

As advertised in the Journal Herald newspaper, the Packer Township Supervisors held their regular monthly on Monday, July 3, 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 June 6th and June 22nd. Terry Davis seconded the motion and Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0.

**Ordinances and Resolutions** – None.

**Reports of Officials and Committees** – Barry Isett & Associates – Permit/Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer- Absent. **Zoning June 6, 2023:** Email with the Solicitor concerning no burn ordinance. I referenced two addresses that I visited in February, and I referred them to Marybeth at the DEP. (who has retired); Phone call with owner of 1297 Quakake Rd. She has been cleaning the property as noted last week. She has more garbage and debris for Thursday's pickup; Phone conversation regarding Parcel: 112-45-A10.03 (east and south of Magdellen Drive) and permitted uses for future dwelling. A follow up email will be prepared.

**June 12, 2023:** Email communications with Attorney Stephen Seach regarding Samler Property Management's property (1458 Hudson Drive) and the pending sale for use as an automotive repair shop/office. Confirmed permitting requirements and fees due for submission of applications (Zoning and ZHB). Emails forwarded to Stephanie Stolpe for the Township's records; Provided email response to Jose Edwards regarding parcel 112-45-A10.03 (East and South of Magdellen Drive) and C-1 District regulations pertaining to possible development for a new single-family dwelling. Contact information for Robert Fugate (Brior Environmental) was also provided.

**June 19, 2023:** Received a complaint of burning on Spring Mountain Rd. Did research on other Municipality Ordinances and found my contact information for the DEP.

**June 20, 2023:** Site visit and noted burn pile on Spring Mountain Rd. Discussed with Solicitor.

**June 21, 2023:** Spoke with DEP concerning burning on Spring Mountain Rd. I will try and locate an address for Chris Coll, if I cannot find one, I will issue a NOV under the Nuisance Ordinance to Lynn Coll, the property owner.

**June 22, 2023:** Phone call with complainant and issued a NOV for the Burning.

**June 26, 2023:** Phone call with Chris Coll concerning the fires on his mother's property at 702 Spring Mountain Rd. He is looking into legal action on his nephew and the construction company from Weatherly that dumped on the property illegally.

**June 30, 2023:** End of month reconciliation and report.

**PA UCC: 741 Wallace Way – Above Ground Swimming Pool** 6/1/2023: Final inspection and travel (PASS)  
**2851 Wetzel Run Drive – Addition to Single-Family Dwelling** 6/1/2023: Footer inspection and travel (PASS)  
6/12/2023: Foundation pre-pour inspection and travel (PASS)

Terry Davis asked about the burn ordinance mentioned. Atty. Yurchak responded that the township doesn't have a burn ordinance but will forward a sample ordinance for review. Terry asked if it was for garbage burning and Atty. Yurchak said it was more general. Bob Selert said he doesn't want to get into banning agricultural burning. Atty. Yurchak responded that he understood but will send it along to be looked at.

Bob S. discusses parcel 112-45-A10.03. He thinks it meets a minimum of 10 acres but as long as they are not subdividing it would be grandfathered in. He wants to make sure they have slope and everything taken into consideration. It is on the side of a mountain. It might even be half way up and over the top.

Bill Brior – Sewage Enforcement Officer – Absent. No report. New design reviews and permits issued to Brian Katchur and Steve & Shannon Serra.

**Old Business** – On the Board of Assessment Appeals Hazleton City Authority’s tax exempt status, Atty. Yurchak is still working on getting a formula.

Stephanie provides an update on the security system. CK Alarms may be able to work on the current system but would need the installation codes to switch over to the Carbon County Comm. Center. Because it is a proprietary system Control Security may not want to give that out. I will call Control Security once more to see if they will do the switch. Otherwise Pete from CK Alarms recommends a new Honeywell system for \$1700 with one year parts and labor. Bob asked Stephanie to check if the Honeywell system is proprietary and what the hourly rate is for CK Alarm and Control Security. Susie asks and it is confirmed that there is no additional cost with the new system. It will cost \$75 a year to the Comm. Center versus \$300/year to Control Security. Stephanie will check with CK Alarm and Control Security for their hourly rates for repairs. Control Security has been in once to work on the system and we were not charged. Susie said Control Security comes to the library to service the system like changing batteries and servicing sensors. She is not sure what the charge is but Paul Bray mentioned the church paid \$250 per service call plus parts and she said they never paid that much. It’s noted that the church does not have Control Security. Bob S. said it will be tabled until more information is received.

