

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
UPPER BURRELL SUPERVISORS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021
MEETING ROOM, 3735 - 7TH STREET ROAD**

Board of Supervisors, Chairman, Ross Walker, called the regular meeting of the Upper Burrell Township Supervisors to order at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: The following members of Council responded to roll call:

Present: **Ross G. Walker, III, Chairman**
 Michael P. Conley, Vice Chairman
 Kenneth R. Slahtovsky, Supervisor

Also present: David Kerchner, Engineer
 Melissa A. Cortileso, Secretary
 Stephen Yakopec, Solicitor

OPENING OF BIDS – None

OPEN TO THE FLOOR –

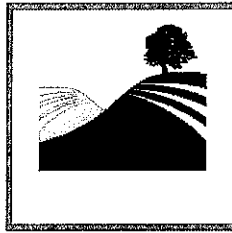
Dan Myers, 200 Barnview Drive, asked about item H under new business. The Arconic tax appeal. Solicitor Yakopec stated that based on negotiations with Arconic, Solicitor Yakopec, Burrell School District Solicitor and Westmoreland County Solicitor, the assessed value will go from 50 million to 20 million. Yakopec stated this is about \$38,792.10 loss in tax revenue. Myers asked what is the plan to try and make up for the loss in revenue. Walker stated possibly raise taxes. Myers stated maybe look into the Act 13 Impact Fees, with the new wells going in this may help trim the budget. Myers stated there is well over a 1 million in reserve. Conley stated we will look at all options.

Solicitor Yakopec brought to the attention that in the June meeting minutes it reflected that Chairman Ross Walker called the meeting to order when he was absent from that meeting, this was an administrative error.

A motion was made by Conley second by Slahtovsky to correct the minutes showing that Chairman Walker did not call the meeting to order. No comments on the floor. Motion passed 2 – 0. Walker abstained. Dan Myers stated by this error being made it shows that you do not read the minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion made by Walker, second by Slahtovsky to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2021, regular meeting. Motion passed 3-0.



CORRESPONDENCE

Vice Chairman Conley asked Mrs. Cortileso, to review the correspondence from the month. Mrs. Cortileso reviewed the items that were listed on the agenda.

ROAD REPORT – Supervisor Slahtovsky reported that most of the time spent was patching, mowing, weed whacking, trimming branches and cleaning inlets. Slahtovsky stated that Guyer Road will be used as a truck route, they are currently applying for all permits & bonds. Slahtovsky stated there is no extra room on Bethesda road with the water repairs going on.

POLICE REPORT – 111 total calls and 62 incidents. Chief Pate stated that the scam calls are still going on. If you have any questions or concerns please stop by his door is always open. Also the Chief reminded residents if you have a priority call please do not call the station and leave a message on the machine, please call 911, it could be hours before any officer returns to the station to check for messages.

EMC REPORT –

Dave Knox reported there is not a lot of activity happening. The alerts issued for the storm will deactivate at 1800 hours on 9/1/2021 and no declarations have been made. Knox reported that the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 is coming up and currently there have been no reports of any activity. Knox reported that the state is to receive around 63 million in hazard mitigation funding grant.

ENGINEERS REPORT – Dave Kerchner reported the following:

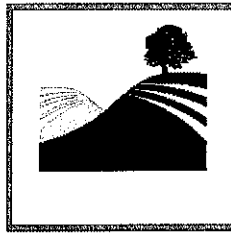
Kerchner stated the scope of the work for the Chapeldale & Dove Drive repairs started back in 2016, several years later the project was able to be funded. There were numerous other inlets that were later added to the project and there were also items taken out of the project. Total changes comes to \$23,358.71 but once the reduced scope of work is adjusted it comes to around \$8,600.31. Kerchner recommend approval of change order #2.

A motion was made by Walker seconded by Conley to approve change order #2. No comment on the floor. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Kerchner reported they did submit the grant application to PENNDOT for the storm water remediation project work on Lower Drennen Road. Kerchner stated he was also told about a grant for the same work thru the Southwest Commission. Kerchner recommend that the township also apply for this grant.

A motion was made by Walker second by Slahtovsky to have Bankson Engineers apply for the grant for the Lower Drennen Road Storm water Remediation Project thru the Southwestern PA Commission TASA Program. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Kerchner reported that they are applying for the CDBG funds thru the County for paving work in Lincoln Beach on Davis Street and Washington Blvd. they did put together a packet, however the income surveys will need to be updated and submitted, there are around 5 that are needed.



PLANNING COMMISSION

Selene Well Pad

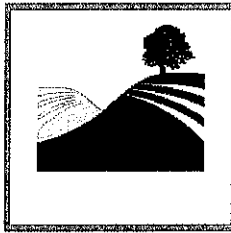
Ryan Dailey, Krista Staley, Scott Cleveland, Jeremy Burden and Jennifer Hoffman were present from Olympus Energy LLC. Ryan Dailey gave presentation with maps and surveys of the location of the well pad off of Rte. 780 across from the entrance to Arconic R & D center. After questions and answers one concern was the entrance of the driveway to the well pad was very close to the houses on Rte. 780. Possibly a fence could be put up to keep headlights from shining into their windows. The plan was reviewed by Bankson Engineers. Two problems were the highway occupancy permit not issued yet and drilling permits from PA DEP. Both items would have to be received before any work could start. After discussion, Rick Ryan moved to approve the plan contingent upon receiving the HOP and drilling permits from PA DEP, seconded by Chester Lockwood and all were in favor.

