

As advertised in the Journal Herald newspaper, the Packer Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 7, 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. Mark Walters questioned why all the trees were being taken down at the park. It would just be a field. There would be no shade. Susie responded that some people are going to donate and plant more trees throughout. Mark understands that but would like to know why would they take mature shade trees down. Susie said when you take so many down the other ones usually fall down like they did on the Broad Mountain. Mark disagreed and felt if they were thinned out the canopy would get bigger and benches could be put throughout. Susie invited Mark to come over and walk the area with them and the tree cutter. Bob added that by taking trees out, then grass needs to be planted and it has to be nice enough that it can be maintained with a lawn mower. We have to have someone up there 3 or 4 times a year going around the trees with a weed-wacker. The majority need to be taken out. Brian Walters did not feel that the majority need to be taken out. Terry asked how many people actually use the park. His issue is if you have a park like that you should provide restrooms if people come there and spend the day. Mark said they objected to the park from the beginning. Bob said we will take your comments under consideration.

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

Ordinances and Resolutions – Terry Davis made a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PACKER PROVIDING FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2022 BUDGET. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0 Bob explained that the resolution is one of the steps needed to accept the ARP funds.

Reports of Officials and Committees –

Barry Isett & Associates – Permit/Zoning & Code Enforcement officer- Absent. Report not received.

Bill Brior – Sewage Enforcement Officer – Absent. One design review. One new permit issued. One interim inspection completed.

Old Business – Bob reviewed a quote from Butler for an International truck, with a stainless steel body, spreader and a 10' plow and automatic transmission, a Cummins or International engine. \$117,625 plus a deposit of \$42,000. A new base truck would be \$107,000. The COSTARS price for the upgrades is \$96,000. We are looking at \$200,000. The trucks are just under CDL, if we want to look at something just like we have it will be less, in the \$125,000 to \$150,000 range. Paul asked if it had to be a brand new truck. Can't we get something that is a year or two old? He said we don't put that many miles on the trucks. Bob does not want to buy somebody else's problems. Terry wouldn't go any bigger than what we have. The roads are in bad shape and we'll end up going back to dirt with a 10' plow on a bigger truck. Bob has not contacted all the school board members about joining the appeal for challenging the Hazleton City Authority tax exempt status.

Bob talked to the engineer and will talk to them again about getting an acceptable, legal design standard for replacing the pipes. Bob Selert made a motion that once acceptable bid specifications for the pipes are received we authorize to advertise Project 1, Project 2 and a combination of both. Susie asked if this was contingent on completion of the pipe project. Bob and Terry confirmed that paving cannot happen until the pipes are done.

Susie Gerhard made a motion to advertise for the road project contingent on completion of the pipe project. Terry Davis seconded the motion and Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0

Bob discussed East Sides garbage bids. They were at \$48/quarter and now they will be going to \$84/quarter based on a 5 year contract. They did a 1, 3 and 5 year proposal. Bob gave a proposal to Atty. Yurchak for re-

view. He explained that he took the recycling out, he left recycling at their option. Just like County Waste, if they want to provide it ok, if not they are just picking everything up. Terry asked if County Waste doesn't get the bid, what do we do with all these cans. Bob responded that they are County Waste's cans and they will pick them up. Susie asked what the plan would be without cans. Bob responded that it would depend on the contractor. Susie asked if anybody ever has problems with animals getting into the cans. Some do. Paul Bray sprays his cans with ammonia. Susie has never had hers tipped over or anything, when they are closed it seems like nothing gets into them. Mark Walters has a bear that takes his garbage out and into the yard without tipping the can over. Bob responded that there is nothing you can do about bears, if they can smell it and want it. The Walters asked how to get a hold of County Waste and are told to call Stephanie. Then they informed the supervisors that they are paying \$5/month to County Waste for an extra can they no longer need. Bob responded they should not be and to have the Journal Herald print in the report that if any resident is being billed directly by County Waste (now GFL) to contact the Township Office. This has been discussed with the manager previously and the contract states they will pick up the garbage that is on the curb. There is no specified minimum or maximum. If it's at the curb they are to pick it up or the Township will go after the bond. Paul added that cans which the Township requested and cans which the landscaping business in Ray Graham's garage requested have not been supplied. Bob has a quote for oxygen tanks. Terry reviewed it. We will own the tank.

