

As advertised in the Journal Herald newspaper, the Packer Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at the township building. Bob Selert called the meeting to order and roll call was taken. All were present.

The meeting was opened to the floor. There were no comments.

Bob Selert made a motion to approve the minutes with a correction. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0.

Ordinances and Resolutions – None

Reports of Officials and Committees –

Barry Isett & Associates – Permit/Zoning & Code Enforcement officer- Absent. 1/3/2022 - Application for Amendment to Zoning Map received, Contacted Stephanie Stolpe and Solicitor Yurchak for information regarding fee(s), Lenhardt ZHB Decision letter received from Solicitor Mousseau's office, prepared December 2021 monthly report for BOS meeting. 1/10/2022 - Response to Jim Grega's application concerning required application fee for Application to Zoning Map. 1/24/2022 - Advised on email regarding dumpster regulations and permitting. 1/27/2022 - Ethics Form completed and mailed to Packer Township. Phone call to Paul Sholtis regarding neighboring lot; left VM. **UCC:** – 250 Tower Road (Single-Family Dwelling), - Electrical service inspection; PPL WO# 58512177 – Pass, – 577 Packer Drive (Single-Family Dwelling), - ICF Foundation/Wall - Pre-pour inspection; Pass, Windy Oaks Lane (Roof-Mounted Solar PV System), - Fee calculation, permit packet assembly, and issuance to Township/applicant.

Bill Brior – Sewage Enforcement Officer – Absent, no report.

Citizen Fire Company – Annual Report received. In 2021, there were 18 call outs to Packer Township. Company officers are working with a landowner on Wetzel Run Drive where a new hydrant will be installed and completed this Spring. Additional dry hydrant locations are being visited and discussed with property owners throughout the township. Bob Selert asked Paul Bray to get a breakdown of what the 18 calls were for. Paul believes most are motor vehicle accidents and 1 or 2 fires. He will check.

Old Business – Terry discussed a complaint received about the Samler property. He does not believe the township can do anything about it as they are landscapers from spring to fall and they plow snow which could be in the middle of the night or early morning. Bob feels that if we impede Samler, we will impede other businesses. He said he will contact the resident and offer his advice. Susie added that the complaint wasn't just about the noise but also lights shining into windows. You might not be able to do anything about the noise. Terry agreed. Atty. Yurchak suggested reminding them to have more curtesy. Terry will stop by. Bob Selert said unfortunately the situation there wasn't handled correctly but since it's said and done and approved by the then Board of Supervisors, our hands are tied. Any expansion at this property and change to its non-conforming use must come before the Zoning Hearing Board. Tony Caso asked if a fence could be put up to keep the lights from shining into neighboring homes. He references fencing in a parking lot at St. Luke's in Tamaqua. Bob Selert and Atty. Yurchak confirm if a change of use is requested that can be included. Bob Selert verifies with Stephanie that Paul Bray has been added as a contact for the Federal Surplus program. Susie has been added as well. The supervisors have been able to view the website. Stephanie will forward the email with the procedure to Paul. Paul and Bob discussed the program and the inventory. Sometimes inventory is not placed on the website due to it being tagged for interest by someone who is there when it arrives. A letter drafted to County Waste by Atty. Yurchak was discussed. Bob and Stephanie had been contacted by Amy Pletscher, the Operations Manager. Amy felt they had been communicating well and Bob told her the most important thing is that County Waste has to pick up all the garbage at the curb whether it is in a County Waste receptacle or another receptacle. If it is not in the receptacle the driver must empty a receptacle and put the bags in to be put in the truck. He reiterates to her that there is no limit. He discussed with Amy a bill that a resident gave him in which they were being billed directly by County Waste for extra cans. She said she was unaware that was happening and that County

Waste is not supposed to do that. Bob told her it needs to be reimbursed and stopped. Residents should not be making their own arrangement for additional containers because there are no limits on the contract. She will look into it and follow-up with Bob. Atty. Yurchack went over the response from Atty. Slusser regarding a letter drafted to Hazleton City Authority about logging and their tax exempt status. HCA disagrees that they are taxable or should make payments in lieu of taxes. Atty. Slusser attached an agreement with Hazleton City that says the City gets 80% of their money to take on the sewer. His suggestion if the supervisors want to pursue it is to ask the Tax Assessment Office to review their tax exempt status. Susie asked Atty. Yurchak if there was any way to get around this. If they are tax-exempt they don't have to pay anything? Atty. Yurchak explains that they start out tax-exempt because they are an authority. It is the Board of Supervisors position that by logging they are not using it for tax-exempt purposes. Bob Selert added that the proceeds from the logging are distributed to the City of Hazleton. Bob Selert made a motion to file an appeal of the tax-exempt status of Hazleton City Authority with the Carbon County Board of Assessment Appeals. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

New Business – Susie Gerhard made a motion to change the April 5th meeting time to 4 p.m. Terry Davis seconded the motion and Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0

Terry talks about being down to one truck and the drivers have been doing a great job, everything is cleared up. We have one truck in the garage that needs a new turbo put on. Fuessners is waiting for parts which are expected to be in soon. Bob said he stopped at EM Kutz Equipment outside of Reading. There were some trucks there from a township in Lancaster County. He talked to their drivers to see how the trucks are. They are \$160,000, a Freightliner just under CDL, Cummins Allison automatic, with a 13' blade, stainless steel body, auger and spinner sensors, vibrator to make the salt come down. They are in the \$150,000 range and we only budgeted to borrow \$100,000. We need to get up to Butler and look at that. That one came in right under \$100,000. Paul asked if it will go through Costars. A bid will not have to be put out if it is purchased through a Costars dealer. It is a 2020 or 2021.

Susie Gerhard moves to accept the Packer Township /Carbon County Exoneration and Delinquent List for 2021 as presented by the Packer Township Tax Collector, Valerie Kane and Terry Davis seconded the motion. Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0

A quote from BerkOne for tax bill printing was not yet received. Stephanie will research what the cost for last year was. Bob Selert made a motion to table the decision to change tax bill printers. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0 Atty. Yurchak confirms that a selection can be ratified at the March meeting.

Bob Selert made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Susie Gerhard seconded the motion. Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

Bob Selert made a motion to sign and approve the checks drafted and Susie Gerhard seconded the motion. Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

Bob Selert made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Susie Gerhard seconded the motion. Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m. A total of 4 residents attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Stephanie Stolpe
Packer Township Secretary/Treasurer