Bob has not yet called the engineer to look at the trees Madays have marked for the Ochre Mill bridge project. He will call Wednesday.

Stephanie reported that a new microwave was ordered and will arrive on Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Bob asked how much should be spent on the hot box up for auction. Susie said it depends on which one you’re going to bid on. Bob wants item # ending 4452. Both need propane burners. We are going to have to do some repairs on it but we are not spending over \$30,000 for new. Susie Gerhard made a motion to bid not more than \$1000 on the hot box. Terry Davis seconded the motion and Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0 Stephanie asked about the roller up for auction. Bob Selert explained that he was not interested in the roller due to its condition.

**New Business** –

Bob asked if we knew how many people from the township participated in past electronic recycling events held by the Borough. Susie was not sure if they keep track of this. Paul Bray said he took a printer in and they took it from him. They only had a box truck; they did not have a trailer like they had before. Atty. Yurchak asked if they filled the box and Paul responded that when he was there it was 3 quarters full. Susie added that they usually do fill them. Paul said there was a guy from RRS with a clipboard, he doesn’t know if they were writing down what people were dropping off or where they were from. They didn’t ask him but the guys from the Borough were there and know he lives in the Township. Jason Maday added that he thinks anything that is paid for they ask for a driver’s license, like TVs and bigger things. The next event occurs on September 28<sup>th</sup> so it will need to go in this quarter’s newsletter. Susie asked what would happen if people go in and we don’t participate. Bob responded that they will turn people away. Stephanie said that in the spring people were asking about it and the Borough had not sent an invoice or any information but they did include the Township, so there was interest then as well but they didn’t have any notice. Susie said as long as they have a big enough truck to take what people are bringing. Paul took the microwave. Susie said go for it. Bob Selert made a motion to pay \$185 to the Weatherly Borough for the fall electronic recycling event. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0 This will be placed in the upcoming newsletter, be posted on the township website and on the People of Packer Township Facebook page.

Correspondence-Staples is doing away with their store card as of July 31<sup>st</sup>. Stephanie explained that the options were to apply for a line of credit for the Township with Staples to be invoiced for purchases or use a different credit card for payment. Bob Selert made a motion to approve the application for a line of credit with Staples. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0 Bob added that since we really don’t need a credit card for the Township for purchases because we have enough money in the general fund, he suggests

getting a debit card for the account. Susie said we do have a credit card and that each supervisor should have one. Terry asked if Steph has one. She does not; she only had the Staples card. She is not an authorized user on the Visa credit card but she was authorized to manage the account. Terry felt that if Stephanie was buying supplies she should have a card.

Bob Selert made a motion to approve 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 added that he followed up with the correspondence from the DCED that Paul Bray gave the supervisors. The grant opened Monday and a discussion needs to be had. He talked about 5 miles of road that need attention and that a request can be made for resurfacing, pipes and drainage. He was told to put in for 5 miles and we might get 1, 2.5 or 3 miles. Bob was advised by the contact at DCED to apply for both rounds. Susie asked what the application process would be. Bob said the application will be online at [dced.gov](http://dced.gov) and to look for Local Share Account for Monroe County. Once we get everything in place and we know what we are asking for we should get our legislators to actively support our projects besides just the letter they will send. Bob asked Susie to set up a meeting with Senator Argall for September and he gave her the phone number to contact DCED. Bob noted that the LSA Monroe program accepts applications from July 1st-September 30th and the LSA Statewide program is September 1st – November 30<sup>th</sup>. Awards for the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline won't be announced until next June or July. The Statewide program won't be announced until next fall. If a grant is awarded it could be for the full amount requested or a partial amount. It is also noted that the application for roadwork must be made as a Public Interest Projects because Roadway Improvement Projects is only for roads in Monroe County that are located within twenty miles of the casino.

Atty. Yurchak said that 2 of the residents with delinquent garbage did not pick up their certified mail from the magistrate and they want to know if the Supervisors want them served by constable. They are Andrejco and Fisher. Three who accepted their certified mail said they are intending to defend. One of the Supervisors will attend the hearings along with Atty. Yurchak and Stephanie. Stephanie added that Fisher had made a payment to Creditech but none to the Township for the current year charges.

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: 26 p.m. A total of 3 residents attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted  
Stephanie Stolpe  
Packer Township Secretary/Treasurer