

As advertised in the Journal Herald newspaper, the Packer Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at the township building. Bob Selert called the meeting to order and roll call was taken. All were present.

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

The minutes from the April 2nd regular meeting and April 22nd special meeting were approved with a motion from Susie Gerhard. 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- Zoning: **April 2, 2024:** Printed and laminated placards and notices of violation in anticipation of posting 795 Quakake Road. While approaching the property, the occupants met me at the front porch. I introduced myself and handed the gentleman the Notice of Violation and asked if they had received the mailings. They advised that the property is in his deceased parent's names. I informed them I had to post the property as unsafe and that they need to contact me with a plan to remove or repair the porch. He told me that they have called contractors, but no one has returned their calls. He assisted me in taping the placard to the porch post while stating to me that he used to do Code Enforcement for the Township and he will talk to Bob.

April 3, 2024: Attendance and participation at Zoning Hearing Board meeting – 2006 Quakake Road. Variance granted; received call from occupant at 795 Quakake Road stating that the placard has fallen from porch. Property will be reposted next week.

April 4, 2024: Updated files regarding Tuesday's site visits and ZHB hearing decision. Notified Phil Prout about construction at 3004 Quakake Road. Phil Prout performed drive past property to confirm construction without Zoning or Building permits (3004 Quakake Road). Pictures taken. Other work was seen during the drive through Township including: 1059 Packer Drive (rear covered porch) and 366 Freedom Drive (structural alterations).

April 16, 2024: Reposted unsafe structure placard at 795 Quakake Road. No change to building.

April 22, 2024: Phone call with property owner regarding the process of creating an easement through their parcel (120-45-A7.08 – Grist Mill Drive) so they can access their second parcel (120-45-A7.04). A follow up email was sent with contact information for the Roadmaster for any new access created from Grist Mill Drive because of the easement and included permit applications for future construction of single-family dwelling.

April 23, 2024: Site visit to 702 Spring Mountain Road to verify removal of debris; case closed. No change to 795 Quakake Road.

PA UCC: April 11, 2024: Permit issued/delivered to Township – 469 Quakake Road (Single-Family Dwelling)

April 19, 2024: Received application for demolition/reconstruction of dwelling. (686 Brenkman Drive) After reviewing and briefly discussing the report Bob Selert made a motion to enter the report into the minutes. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

Bill Brior – Sewage Enforcement Officer – Absent. March report: Design review and permit issued for William & Donna Gentile and a site evaluation at Station Lane.

Old Business – Bob provides an update on the Ochre Mill Road bridge replacement project. The funding situation is different than we anticipated and we are not constrained by the time anymore. We can go ahead and order the temporary bridge. If it was done last Thursday when he made the call, it might be here this week but if not definitely next week. The Madays have their paperwork for the easement that will be taken care of after the meeting.

Bob Selert made a motion to contact the Weatherly Borough officials to start negotiations to discuss the Fire Protection Agreement which expires at the end of 2024. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

Stephanie provided an update on the insurance claim on the additional park pavilion storm damage. She spoke with both the contractor and the adjuster yesterday. To date neither had been able to discuss the quote with each other. Figas was going to call the adjuster, Mike McCann, right back. She did not know if they spoke to each other as of this meeting but Mike said as long as he got his questions answered about the quote he believes he will be able to pay it out this week.

Terry Davis contacted Buck Mountain a week and a half ago. They felt they were going to start the tree trimming, depending on their schedule. They are on board.

Bob provides an update on a purchase of a new trailer for transporting equipment up to the park. We used it and put a new hitch on the 550. The price was \$3000. JC Small Engines was given the opportunity to give a quote on a trailer. They said they could not match the price and to go ahead and get it at Tractor Supply.

