

VALLEY TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MINUTES
December 12, 2012

Attendance:

Chairman & Road Foreman, Gary Derr, Co-chairman, Walt Rupert, Supervisor/Secretary Judy Achy, Solicitor Robert Buehner & Zoning Officer, George Plafcan. Public was represented by Mike Kull, Valley Township Fire Chief, Paul Yankovich of NRCS (Conservation District Office), township resident, Jo Pennypacker and Danville News Reporter, Karen Blackledge.

Call to Order:

Chairman Gary Derr called the meeting to order @ 7:00 p.m. with all in attendance reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of November 14, 2012 made by Judy, 2nd by Gary and motion approved unanimously.

Citizens' Comments: Mr. Paul Yankovich from the conservation office was in attendance together with Jo Pennypacker because of a bidding process to shore up the creek bank with riprap @ the Pennypacker residence that was done through the township as sponsor but will be paid through Federal and State monies. Mrs. Pennypacker will also be reimbursing the township for the advertising which was \$129.20. The bid results are as follows:

Bid Results for Pennypacker Project

Bidders for Pennypacker Project:	7 Bids:
The Chowns Group 2053 Cressman Road Skippack, PA 19474 (610)584-0240	\$17,850 ***Low Bidder
Dave Gutelius Excavating, Inc. 291 N. Eighth Street Mifflinburg, PA 17844 – 966-3727	\$52,000
Knorr Used Equipment, Inc. 7295 Old Berwick Road Bloomsburg, PA 17815-759-0813 Email-joshknorr17815@gmail.com	\$23,360
Kobalt Construction, Inc. 5393 Development Park Dr., Ste 2 Pocono Summit, PA 18346-570-895-4613	\$79,000
Mid-State Paving, LLC-837-5251	

2991 Paxtonville Road, PO 366
Paxtonville 17861 (Middleburg) \$29,060

Neal Lynn, Inc.
254 Charles Street
Luzerne, PA 18709 – 570-287-6301 \$42,349.64

Rosencrans Excavating, Inc.
P.O. Box 519, Benton, PA 17814
570-925-5874 \$45,200.50

Motion was made by Walt Rupert, 2nd by Judy Achy to award the bid to Chowns Group as the low bidder and motion passed unanimously. Mr. Paul Yankovich from the NRCS (204-0777) was going to contact Chowns Group directly to confirm their bid.

Reports:

(1)

Fire Department –Mike Kull reported that there had been 13 incidents reported during November with seven of those calls being motor vehicle accidents. Mike shared with the supervisors a very nice note of appreciation from Mr. Luke Martin regarding a fire on his combine on November 12 on Church Hill Road. Mr. Martin was impressed with fire chief, Mike Kull, in that he cared enough to stop by the next morning and he felt that the fire department was considerate in that they removed the shields from the combine without damaging them as well as disconnecting batteries and shutting off the fuel supply. He was quite impressed with the level of service that Valley Township Fire Company offered to him even with the disappointment of suffering this fire. Mr. Martin also gave a generous donation to the fire company to thank them for their competence.

(2)

Planning Commission – At the Planning Commission Meeting on December 5 it was reported that Randy Shearer presented the review by the Montour County Conservation Office, Larson Design Group and PennDot. The issues each agency listed were explained and discussed along with a possible resolution. PennDot listed 4 items, Montour County Conservation listed 8 issues and Larson Design listed 5-Subdivision and Land Development comments, 6 Zoning Ordinance issues, 8 Stormwater Management comments and 4 General plan comments. Randy indicated at the next Valley Township Sewer Authority meeting, they will request three EDU's for the site. A note from Supervisor Judy Achy informed the commission that our solicitor indicated only a land development fee can be charged and no additional charge for adding properties together. No further action was taken at that time.

(3)

Solicitor –Mr. Buehner reported that he will be drawing up the necessary paperwork to abandon a section of Gotschall Road as Wayne Hildebrand has taken care of the surveyor work for this abandonment. Mr. Buehner is also drawing up the paperwork for the easement on Creek Road.

(4)

Zoning Officer –George Plafcan has reported that the Zoning Officer truck has been retired and advertisement will be placed in a local newspaper for bids to be opened at the Supervisors Meeting on January 7, 2013. Hopefully a replacement for the truck can be found through the State Surplus.

(5)

Municipal Authority –Mr. Buehner reviewed the possible regionalization of the sewer authority. He indicated that there is continued discussion with Danville Borough. The Municipal Authority has held off making payment for the requested \$5000 for engineering fees until some answers are received from Danville Borough. The Municipal Authority will keep us notified.

(6)

Road Foreman/Equipment Report – Gary Derr reported that they have getting the trucks ready for the winter weather. Walt Rupert thanked the Road Crew for the nice job they did two weeks ago during the snow storm. Matt Derr built the new light bar for the '98 Mack saving the township a great deal of money getting it done elsewhere.

(7)

SEO – Nothing to report from Jim Sanders. Gary asked Bob Buehner the status of having Jim Sanders follow through with the properties at 5 Columbia Hill Road and corner of Trump and Creek Road. Bill Toth had started these two projects but to date (over a year and a half ago) have not had any follow-up from Mr. Toth. Mr. Buehner reported that it would be fine for Mr. Sanders to go in there fresh. Mr. Buehner was going to follow-up directly with Bill Toth regarding the need to have all records sent to Valley Township as they need to be made part of our files.

Old Business:

Sunnybrook Park – Walt Rupert reported the supervisors met with Sunnybrook Park Board on December 10 and many issues were discussed including the fact that the supervisors are willing to work with the park. The park had also requested to be reimbursed \$10,089 in operating expenses. Research of the township minutes showed a previous Board of Supervisors in 2001 had approved up to \$10,000 for three consecutive years to help the park with expenses for filters and pumps. Since then the township has continued to give Sunnybrook Park up to \$10,000 yearly. ***Motion by Walt, 2nd by Judy to donate a one-time contribution of \$2500 from the 2012 budget and motion approved unanimously.*** Valley Township will also continue to help out with in-kind work whenever requested. Walt will be meeting with the Sunnybrook Park Board on Thursday, December 20, 2012. A check in the amount of \$2,897 for the park's portion of the FEMA monies from the 2011 flood had been sent and received by Darla Gill.

New Business:

Judy reported that a request had been shared at the Montour County Council of Government Meetings that very possibly the townships could be helping out with the expenses from the Senior Center which is housed in Danville Borough. This is actually run through the Area Agency on Aging and no longer goes through the counties per Bob Buehner. Judy will obtain more information from the COG.

Thomas Beaver Library has asked for a donation from Valley Township as they have done in the past. *Motion by Judy, 2nd by Gary to donate what we have in the past (\$500) and motion passed unanimously.*

Motion to approve the 2013 Valley Township Budget made by Judy, 2nd by Gary and motion passed unanimously. Motion to keep taxes and rates as in the past made by Judy, 2nd by Gary and motion passed unanimously. Taxes will remain .454 to include .265 for the general fund; .164 for the fire fund and .025 for the equipment fund.

Walt Rupert reported that Klein Road is in fantastic shape since the upgrades. Recently a car left the roadway and went through Butch and Linda Lee's property. Walt asked Mr. Buehner if the township would be responsible if the township should place large rock in their yard and a driver again would leave the roadway and hit the large rock in their yard and Mr. Buehner indicated the township would not be liable for damages to that car or driver.

Approval of Bills:

Motion to pay the bills made by Judy, 2nd by Walt and motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Motion by Walt to adjourn @ 8:25, 2nd by Judy and motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Achy
Valley Township Supervisor/Secretary