

As advertised in the Journal Herald newspaper, the Packer Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 6, 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. Corey Gerhart-Just a few questions about utilizing the beautiful park we have. I was hoping to have a fundraiser there maybe at the end of the summer. I belong to a group called African Missions Project and we go every year to Africa, Kenya, Nairobi for some orphanage children and I was looking to raise some fund. I didn't know what the guidelines are, what we can do, can't do. For instance, alcohol, can you sell or accept donations for alcohol? I was going to look at having moon bounces and some entertainment. Nothing crazy because I am funding the whole bill, but there are some questions I have. We have a beautiful park and I think we should have some events there. I didn't know if there was anything for the township for a possible porta-potty if we do something or what we do with garbage. Susie-First of all, are we able to do that with insurance? Atty. Yurchak-With the alcohol? I don't know. We'd have to check with the insurance company. Susie-But like having something like this. Atty. Yurchak-Again, you'd have to check with the insurance company. I'm sure you're going to have to get some guidelines for use of the public park. Stephanie will call the insurance company. Corey-We were going to hold our daughter's graduation party at the park and I see that the signs are dusk to dawn and I figured we would have to clean our own garbage up. I didn't know what the guidelines were for using the park in some of those aspects. Bob-Anything in the deed restrictions? Susie-Not that I know of. Bob-This is the first time we've been approached, believe it or not. Corey-Hopefully it's a good thing because I would like to continue to have some little mini festivals and stuff out here. It's a beautiful little place. Terry-The problem is it needs repairs. Susie-Yes. We did talk to Tom Figas. He is going to get on that. When are you looking to have something? Corey-So I was thinking possibly the end of September. I saw a few post on Facebook, there are some events going on outside of the area, September 14th and 27th. I don't know yet maybe the beginning of October because I was going to try to get some craft vendors. Susie-No beginning of October as the library will be having their auction the first weekend. Corey-Ok. So I can be flexible even if things fall through and it doesn't happen, maybe I can do something in the spring. I am definitely interested to hear what I can and can't do and look at some dates until I hear some information. I didn't want to ask for vendors or crafters to come until I have some details. Susie-You were talking porta-potties. I know the rotary is looking to help out so I'm sure that they would help you with that end of it. Corey-Ok. I can talk to Mrs. Stadnik. Susie we will call the insurance company and get back to you. Corey-In the meantime Stephanie, I will give you my phone number if you come up with any answers. Thank you.

The minutes were approved with a motion from Susie Gerhard and Terry Davis seconded the motion. Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3--0.

Ordinances and Resolutions –Act 10 of 2024 amends the Second Class Township Code to authorize the board of supervisors to increase the compensation for the elected auditors by resolution from \$10 per hour to up to \$18 per hour for performing the annual audit and the other duties of office. Bob Selert made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION 03-2024 - A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PACKER PROVIDING FOR AUDITOR COMPENSATION Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

Reports of Officials and Committees –

Barry Isett & Associates – Permit/Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer- Zoning: July 3, 2024: Review and approval of Zoning Permit - agricultural storage building (1509 Round Head Drive)

July 16, 2024: While patrolling Quakake Road, I noticed what appears to be another building next to the white building on the Dulcey Property. Spoke with Phil Prout and Terry Davis. Still having problems solidifying the building's location.

July 23, 2024: Review and approval of zoning permit for 1298 Brenkman Drive (Inground pool and barrier fence); Received another complaint about buildings being built on the Dulcey property. I did a site visit to the church on Quakake Road and once again attempted to get a better view.

July 25, 2024: Phone call with property owner of 12 Station Lane to discuss application procedures and scope of project; provided update on permit status (751 Quakake Road).

July 31, 2024: Issued Zoning Permit for Roof top Solar at 751 Quakake Road and ran the monthly Zoning report.

Upcoming Court Hearings: *No court hearings are scheduled.

PA UCC: July 16, 2024: Application received for a roof-mounted solar array. (751 Quakake Road)

July 18, 2024: Application received for an inground swimming pool and fence. (1298 Brenkman Drive)

July 23, 2024: Permits issued and delivered to Township. (1298 Brenkman Drive)

July 26, 2024: Application received to convert attached garage to living space (12 Station Lane)

Bob-Concerning 12 Station Lane, the Zoning Officer has had discussions with the new property owner. Terry-Has anyone been in touch with the SEO on the sewage situation there? I understand the sewage is actually going into the creek. Susie-That is correct. I have notes here that I wanted to bring that up. It has to be looked into. Bob-We will have to confirm with Phil that no permits are to be issued until the sewage issues are straightened out. Terry will contact the SEO. Terry-Dulcey has been putting cabins on top of the mountain with Job-Johnny's alongside of them. Susie-What are our options there? Are we able to have someone go up and look at that? Atty. Yurchak-At one point we had somebody who went up and looked at that. Not recently, a while ago. He had allowed people to come up and look. Terry-I talked to Chip and if it's a locked gate, he can't get up there, then he needs a warrant. Atty. Yurchak-That's easy to get. I can get that for him. Susie-Can we move forward with that ASAP? Atty. Yurchak-Yes. Terry-My understanding is he is putting AirB&Bs up there. Atty. Yurchak-I have no idea, I just know there is a lot of activity. Susie-And the last time someone went up there, did he follow all the...Atty. Yurchak-I don't know when the last time Chip went up there. I know Mike Tirpak at one point went up a long time ago. I don't know how long ago. Susie-Alright, well we need somebody up there like now. Terry-You can contact Chip? Atty. Yurchak-Yes. Susie Gerhard made a motion to enter the report into the minutes and Terry Davis seconded the motion. Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0

