

As advertised in the Journal Herald newspaper, the Packer Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at the township building. Terry Davis called the meeting to order and roll call was taken. Cory Gerhard was absent.

The meeting was opened to the floor. Brian Stahl, via Zoom, checking in on a resolution or stipulation regarding an appeal to the amendment of Ordinance No. 08-006. Bob Yurchak responded that it will be addressed during the meeting.

The minutes were approved from January with a motion from Bob Selert. Terry Davis seconded the motion. Vote 2-0.

Ordinances and Resolutions – Bob Yurchak explains the Stipulation regarding withdraw of land use appeals by Kovatch and Broad Mountain Power. The appeals to the amendment of the Zoning Ordinance are null and void. He explains that the appellants can file a substantive appeal to the Zoning Ordinance at any time in the future which is guaranteed by the MPC so he suggests that the Supervisors adopt the Stipulation. Bob Selert made a motion to adopt the Stipulation as presented and Terry Davis seconded the motion. Vote 2-0

Seth Isenberg asked for clarification on the Stipulation. Bob Yurchak explains that there are two outstanding land use appeals to the previous Zoning Ordinance amendments and this is a stipulation to end those appeals. Seth responds saying they have a right to refile is what you said but pretty much...Bob Y. responds that they would not be able to refile on procedural grounds, only on substantive going forward and that is guaranteed by the MPC because anybody could do that.

Reports of Officials and Committees –

Barry Isett & Associates – Permit/Zoning & Code Enforcement officer- April-Phone call - Resident inquiring about erecting a Pole Building on their residential lot. Phone call regarding property: 52 Station Lane; previous auto/cycle repair shop. Phone call with resident inquiring about agricultural use (keeping of farm animals) on property. Emailed response to resident inquiring about a Pole Building and the Zoning/UCC requirements to be met. Application received; 2304 Quakake Road – Residential Addition & Deck Phone call with resident regarding property history and complaint form submitted. 2307 Grist Mill - Advised property owner on zoning process/requirements for the accessory agricultural use on their residential property. Parcel 126-46-A25.06 - Inquiry on the process for a single or multi family dwelling on this parcel. Reviewed Ordinance and advised. - Correspondence with property owner regarding parcel identification and 911 address issuance. - Phone call with Richard Kane, contractor for 582 Quakake Rd, regarding the construction of a deck off of the rear of home. Zoning/UCC Permit application sent. Deck will be greater than 30" above final grade (UCC approval is applicable). - Project creation for new Zoning/UCC applications received. - Review of new zoning application - Z21-005 (Culp) Detached Accessory Structure - Approved and issued Zoning Permit: Z21-005 (Shed) (NOTE: Permit application received in mail on this day; Z21-006 (Single-Family Dwelling)) - Review of zoning permit applications: Z21-006, 007 Scheduled zoning call: Parcel Id: 112-45-A26 (172 Ochre Mill Rd) - Proposed Single-Family Dwelling - Zoning setback inspection of 250 Tower Rd - Single-Family Detached Dwelling (Z21-006) Response to applicant regarding application received for Amendments to Zoning Text or Map. (Confirmed with Stephanie Stolpe that application fee has not been received.) Emailed response to zoning inquiry for Single Family Dwelling - 112-45-A26 (UCC) Permit 343219.003 – 582 Quakake Road – Residential Addition to SFD 1. Wallboard Inspection – PASS no comments Permit 343221.003 – 2304 Quakake Road – Residential Addition & Deck 1. Application received 2. Code Review Memo 3. Requested information received Permit 343221.004 – 250 Tower Road – New Single-Family Dwelling 1. Application received 2. Code Review Memo sent Permit 343221.005 – 582 Quakake Road – Residential Deck 1. Application received

Bill Brior – Sewage Enforcement Officer – Absent. One each-new application received, test probe, perc test, stie evaluation, design review, new permit issued. Four final inspections.

Old Business –Terry stated that a proposal was made to Weatherly Borough for the fire agreement and it was rejected and returned with their proposal. A decision is again tabled to review the latest proposal. Bob Selert made a motion to extend the Declaration of Disaster Emergency 60 days from May 17th and Terry Davis seconded the motion. Vote 2-0 Discussion took place regarding unforeseen costs incurred through some application processes. The purpose is to formalize additional fees on the fee schedule for application processes that may exceed normal proceedings. Bob Y. provided fee schedules from other municipalities as examples to consider.

New Business – Terry Davis made a motion to increase Cleaning Person pay on the wage schedule from \$7.35 to \$12, the rate which was paid to contractors. Bob Selert seconded the motion. Vote 2-0 Bob Selert made a motion to reimburse the mileage of the Secretary for miles driven other than to Township meetings due to an increase in miles driven and make the reimbursement retroactive to January 2021. Terry Davis seconded the motion. Vote 2-0

Terry Davis made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report. Bob Selert seconded the motion. Vote 2-0

Coorespondence- A thank you letter was received from Susie Gerhard, President of the Weatherly Area Community Library, for the donation made by Packer Township. An email from Paul Bray for a request by the Citizens Fire Company to have the Township Solicitor contact Michael Timko Sr. for permission to access and install a dry hydrant on said property was received. Discussion took place between the Supervisors, Paul Bray and John Floyd regarding location, permission and procedures to install this on Roundhead Road. Paul mentioned a second location at Deborah Hetherington’s property and he is waiting for an email from her. The Supervisors are in favor of Solicitor Yurchak contacting these property owners. Paul Bray also mentioned that if they ever replace the bridge on Grist Mill Drive, the Township should request that a dry hydrant be installed at that time while the equipment is there. Susie Gerhard asked about the status of the hydrant on Wetzel Run Drive. Bob S. responded that it needs a pressure reducing valve. Terry added that it is very costly and not usable now. Bob S. said an engineering estimate of \$20,000 was received. Susie asked if we came up with the money would the Hazleton City Authority be willing to complete the work. Bob S. said it is assumed that they will because they did the labor on the last one. Discussion took place about whether property owner permission would be needed to install a vault and whether the hydrant can be operated without the valve.

Bob Selert made a motion to sign and approve the checks drafted. Terry Davis seconded the motion. Vote 2-0

Terry Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bob Selert seconded the motion. Vote 2-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m. A total of 5 residents attended the meeting in person and there were four Zoom attendees.

Respectfully submitted
Stephanie Stolpe
Packer Township Secretary/Treasurer