SOLICITORS REPORT –

Solicitor Yakopec reported that after the regular meeting there is a conditional use hearing on Alcoa property for a well.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. A motion was made by Conley second by Slahtovsky to appoint Alicia Gismondi Walker as the Chairman of the Recreation Committee. Motion passed 2 – 0. Walker abstained.
- B. A motion was made by Conley second by Slahtovsky to appoint Maris Trzeciak as Vice Chairman to the Recreation Committee. Motion passed 3 – 0.
- C. A motion was made by Walker second by Slahtovsky to advertise Ordinance #2-2021, adopting the Westmoreland County Model Storm Water Management Ordinance. Motion passed 3 – 0.
- D. A motion was made by Walker second by Slahtovsky to approve Resolution #12-2021, defining the contribution to the Municipal Pension Plan for the year 2022. Motion passed 2 – 0. Conley abstained.
- E. A motion was made by Walker second by Conley approve Resolution #13-2021, defining the contribution to the Police Pension Plan for the year 2022. Motion passed 3 – 0.



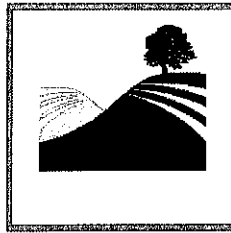
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- F. A motion was made by Walker second by Slahtovsky to have Bankson Engineers apply for the Southwestern PA Commission TASA Program for the Lower Drennen Road Stormwater Remediation Project. Motion passed 3 – 0. This was previously done under the Engineer’s report.
 - G. A motion was made by Walker second by Conley to sign and approve the change order for the extra work that was completed for the Chapeldale & Dove Drive Grade Adjustments and Paving Repairs, Contract #20-1. In the amount of \$23,358.71. Motion passed 3 – 0. This was previously done under the Engineer’s report.
 - H. A motion was made by Walker second by Conley to accept the recommendation of the Westmoreland County Tax Assessment Solicitor, Solicitor Burrell School District and Township Solicitor and approve the settlement of the Arconic tax appeal. Motion passed 3 – 0.
 - I. A motion was made by Conley second by Walker to pay and ratify all the bills and accept the financial report for the month of August 2021. Motion passed 3 – 0.

OPEN TO THE FLOOR –

Amy Cromie, 3752 Milligantown Road, stated there is a lot of tractor trailer traffic coming up and down the roads. Cromie asked if the township had any discussion with the Gas/Drilling Co. about any monetary value to those home owners along the traveled roads to have their homes cleaned. Cromie also stated that some of the roads are deteriorating. Kerchner stated that they do bond the road if damage is done and they will repair the damage, if not the surety will cover this. Kerchner stated that pre and post inspections of the roads have or will be done. Cromie again stated that she knew of homeowners in other communities who were give monetary value for dust on their homes. Conley stated that this did not happen in the past.

Amy Cromie stated her concern about the proposed driveway access to the Selene well pad. Cromie asked why the driveway has to be so close to the house. George Richard stated this was also a concern he had.

Amy Cromie asked about the survey that was discussed at last month’s meeting involving the Dollar General Store. Kerchner stated he discussed her concern with the Dollar General Engineer and stated that just today the surveyors looked into this matter and they are confident they are correct. Cromie stated that her survey shows differently. Cromie’s concern is the placement of the fence and they will be accessing the fence onto her property. Kerchner stated that this sounds like a dispute. Solicitor



Yakopec stated that based on order that each side gets it surveyed and then it becomes a battle of the surveyors, this is a private property issue between her mother and Dollar General. Kerchner provided Cromie with the Engineer for Dollar General and Yakopec stated both surveyors need to talk to each other. Cromie asked until this can be resolved can construction be stopped. Yakopec stated he does not believe it can be stopped.

Dan Myers, 200 Barnview Drive, asked why the Planning Commission grants project approval with contingencies. Why can't they say get what is needed and then it will get approved.

Rae Mason, 328 Johnson Street, asked about the creek on the Clemons property. Mason stated today that the property overflowed and there was water everywhere. Mason stated it needs cleaned out. Conley stated that the official record of rainfall as 4.23". Conley stated that is a lot of volume of water. The Fire Company did go down. The township cannot go onto private property and into the woods to fix the issue. Mason stated that the culvert further up the road from the Fox Hotel could be clogged. Conley stated he will have the road department look at the culverts.

Doug Woods, 519 Oak Lake Road, stated the drainage in that area had been repaired, however the amount of rain that comes down off the hill thru the field then under his driveway cannot be handled, and it needs to be made deeper. Conley stated that part of Oak Lake Road is PENNDOT and he will ask them to check it out.

Paul Kaczor, 1024 Merwin Road, asked if anything can be done about all of the truck traffic on Merwin Road. Kaczor stated there are no lines painted on the road and also there are about 2 – 3 spots where the road is caving in. Conley stated they will let PENNDOT know. Chief Pate stated a while back when the road was seal coated he did go back forth with PENNDOT about getting the lines painted. PENNDOT replied this road had been removed from the line painting program.

Jeff Ewing, 201 Stoney Hill Road, asked if while contacting PENNDOT could you also ask them to clean the berms on Stoney Hill Road, all the water run off comes onto his property.

Brock White, 282 Mosaic Blvd., stated that since the paving project in Lincoln Beach the drainage along the road keeps getting deeper and is now becoming more like a ravine. White stated the whole length of Mosaic Blvd., has a big lip on the road and now there is a trench between the road and grassy area. Conley stated he will have the road department take a look.

Harry Knull, 1028 Merwin Road, asked if the 10 ton weight limit on Merwin Road could be enforced. Chief Pate stated this would have to come from someone certified with the State Police.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Walker, second by Conley to adjourn, meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Melissa A. Cortileso,

Note*** Next monthly meeting, will be held on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m.