Bob asks Stephanie if there was any response to the request for interest in the electronic recycling events at Weatherly Borough which was included with the garbage bills. She had two phone calls from residents who were interested. Susie thinks we should pass on this one. Bob says at the Lehigh meeting they are paying \$49 to get rid of 2 of their items. They are not participating. If we pay this \$169 and \$148 our residents can take everything in there. Yes or no? Susie-Yes but you have 2 people who are interested in it. Paul Bray asked if the 2 people were recycling 'free items'. He asked if they could store those items here in the garage until next time to see what we have, then participate. Susie does not want to start collecting junk here. Susie Gerhard made a motion to not participate in the 2024 recycling events at Weatherly Borough. Terry Davis seconded the motion and Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0

New Business – Bob provides a reminder that if you are going to burn brush to call the Comm. Center at 570-325-9111 even if it is during a downpour. Call to tell them we are having a controlled burn so the Fire Company does not respond. Stephanie asks for confirmation on burn barrels. Paul responds that a call is not needed if it is in a burn barrel. Paul discussed a neighbor who never calls. Terry asked what they burn and Paul answered trees, tires, plastic. It's black as hell, I don't know, I don't go up there. Bob saw smoke today from a different neighbor and was hoping they had called. Paul said people are pretty good about calling. At first we [the fire company] were going out every week or twice a week. People that were not calling are calling now so we haven't been getting called out.

Correspondence- A letter was received from the Weatherly Area School District offering certain property owned by the School District to the Township. The WASD requests to be reimbursed their costs of approximately \$1500. Bob asked Atty. Yurchak if the cost seems reasonable. He supposes but he does not know what they did. Bob explains that when the Packer Township School District was consolidated with the Weatherly School District this property became part of the Weatherly Area School District. That is where the Township voted so he believed this had been turned back to the Township but apparently it was not. Bob Selert made a motion to accept the offer of the property at a cost of \$1500 at next month's meeting. Susie asks if they owned the area where the building was only. Bob confirmed. Atty. Yurchak will contact them to see what was done for the cost. Paul Bray added that the Township has been cutting grass and plowing the snow for more than seven years up there. Atty. Yurchak says the school district understands that. Bob believes the \$1500 was the cost for the Slusser Law Firm to research the property at the courthouse. Susie responded that we did not instruct that to happen. They did that on their own. I say they get nothing. What are they going to do with it? They are not going to do anything with it. Offer them a buck. We didn't tell them to do that. Atty. Yurchak-No we didn't. They did do it on their own. Paul-On the other had you didn't ask them for money to go after the water company. Right? Atty. Yurchak-Correct. Paul-The Township is paying whatever you have to pay. It can't be a wash? Susie-What are your thoughts? Bob-We let it ride. You want it, you can have it. Why it wasn't discovered before I don't know. I would love to see a baseball field up there or something else. The thing of it is, somewhere down the road, 10, 15, 25 years, there is always going to be a cloudy deed there and when you go for grants and stuff to do improvements there's a cloudy deed there. Susie-Then I say meet them half-way if you

want to do something. Atty. Yurchak wants to find out what the \$1500 entails as a starting point. The Supervisors agree. Paul-It will probably change the death report for up there. The kid that had the illegal drugs in the park after hours that overdosed died at the township park. He actually died on school district property then if that is the case, he was in the parking lot.

Paul comments that when he goes to work he passes the old chapel. It hasn't been used as a chapel, school or church in how many years. The door is open, there's cars parked there, there are people in and out of that building. The foundation is in on the one side. You can drive an airplane in the roof. It needs to be condemned and probably put back on the tax rolls. It is not being used as a church anymore or a school or anything. Atty. Yurchak-It should be on the tax rolls now once it stopped being used. Paul-It hasn't been used in what, 30 some years probably. Paul continues that the door used to be screwed shut but it is open now, he sees people coming out of the building, taking pictures. They aren't from around here. Terry asked if they were squatters. Paul didn't think so. It is different cars that he sees there. Bob tried to get the adjoining land owner to take it over and he said it would cost too much money for what it is worth. Susie added that there are about 15 people involved in it.

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 and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

Jason Maday signed the agreement for the right-of-way and a copy will be provided to him.

Terry asked Paul about obtaining a bucket truck to hang the Hometown Hero banners. Paul was able to get one for May 13th. He and Jeff are off that Monday. Terry said to let him know if he needs help and Bob added especially if you need a flagger.

An executive meeting was held to discuss garbage bills.

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 6:33 p.m. A total of 3 residents attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Stolpe
Packer Township Secretary/Treasurer