New Business – Bob received a letter from Senator Argall who wants to meet with the Supervisors now that we are going to be in his district. It was decided to have him at a November or December meeting. Bob asked if anyone had looked at the abandoned building ordinances and mentioned that someone had gone into the chapel. His advice is that if anyone sees anybody in the chapel, call the State Police and tell them there is someone breaking in, it is trespassing. The chapel is not owned by the Township. It is in an estate. Paul said the owner would have to call it in. Brian Walters said not necessarily but to take them to court you would have to have a victim to say it is my property and I don't want them there. But witnesses should still call as they should not be in there. Bob said the door looked secure but the lock had been pried off. Mark said somebody had pictures of the inside on Facebook. Paul said somebody broke the window. Bob said there is no water or sewer. Mark said it is a liability and Bob responded that they would go after the estate or the Sunday school association but he doesn't know. Mark-Is it true that Weatherly Area School District owns part of the Joe Andreuzzi Park? Bob-The way I read it, I think so but was it transferred? I don't know. Mark-Speaking of liability, is that going to be an issue? Paul asked why is he cutting the grass for the school district now. Bob responded that it's a cloudy deed, right now it's ours until somebody says it's not. Terry added that he is getting paid out of the park fund not township money. Susie added that the Andreuzzi family supplies money every year. Paul-Why should they be paying them to cut the school districts property? Paul questioned what if somebody gets hurt there. Atty. Yurchak said that is what insurance is for and Bob added that either the township or the schools insurance will pay. Bob said the County GIS website has a disclaimer that the lines should not be taken as gospel. The building is probably too close to the line if what they gave us and what was the old township building, if the lot line wasn't removed then that building is right on the line.

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

Atty. Yurchak approved of the garbage contract proposal with some corrections to the appropriate Township name. Paul said new lights for the park were installed and the electric bill we are paying for the pole can be shut off. They are hooked up and work, the new lights, the LED lights on the pavilion. And the lights underneath the pavilion shouldn't be on unless somebody walks underneath it. There is a sensor on it so they aren't on 24 hours a day. Terry asked Stephanie if that money will come out of the fund also. She will make sure expenses and wages for the park are transferred from the Park Fund to the General Fund. Paul said new banners were put up

and some were moved since people had passed away or whatever and family members wanted a banner moved. So he has to do an updated map and will give it to Steph so she has the right pole numbers. Brian Walters inquired as to purchasing a banner. Banner orders will be taken again for next year. Last year there were banners that were too worn to be hung again and residents were offered the option to replace the banner at a cost of \$100. New banners with hardware are \$165. There was a five flag minimum. Paul talked about damaged hardware on a pole on Tower Road. He believes it's being damaged by a truck. He moved it down a pole to avoid this. Paul asked if we got an address for the Treschow Rod & Gun club yet. Bob responded no, he has to look at the book again. He has to go out and re-measure it. Paul-Well we need that. What did we do with the alarm? Stephanie will call the County about switching over to them for monitoring. Paul-Did we do anything with the water in the garage yet? The water is supposed to go down the drain not up the drain. He thinks this is one reason why the trucks are rusty. Every time it rains water comes in from the drain. Terry thinks it comes in the back corner too. Paul says well then let's get that fixed. He dug dirt around the outside of the building, he cleaned the drains. Bob says to put quick-crete in the drain to fill it up. Paul-Alright. It would be nice in the winter time that if I wash the trucks inside, the water would go down the drain and out the building in a heated garage. Terry responded that we don't want to dig out here. John Floyd suggested a sump pump. Bob said we don't know where pipes are or what is in them. Paul said we would not have to dig that far to get an elbow in there. If you don't want to fix it I'm going to move everything back to this garage where I can work on it on a dry floor. I'll move the tool box and everything over to this garage. This floor doesn't get wet and the water can lay in the building over there and freeze because there is no heat, no insulation. Five years I've been asking this. Call an insulation company and put a propane heater in both garages. When Susie first hired me, there's always water under this truck. Check where the leak is. It's the drain. Susie-We'll take a walk over there after the meeting. Paul-And I'm still waiting on F&L Doors. They didn't get the part for that door yet either. Bob-They said it would be 4-6 weeks.

Susie Gerhard made a motion to authorize advertisement for Garbage Contract bids and Terry Davis seconded the motion. Bob Selert 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 6:35 p.m. A total of 8 residents attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Stephanie Stolpe
Packer Township Secretary/Treasurer