DATE: Thursday, March 7, 2024

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: 9 Township Rd., Tamaqua,

ATTENDEES: Craig Wagner, Chairman

Kent Heisler, Vice – Chair

OTHER: Chad Felty, Roadmaster

Chris Riedlinger, Solicitor

Ann Ostergaard, Secretary

**The board went into executive session at the beginning of the meeting to discuss personnel matters from 6:69 pm to 7:15 pm.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Dave Bensinger asked again about the use of Steven Horst pole building. He believes they are operating an illegal use of business on the property. Horst has an excavating business and houses his equipment on the property. He also complained about the Burkholder butcher shop. We will contact ARRO regarding this. Rob Jennings from the New England Fire Co came to express concern over getting more funds from the township for fire company expenses. He stated a set of gear is now $7000 and we have budgeted $4,000.00. The fire company would like the township to raise the fire tax millage.

MINUTES: Craig Wagner made a motion and Kent Heisler seconded it to approve the February minutes. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Kent Heisler made a motion and Craig Wagner seconded it to approve the January and February treasurer’s report. Motion carried. Craig Wagner made a motion and Kent Heisler seconded it to approve the February bills to be paid March 7. Motion carried.

ROADMASTER REPORT:

* Chad was contacted J.L. Logging who will be doing the timber job on the state game lands along Wildcat Road. They wanted to know if any bonding would be needed because access to the site is along the Wildcat Road which has a weight restriction. Chris suggested we do an excess road usage agreement. He can draw it up.
* The pressure washer is in but will need an electrical hookup. The men’s room needs a new toilet.
* Cutting edges are needed for the snow plow. Also, Chad is looking to get coal chutes for the dump trucks to aid in pot hole repair.
* Chad needs to order 162 ton of salt to satisfy the minimum order for the 23-24 salt contract. The 24-25 salt contract needs to be signed by March 15. It was decided they will contract for 270 ton at $82.04 a ton. Craig Wagner made a motion and Kent Heisler seconded it. Motion carried. Over the summer there will repairs made to the salt shed.
* The bridge inspection meeting took place and it went well.
* Chad will coordinate with supervisors to schedule the road inspection. At that time, they will decide what road projects will be done this season as well as the line painting.
* The 96 Ford 350 auction on Municibid closed at $7200. It was below the $8000 reserve. The supervisors decided not to accept this bid and bid it out again with the same reserve.
* There are 12 park rentals for this season so far.
* Chad is still having sight distant issues with the GLM properties driveway on the last inspection. More vegetation needs to be cleared.

POLICE REPORT: No police report. It was discussed police coverage will be needed for the township. Ann will run an ad in the newspaper for part time help. Ann will contact Doug for a list of equipment and status of payment for the police software.

ASSISTANT ZONING REPORT: Ann gave the report. One permit was issued for solar panels and one application received for a shed.

SOLICITOR REPORT: Chris discussed the ordinance which would need to be adopted in order for the fire company to participate in insurance fund recovery for some costs during responses. PA Fire Recovery Service is a company who the fire company could contract with and they will take care of dealing with the insurance companies. Chad will contact this company and Chris will prepare the necessary ordinance for next meeting.

PARK COMMISSION REPORT: DCNR has given preliminary approval for the bid to go out for the remainder of the park renovation project. The bid is ready to be advertised for installation of the new equipment, paving of the handicap pathway and parking spaces and mulching of the new play area. Craig Wagner made a motion and Kent Heisler seconded to advertise the bid package. It then can be opened and voted on at the April meeting. Motion carried.

TAX REPORTS: No tax reports but bills have been sent.

NEFC: Chad stated a new set of gear will be ordered. He went over the list of fundraisers the fire company has planned over the next months.

OLD BUSINESS AND NEW BUSINESS was all discussed during committee reports.

CORRESPONDENCE: Ann reviewed he correspondence folder.

No further business to discuss the board adjourned at 8:38 pm. Craig Wagner made a motion and Kent Heisler seconded it. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted by:

Ann Ostergaard

Walker Township Secretary