Bill Brior – Sewage Enforcement Officer – Absent. June report-Interim inspection for Steve & Shannon Serra. A sewage complaint investigation at Oak Hill Road, Kamila Farms Trailer Park, collect lab sample, review results, issue correspondence. Maintain Township's Act 149 Files for May. Susie Gerhard made a motion to enter the report into the minutes. Terry Davis seconded the motion and Bob Selert agreed. Vote 3-0

Old Business – Ochre Mill Road bridge replacement. Bob-A change order for extra paving material brought the new total, not including the purchase or the culvert which was \$79,225, was \$250,554.77. The CDBG money left from the County is \$68,993 leaving Packer Township responsible for \$181,561.77. We had budgeted \$70,000 so we're over. I did sign the final papers just the other day for a \$100,000 grant. We sent it to Argall's office so please remember Senator Argall in the next election. His office greatly influential in getting that extra \$100,000 which does not have to come out of our general fund. We will be paying \$81,561.77 for the completed project. I made a phone call after I electronically signed the papers the other day to ask how long until we receive these funds? The person working on it says it has to go to legal for review. She said 30-60 days. Susie-Dave is coming over at the end of next week. Bob-Yes-Do you want to coordinate pictures and stuff. Susie-I already started. I'll let you know.

Fire Protection Agreement. Bob-Negotiations are ongoing. We did draw up a document, trying to make contact with the mayor because he has been our point of contact right now. As soon as we get in touch with him we will forward our document to him and hopefully it is well received.

Trimming of trees along roadways. Terry-I talked to the contractor today and they are looking at next we to start the trimming. Bob-And that was for the trimming of certain parts of Grist Mill and Wetzel Run.

Bob-In looking at the funds from the LSA grant of \$100,000 that we put in for to do culvert work on Grist Mill, and discussion with the roadmaster, we decided that we are going to do 1 through 7. One through 7 is,

they removed the aluminum pipe above Jeff Nyers. Pipes, what is marked 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are pipes in front of Dan Dietrich's across to go to the south side of the road. Number 7 is the stream that comes off the former Jim Dietrich farm, right before Wallace Way. Susie-You're talking about the pipe by Nyer's. Wasn't there a pipe just replaced. Bob-No, we put a box culvert in there. The old aluminum one is collapsing. We are not going to pave that road until everything that is collapsing is out of there. Do you have most of that stuff when you did that application? Susie-I don't have it with me. Bob-We need to huddle real quick. Mike Kukles did the pre-engineering on that so we have to get with him to say this is what we want. We also want to get a number on the pipe at Robert Kester's. From Nyer's to Wallace Way is just a little over a 1/2 mile. That would use up our \$10,000-\$20,000 per 1/10th of a mile. That would use up our paving money, \$104,000. Susie-How do you go about getting the road bonded? Atty. Yurchak-We did do some of that a while ago. We were talking about getting people to use it to provide the funds for it. Bob-What about the ordinance that says agricultural vehicles are exempt? Does that exempt them from bonding the road. Atty. Yurchak-I don't think so. I can check on it. Susie-So how far are we with that and what needs to be done to move forward? Atty. Yurchak-I think it was ready to go before, it just never got off the ground. Bob-If you could, have that ready for us for the next meeting.

New Business – Change depositor for the General Fund and the Park Fund to Mauch Chunk Trust-Stephanie-MCT will give 4.5% interest on funds. All fees are waived. I've provided the supervisors with the forms needed to create the signature cards if the change is approved. Bob Selert made a motion to change the depositor for the General and Park funds from Truist to Mauch Chunk Trust. Susie Gerhard seconded the motion and Terry Davis agreed. Vote 3-0

Bob-We did purchase a battery powered Milwaukee chain saw with a free battery today. It matches the equipment that we already have. I will give Stephanie the serial number and everything to register it with Milwaukee.

Bob Selert made a motion to approve the hire of Jason Venne for the road crew and Terry Davis seconded the motion and Susie Gerhard agreed. Vote 3-0

Correspondence-A notice was received from Mahoning Township of an appeal to the UCC Board of Appeals by the Township and Tony Caso. As the appointed member Tony will attend on August 7th. The appeal is for Valley View at Yenser's, 1950 Mahoning Drive East, Lehighton.

A Notice of Permit Correction, Surface Mining Permit No. 54920201C7 Silverbrook Operation, was received. The purpose of the correction is to change the post-closure water monitoring requirements to annual sampling.

Paul Bray asked about the appeal to the tax exempt status of Hazleton City Authority. Bob and Atty. Yurchak commented that the hearing before the Board of Assessment is at the end of the month.

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

An executive meeting was held to discuss pending litigation.

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 6:48 p.m. A total of 9 residents attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Stolpe, Packer Township Secretary/Treasurer