

As advertised in the Journal Herald newspaper, the Packer Township Supervisors held their regular monthly on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 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.

Susie Gerhard made a motion to approve the minutes from May 2nd and from May 23rd. Terry Davis seconded the motion and Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0.

Ordinances and Resolutions – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PACKER AND PROHIBITING NOISE DISTURBANCES ABRIDGING THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS OF PACKER TOWNSHIP Atty. Yurchak stated the ordinance is ready to be advertised and he added the exemptions for farming. Bob ensures that Section 6. EXEMPTIONS. K. will read Normal activities relate to agricultural pursuits including but not limited to running farm equipment, etc. but said activities do not include the operations, maintenance or running of a *commercial* grain processing facility. Discussion of holding a special meeting to advertise and adopt the ordinance took place.

Reports of Officials and Committees – Barry Isett & Associates – Permit/Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer- Absent. **ZONING:**

May 3, 2023: Received a complaint for 1297 Quakake Rd. last week. I did a site visit at 1458 Hudson Drive. It appears that they are almost all moved out. 1857 Wetzel Run Dr. much better. The mattress is gone, but debris is still on porch. Stopped at 2006 Quakake Rd. and the building was locked, so I left my business card in the door. Site visit 1297 Quakake Rd. I will write a NOV. I received a phone call concerning 110 Sand Spring from the owner's father. Ironically, while talking with him he brought up 1297 Quakake Rd.

May 5, 2023: Worked with Rick Hinkle's assistant to get a Zoning application completed for 374 Packer Dr. Sent a fax to Magistrate's Office to withdraw citation for Monday's hearing.

May 8, 2023: May 8, 2023 @10:00 1867 Wetzel Run Dr. No Zoning Permit and Garbage and Debris. Asked the Magistrate to dismiss the charges as the Defendant has gotten a Zoning Permit and has been cleaning up the property. I did tell Mr. Dimaio that debris still needs to be removed and if I get another complaint, I will not withdraw the charges until cleaned up. 2006 Quakake Rd. No Zoning permit for change of use. Defendant was found guilty in abstencia.

May 10, 2023: Drove by 1857 Wetzel Run and noted that the property is much better, but still needs attention. Stopped by 2150 Quakake Rd. and spoke about 110 Sand Spring Rd's need for a zoning and Demo permit. Spoke more in depth about 1297 Quakake Rd. and drove by 1458 Hudson Dr.

May 11, 2023: Wrote an NOV for 1297 Quakake Rd. and researched an addition without a building permit. Spoke with BCO about a Demo permit for 110 Sand Spring and sent an email to the owner. Issued a Zoning Permit for 374 Packer Dr.

May 16, 2023: Phone call with appraisal agent regarding zoning classification of 1082 Hudson Drive and lot line adjustments performed in past subdivisions.

May 23, 2023: Spoke with owner of 1297 Quakake Rd. She stated that she has begun cleaning the property. She asked for 10 days. I will do a site visit on May 31.

May 24, 2023: Patrolled Township for New Construction and checked on problem properties. Zoning permit application review and approval (1625 Spring Mountain Road).

May 31, 2023: Site visit to 1297 Quakake Rd. Property appears to be improving. I will attempt to set up a time to meet with the owner in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Court Hearings: None scheduled at this time.

PA UCC: May 10, 2023: 2851 Wetzel Run Drive (Addition to Single Family Dwelling) Permit approved on May 10th; approval package delivered (May 11th) to Township for release upon payment.

May 15, 2023: 1625 Spring Mountain Road (Demo & Addition to Single Family Dwelling) Permit approved on May 24th; approval package delivered (May 25th) to Township for release upon payment.

Bill Brior – Sewage Enforcement Officer – Absent. No report. In April one perc test and 2 malfunction inspections were reported. In May one site evaluation, test probe and new application, 1 repair permit issued, and 1 perc test is reported. Bob asked Stephanie which charges were being paid by the Township and which per paid by the property owner. She responded that the homeowners paid for the repair permit and the new application. The Township pays the other charges.

Old Business – On the Board of Assessment Appeals Hazleton City Authority's tax exempt status, Bob states he received a call from the school board president after the last meeting and they wanted to know what the distribution would be for the school district and the township if we got an in-lieu-of taxes payment in a challenge to the tax exempt status. We are waiting on those figures. Paul Bray asked Bob and Bob confirmed that Lehigh and Lausanne Townships have already committed.

