

VALLEY TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

August 13, 2014

Attendance:

Chairman Gary Derr, Co-chairman Walt Rupert, Supervisor/Secretary Judy Achy, Zoning Officer Mike Kull & Solicitor Robert Buehner. Public was represented by Ernie Wright, Gerald Buckley, Joel & Matt Gum 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 July 9, 2014 made by Walt, 2nd by Judy and motion approved unanimously.

Citizens' Comments:

Ernie Wright came as a concerned township resident regarding the property @ 30 Bull Run Road where he indicated there are currently 9 vehicles, 6 of which are unlicensed or inspected. Per Bob Buehner, in order for junk cars to be deemed a nuisance, they must be attracting rodents, then they can become a nuisance and he indicated if no nuisance can be documented, then the township cannot address the issue. Bob also indicated that under zoning, this could be considered a junk yard and then one would need to put up screening or fencing in order to contain the junked vehicles.

Gerald Buckley came as a concerned township resident regarding the active membership of the Valley Township Fire Department. Gerald felt that Mike is doing a good job with what he has but is concerned that there are not enough active volunteers and he knows it is very difficult to recruit volunteers in order to help. He feels if the membership does not increase, we should seriously consider consolidation. Liberty Fire Department has been routinely helping Valley with their manpower. Mike indicated they do visit the schools and try to encourage the youth to become involved with their local fire departments and they are currently involved with a summer camp for the youth which goes over the next two days. Joel Gum spoke in support of the fire department indicating that it is disheartening to hear of the criticism and not the willingness to step up and help out with the situation. He indicated that 90% of the fire departments have the same manpower issues. There is certainly a need for "team workers". Jerry was told that Mike has already signed on for a webinar to be held on October 8 regarding recruitment and retention of fire department volunteers.

Reports:

(1)

Fire Department –Chief Mike Kull reported on the Summer Camp which began today and will run through the next two days. Mike also gave a fire department report to the supervisors.

(2)

Planning Commission – The Planning Commission met on August 6. The only business that was conducted was for the subdivision plans for the Gum Irrevocable Grantor Trust. The subdivided Lot #1 will contain 1.02 Ac and the residual lot will contain 1.14Ac. Application was complete and fees have been paid. There is an existing R/O way to a property owned by Maureen Dennen. This will access Mrs. Dennen's property and Lot #1 and is an existing 16' R/O way that has been grand fathered as it exists. Setbacks are shown and a key on the plan explains the required distances, the commission did not require the plans to be altered. A motion was made by Richard to accept the plans as presented followed by a 2nd by Dan, motion passed.

Both Joel and Matt Gum were in attendance at tonight's Supervisors Meeting as Mike Kull, Zoning Officer, presented the Gum Irrevocable Grantor Trust subdivision plans to the Board. ***Motion by Walt Rupert, 2nd by Judy Achy to accept the plans as submitted and motion passed unanimously.***

Solicitor – Bob Buehner indicated that he would prepare a legal advertisement regarding the proposed road abandonment and get it to Judy so that she can forward to the Danville News.

(4)

Zoning Officer – Mike Kull reported that he only wrote 1 or 2 permits during the past month. He did have a call regarding high weeds on a property. He indicated that there are several properties on the list that he is keeping an eye on which include 30 Bull Run Road and two properties on McCracken Road.

(5)

Municipal Authority – Judy gave to the Board the minutes from the previous Municipal Authority meeting.

(6)

Road Foreman/Equipment Report – Gary Derr reported that they had to place a windshield in the new dump truck and they ordered tires for the grader. They have been trimming brush and placing pipes on Hess Hill Road. They have been in the process of getting the spreaders ready for winter.

(7)

SEO – There has been no word from Jim Sanders. Judy will send him a note asking about the status of 5 Columbia Hill Road.

Old Business or New Business:

Motion by Walt, 2nd by Judy to appoint resident, John Derr, to the Zoning Hearing Board as of August 13, 2014 and motion carried with Gary Derr abstaining from voting.

There were two bids submitted for the Hess Hill Project and they were from Mid State Paving @ \$40,020 and Eastern Industries @ \$39,810 (difference of \$210). ***Motion by Judy, 2nd by Walt to accept the low bid from Eastern Industries for the Hess Hill Road work and motion passed unanimously.***

Approval of Bills: *Motion by Judy, 2nd by Walt to pay the bills and motion passed unanimously.*

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Achy
Valley Township Supervisor/Secretary