

HOWE TOWNSHIP
Forest County
Regular Meeting
June 12, 2019
12:30 PM

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT.

Supervisors:

Robert A. Summers, Chairman
Steven E. Tachoir, Vice Chairman
Robert E. Shaffer, Supervisor

Secretary/Treasurer

Beverly Pollock

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance recited. Guests present were Stan O'Rourke, Kay O'Rourke, Tom Zimmerman and Corporal Wolbert from the Pennsylvania State Police.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

MAY 8, 2019 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

A motion made by Tachoir and seconded by Shaffer was passed unanimously to approve the May 8, 2019 Regular meeting minutes.

MAY 2019 TREASURER'S REPORT.

A motion made by Summers and seconded by Tachoir was passed unanimously to approve the May 2019 Treasurer's report.

ROADMASTER REPORT:

Roadmaster Rory Summers was not in attendance. Secretary Bev Pollock gave an abbreviated report including the purchase of two new tires for the trailer, the request by the road crew to purchase two hand held Motorola radios with accessories for the road crew to have in vehicles and equipment not already equipped with permanent radios. Secretary Bev Pollock will research prices and availability and this will be an item on the July agenda. Two complaints were received from seasonal residents from Bean Farm Road and Alice lane about damage/washouts on both roads by a logging crew in the area. No permits have been issued for Bean Farm road. Roadmaster/Code Enforcement Officer Rory Summers will need to obtain information about the logging company doing this and advise them that they need a permit in order to operate on Township roads. The resident on Alice lane wishes to be updated on this information. The office holding tank was pumped recently but the warning light did not go out. The secretary will research who installed the unit and check with them on what should be done.

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ASSISTANT CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Secretary Bev Pollock gave a detailed report including the issuance of 2 road permits and 6 county approved building permits. One building permit had a fine attached to it because work was started before obtaining the permit. The paperwork for the small flow sewage treatment system in Brookston was submitted, the permit application is currently on hold pending issues with easements.

OLD BUSINESS:

RESCIND MOTION TO PURCHASE A FIRE PROOF FILE CABINET: A motion made by Summers and seconded by Shaffer was passed unanimously to rescind the February 13, 2019 motion to purchase a fire proof file cabinet at a cost of \$4,149.99 and to include this expense in the 2020 budget.

GARAGE FURNACE UPDATE: A motion made by Summers and seconded by Tachoir was passed unanimously to use the funds previously approved for a file cabinet toward the purchase of a new furnace for the township garage. A motion made by Summers and seconded by Shaffer was passed unanimously to hire A&B Heating to install the new furnace at the township garage as soon as it can be scheduled based on a February 2019 quote of \$\$4,620.00 plus an additional \$325.00 to have a 210,000 BTU Unit.

CLARION AMBULANCE SERVICE UPDATE: Secretary Bev Pollock reported that she spoke with all the townships in the county about the suspension of the night time ambulance coverage in Marienville by the Clarion Ambulance Service. Some townships are covered by a different service and aren't discussing this problem. Other townships feel that the decision is final and the night time coverage will not be reinstated. The secretary also spoke with the county about options to raise tax millage to cover salaries of paid ambulance services. Taxes cannot be raised more than ½ mill to do this which would not result in a significant sum and would not guarantee the return of the service to Marienville. This matter was tabled until future meetings.

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OLD BUSINESS continued:

WATSON FARM FIBER OPTIC LINE: A discussion was held about the planned work on Watson Farm Road and the Fiber optic line that is in the work area. Supervisor Steve Tachoir will contact Penn Hills Resources to see if they agree to have it removed, lowered or if we will need to bring up the road base. PA One calls were made and to date the area hasn't been marked by all recipients. There is still some concern as to whether the fiber optic line is still viable or if it is vacant. The cost for damaging a fiber optic line is significant and Kay O'Rourke stated that the owners of the line should be present for all work done. This subject will be included on the July Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no formal new business listed on the agenda for June. Corporal Wolbert from the Pennsylvania State Police attended the meeting to see if there were any issues or problems he could address in the township. The public brought up the stop sign violations at the intersection of Blue Jay Creek Road and Route 666, the speeding on Blue Jay Creek Road and tanker trucks that are operating on Blue Jay Creek road illegally in the late night or early morning hours. A question about shooting after dark was brought up and Corporal Wolbert advised that it's a difficult problem to address and enforce.

BILLS TO PAY: A motion made by Summers and seconded by Shaffer was passed unanimously to approve the June 2019 bills to be paid.

SECRETARY NOTES: Secretary Bev Pollock gave a detailed report of all happenings for the past month including the submission of the final Rocky Run Grant project paperwork, the success of this year's township cleanup day and the receipt of the timber money from the US Forest Service.

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SUPERVISOR/SECRETARY CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Summers reported that he received a call from Warren 911 about a tree down in the vicinity of Field Road and Watson Farm Road. Secretary Bev Pollock report that she received a copy of a letter from Sheffield Township sent to Ranger Fallon of the USFS about the Mayburg Bridge and the concerns about emergency vehicles not being able to cross it in an emergency.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kay O'Rourke brought up that there was one person in attendance at the township cleanup that was using excessive speed in the area, she also brought up that neither the new fire proof file cabinet nor the garage furnace was included in the 2019 budget so before the process begins for the 2020 budget they should think about large items that will be needed going forward. Secretary Bev Pollock also advised that the SRS will need to be renewed in 2020 and there is no guarantee that it will be so we need to be cautious about spending. Tom Zimmerman asked about an area of Sheffield Junction and when it will be graded. This area is actually part of the state road and also in Highland Township. Kay O'Rourke asked about grading work on Job Corps Road.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion made by Shaffer and seconded by Summers was passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 1:25PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly A. Pollock
Secretary/Treasurer