Stephanie provides an update on the security system. Mike Hurley who had done work as the 911 center, said he can't get equipment to reach out to the garage and he can't work on the existing system. Monks Security Systems Inc. gave a quote of \$2500. Bob asked about the ongoing monthly fees. Each company has told her there would be no way around the signal forwarding fees. Bob asked her about the bad sensor with the current system and asked if the technician can fix it. Bob said to call Control Security for the repair and we will continue to pay them \$75/quarterly for signal forwarding. Paul Bray said we should not have to pay that. The fire company doesn't pay it and the church doesn't pay it. Bob said they probably have a different system that doesn't do the same thing ours does. Paul said the fire company had the entire system replaced but he was not sure who did it. Monks did the church and replaced everything but the wiring, the heads, the panel, upgraded the system. Bob said none of them seem to be able to forward the signal directly to the 911 Comm. Center. Paul added that when the alarm goes off it should be dialing a 325 number. Not wherever they are in Louisiana. If the fire company is not doing it and the church isn't doing it, there's no reason why the township has to pay that. Paul added that John Floyd will find out who did fire company. Stephanie added that James from Control Security told her that they do this for the first responders and fire company but will not do it for the township because we are not emergency services. John Floyd says they paid \$3000 and got 10 new detectors put in and 3 motion sensors, a complete new panel and all new wire for \$3000. Bob asked John to get the name of the vendor.

Bob met with the Madays and the engineer on the Ochre Mill bridge project. The trees will be marked out. Bob said that Atty. Yurchak indicated that it will cost the Township about \$1000 to go forward with condemnation so he proposes a payment of \$1000 to the Madays. The paperwork will be rewritten and as soon as we get the map re-done we will re-do the offer.

Stephanie has found a microwave with good ratings for approximately \$200. Bob Selert made a motion to purchase the microwave and Terry Davis seconded the motion. Susie Gerhard agreed. Vote 3-0

Paul Bray mentioned that last month Bob read an article regarding LSA grants and what it was used for in different municipalities and that it didn't cover roadwork. Bob confirmed that there was no roadwork done. Paul has an email from that office that advises that roadwork, roadway improvement projects, paving and installation of guiderails and replacement of municipal vehicles are eligible for both Local Share Account money Monroe County and Local Share Account statewide program. They are qualified as projects in the public interest provided that all other eligible criteria are satisfied in the guidelines. So #4 is the roadwork within 20 miles of the casino. Number 1 is the public interest projects, projects that improve the quality of life in the affected communities. So if we fix our roads, we get a grant for the roadwork, that's improving the quality of life in the municipality. And this is from Jonathan Brett, Program Manager, Local Share Account. Bob asked Paul for a copy of the email and also stated "These highly competitive state grants will be a huge plus for Carbon County by improving the operation of local government, first responders, renovating our most historic structures, parks and tearing down blighted properties." This article was also in the Hazleton paper. Paul made a comment about a lot of false information. Stephanie made copies of Jonathan's email for the Supervisors. Paul added that he didn't

print out the whole part but it is on the website and we would fall under public interest in Carbon County since we are more than 20 miles from a casino. There are 2 grants. The County one, July 1st to September 30th and the State one is September 1st to November 30th. He said apply for both. Bob questions Paul about roadwork only being eligible within 20 miles of the casino and Paul responded that he called Jonathan and asked and was told, no, the township would qualify for roadwork under public interest because if you can improve the quality of life in your town, you come under #1 and he said apply for both of them. If you want to apply for 2 different grants July 1st you have to submit 2 grant applications. You can't put everything on one. So if you want to put in for a road and drainage or a road and a truck, they have to be separate but you can apply multiple times for each grant. Then they pick what they want to give you. Bob said this article was copied in the Standard Speaker and it had all the stuff for lower Luzerne County and it was the same type of things as Carbon County.

Bob said we did 3.78 tons of asphalt on the 26th of May. The tamper is working well. We did go out to plan the next part of the project. The reason I haven't brought the truck back is because the chain guard needs to be put on.

Susie talked to Dave Bodnar about the Community Development Block Grant that the township applied for. He said he is setting a meeting up with the Commissioners to go over it and it looks good. We may get something. We didn't ask for a large amount and is within reason. If they approve it we will get the paperwork to fill out the actual application.

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m. A total of 5 residents attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Stephanie Stolpe
Packer Township Secretary/Treasurer