr. Watkins said he has not yet had the opportunity to walk the property but he has received invoices for tires that have been removed. He stated he has been in touch with Chris Roberts and Scott Kresge. Ms. Evans asked if the property owners had been notified in writing. Mr. Watkins stated they were notified verbally.

Concerns about cooking grease being stored on the property were brought up by Ms. Evans and Willard Kresge. Chris Roberts stated the grease was from a Wendy's and has been removed and taken to Hazelton Oil.

Discussion followed regarding the condition of the property and what the actual zoning is. Mr. Watkins said there are three zoning maps and each lists the property zoned differently. Mr. Kresge said that he knows the zoning was changed to B1 non-conforming use when his father owned it. A lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Popple asked Chris Roberts if he would allow Mr. Watkins to walk the property. Mr. Roberts had no objections.

Mr. Petlock also questioned a trailer parked on Laurel Run Road. He stated he is surprised there has not been an accident because of it. Mr. Kresge agreed and stated he had brought this matter up previously. He also said there is equipment in the yard. Mr. Watkins was advised to call the State Police regarding the trailer on the roadside.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Petlock, seconded by Mr. Popple. Vote: All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Weihbrecht, Secretary

Magistrate Michael Dotzel swore in the newly elected members of the Board of Supervisors, Robert Suchocki and Mark Petlock and also swore in Ruth Ann Koval who was re-elected to the Board.

The January 6, 2020 meeting of the Bear Creek Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Municipal Building. Mrs. Koval called the meeting to order. Roll was called. Mr. Petlock, Mr. Suchocki, and Mrs. Koval were present. Mr. Krumsky and Mr. Popple were absent. Pledge to the flag followed.

All positions were declared vacant.

Chairman: A motion was made by Mr. Suchocki to appoint Mrs. Koval, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: all present; yes.

Vice Chairperson: A motion was made by Mrs. Koval to appoint Mr. Popple, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: all present; yes.

A Consent Resolution for the approval of the reappointment of all year-end 2019 appointments to 2020. A motion was made by Mrs. Koval, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: All present; yes. Appointments are as follows:

Roadmaster: John Krumsky

Secretary/Treasurer: Paula Weihbrecht.

Open Records Officer: Mr. Popple

Zoning/Code Reports to: Mr. Popple

Zoning Officer: John Watkins

UCC Code Enforcement: Building Inspection Underwriters

Sewage Enforcement Officer/Alternate: John Watkins

Engineer (includes Planning and Zoning): Pennoni Associates

Solicitor (Board of Supervisors): Vinsko Associates

Solicitor (Planning Board): Vinsko Associates

Solicitor- (Zoning Hearing Board): Angelo Terrana

EMA-Primary: Jason Krumsky

EMA-Assistant: Ed Jasulevicz

Regular Meeting Day: The First Monday of each month

Regular Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Secretary-Planning Board: Karen Kollar

Secretary-Zoning Board: Paula Weihbrecht

Planning Board Member: Richard Kresge

Zoning Hearing Board Member: Michael Rebovich

Vacancy Board Member: Willard Kresge

Convention Voting Delegate: Mrs. Koval

Depository General Fund: FNB

Administrator of Pension Plan: Township Secretary/Treasurer

A motion was made by Mrs. Koval to temporarily retain Steve Egenski as the **Sewage Enforcement Officer** after concerns were raised by Mr. Petlock. Seconded by Mr. Suchocki. Vote: Mr. Petlock; no, Mr. Suchocki; yes, Mrs. Koval; yes.

Required Signatures: A motion was made by Mr. Petlock to require at least 2 Supervisors to sign all checks and necessary bank papers, seconded by Mr. Suchocki. Vote: all present; yes.

IRS Rate: A motion was made by Mrs. Koval to pay mileage at IRS approved rate for township travel, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: all present; yes.

Supervisor Labor: A motion was made by Mrs. Koval to appoint each Supervisor to do labor as needed, to the extent not prohibited by 2nd Class Township Code, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: all present; yes.

A motion was made by Mr. Petlock for a Consent Resolution approving the following Resolutions 1-9, 2020, seconded by Mr. Suchocki. Vote: All present, yes.

Resolution 1-2020: A resolution establishing the Bear Creek Township fee schedule for 2020.

Resolution 2-2020: A resolution establishing the Bear Creek Township Uniform Construction Code Fee Schedule for 2020.

Resolution 3-2020: A resolution setting the Township *Per Capita* Tax rate at \$0.00.

Resolution 4-2020: A resolution extending the contract with Building Inspection Underwriters to December 31, 2020 as third-party administrator of the Uniform Construction Code.

Resolution 5-2020: A resolution establishing a millage rate for Bear Creek Township for 2020 to retain the millage rate at .4412 and further that the Bear Creek Volunteer Hose Company shall be awarded ¼ mil (.1103) for 2019.

Resolution 6-2020: A resolution retaining the Bear Creek Township Homestead Exemption at a value of \$20,000 property reduction.

Resolution 7-2020: A resolution reappointing Bear Creek Volunteer Hose Co. as primary fire and rescue unit in Bear Creek Township.

Resolution 8-2020: Ambulance Service- A resolution continuing the current arrangements with the primary BLS responder being Plains Twp., which does not include the WHP development. White Haven Ambulance is the primary BLS for the WHP development. Plains Twp. Ambulance will remain the primary ALS responder for the entire Bear Creek Township.

Resolution 9-2020: A motion authorizing the advertisement for a certified public accountant for the 2019 audit.

A motion was made by Mr. Petlock to adjourn the organizational part of the meeting, seconded by Mr. Suchocki. Vote: all present; yes.

Regular Meeting:

MINUTES: Minutes from the December 2, 2019 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Petlock to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Suchocki. Vote: Mr. Petlock and Mr. Suchocki abstained. Mrs. Koval; yes. Motion approved.

Treasurers Report: For month ending December 31, 2019 income was \$21,715.10. Total income for the year was \$881,176.52. Disbursements for December were \$32,825.53. Total disbursements for the year were \$646,143.85. Cash at the end of the period was \$1,658,414.50.

RECEIPTS: Deposits for the month of December 2019 were \$22,584.63. A motion to approve the receipts, subject to audit was made Mr. Koval, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: Mr. Petlock and Mr. Suchocki abstained. Mrs. Koval; yes. Motion approved.

DISBURSEMENTS: Expenses for the month of December 2019 were \$34,763.81. A motion was made by Mrs. Koval to approve the disbursements, subject to audit, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: Mr. Petlock and Mr. Suchocki abstained. Mrs. Koval; yes. Motion approved.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT: Mr. Watkins reported for the month of December: 1 Building Permit, 1 Zoning permit, and 2 Occupancy permits for a total of \$250.00. Two complaints were received for the month.

FIRE DEPT REPORT: There were 8 calls for the month of December 2019, with a total of 156 calls for the year.

STATE POLICE REPORT: Report was made available to the public.

ACT 537 REPORT: No update.

ROAD DEPARTMENT: Mr. Krumsky reported that all the trucks are up and running. They have been plowing and treating roads as needed. Some residents have inquired about cold patch but they will not be using it yet. Mr. Krumsky has been working with Mr. Petlock on the new truck.

Mrs. Koval asked if we have material out for the public's use. Mr. Krumsky said if someone needs some they should call the garage or office to make arrangements and they will need to bring their own buckets.

ROAD DEPARTMENT FINANCES: For the month of December expenses were \$14,928.73. For year-end we expended \$239,944.57 and had budgeted \$922,734.00. \$700,000.00 of that is capital projects.

OPEN RECORDS REPORT: No requests.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS: None

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Attorney Vinsko reported:

Property Maintenance Ordinance Draft: Attorney Vinsko will circulate some information on this.

Mr. Petlock mentioned a property on Laurel Run Road and asked if they had a license to be operating a business out of the house. Mr. Watkins said an R-1 allows for a no impact business. Mr. Petlock feels that the trailer parked on the side of the road is going to cause an accident. Attorney Vinsko said the property maintenance code will give Mr. Watkins more power to take care of some of these matters.

Mrs. Koval said there is an RV on a property that people are living in.

Mrs. Koval also said she had complaints called into her about the A-frame running a garage.

Pennoni/Evergreen Settlement: Attorney Vinsko will handle for Pennoni as well.

Weiss Road: Attorney Vinsko said he is taking the matter to the Governors office to try and get it resolved.

MRMLPA Cooperative agreement: Attorney Vinsko is working on the agreement to close out a grant MRMLPA received two years ago for a soil erosion project.

OLD BUSINESS:

New DPW Building: Mr. Petlock says he feels its time to sit down with Pennoni and get this project moving. He feels it needs to be downsized a bit. Discussion followed.

CORRESPONDENCE/NEW BUSINESS:

New Plow Truck: Mr. Petlock has been working with John Krumsky getting pricing on a new truck. There is a truck in the budget for 2021 but Mr. Petlock feels it is needed sooner with the recent repair expenses.

Attorney Vinsko said there are two ways to do this. A capital expenditure can be made through the General Fund with a Resolution or the budget can be reopened.

Resolution 10-2020: A Resolution authorizing the purchase of a new plow truck, built to specs, not to exceed \$180,000.00. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Petlock, seconded by Mrs. Koval. Vote: all present; yes

PUBLIC COMMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Koval, seconded by Mr. Petlock. Vote: All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Weihbrecht, Secretary