

VALLEY TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

August 14, 2019

Attendance:

Chairman Gary Derr, Supervisor Mike Kull, Zoning Officer Fred Shappell & Secretary, Judy Achy. Public was represented by David Fox, John Derr, Judi West from Municipal Authority, John Fenstermacher, Carl & Mary Narbor, Patricia Campbell, Rick Koch, Paul & Donna Wydra, Maribeth Vernon, Gaye Fedder, Amy Temmel, Kathy Billas, Tammy Berg and Karen Blackledge of the Danville News.

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 10, 2019 made by Mike, 2nd by Gary and motion approved.

Citizens' Comments: Rick Koch of 55 Valley Green Drive has lived at his current location since December of 1992 and he has never had an issue with the services of Valley Township until recently when he has seen that the entrance road is getting to be in a very nasty situation. He understands that the roads with the more traffic get priority, but he is asking about attention to Thistle Way. Gary reported that there are more stringent rules now in relationship to roads and if that development were built today, the township would never have accepted taking over the roads. The average homeowner pays approximately \$100 of their yearly tax bill to Valley Township and we do not get enough liquid funds monies to take care of all of the township roads that need attention so they really need to be prioritized. Some of their community residents asked if there would be grant monies available but Mike responded they would not come into play for this project. The residents felt that the winter coverage was great but the entrance to their community is atrocious. Gary indicated that the first thing that needs to be addressed there is the drainage as there is virtually none in place. Gary also told the group that the largest cost in updating roads is the blacktop.

The community residents went on to ask about the brush that was cut back in Valley Green. They indicated that "it was left a mess". They felt that at least the road could have been cleared out. Gary indicated that with all of the complaints received from the brush cutting in that area, it would not be considered again. The residents indicated that they would be happy to offer a "big cleanup day" and Mike indicated that they could take it to the Old Wire Rope location but this is not to say that we are starting a precedent.

Another question came up about the Valley Green guidelines and Valley Township Zoning Ordinance. If what is in a deed is more stringent (in Valley Green), this would be a civil matter between you and whomever. This does not involve Valley Township. Also as for snow removal, the plow trucks normally get to Valley Green around 5 or 6 a.m. but

at that point, they are just making sure all roads are open and come back and get it cleared out when time allows.

Reports:

(1)

Fire Department – Chief Mike Kull reported that there were 13 calls for the month of July.

(2)

Planning Commission – Fred Shappell reported that Edward & Lori Rothermel submitted a subdivision plan for their property at 218 Valley West Road but that is currently on hold. Fred also reported that the Planning Commission also had a request to swap a strip of land from one to another but no action has been taken and a conditional use is currently being looked at on Betty Yoder's property.

(3)

Solicitor – Solicitor not in attendance.

(4)

Zoning Officer – Zoning Officer Fred Shappell reported that 4 residential zoning permits were granted during the month of July as well as a Right to Know Request regarding taxes.

(5)

Municipal Authority – Judi West reported that all seems to be going well with the exception of the Degreen property in Mausdale as they currently owe \$3,423.95 & the Supervisors suggested they seek guidance from Marv Shrawder, district magistrate. The Municipal Authority also asked Judi to ask about a donation from the Valley Township Fire Company due to the loss of water when the fire companies do their hose testing. Mike indicated that the only two Fire Departments that used any of the Valley Township Municipal Authority Waters were Valley and Washingtonville and took offense at this request. Judi apologized and said she was only the messenger. Judy Achy asked what those monies would be for the 10,000 gallons & Judi said she would try and find out.

(6)

Road Foreman/Equipment Report – Gary indicated no problems with equipment and they have been working on Welliver Road and mowing. Gary reported that Klein Road will be closed 3 hours between 9 a.m. and noon on Monday, August 19 (if weather allows) and the traffic would need to use the road to Mooresburg due to a collapsed pipe

(7)

SEO – No word from SEO.

Old Business: Nothing new on Days Inn and the very best solution would be if this property were to sell which Fred indicated there has been some interest.

New Business: There was a request from the Milton Harvest Festival Bike Race to use a portion of Valley Township Roads on 9/14, and ***motion by Mike, 2nd by Gary to approve this request and motion passed.***

Gary reported that he received an estimate from LRJ Enterprises for repairs to the main entrance of Valley Green Development with a cost of \$25,200. Gary assumes the cost for the township to put in the drainage would be in the range of \$7,000. After much

discussion, *motion by Mike, 2nd by Gary to hopefully take care of the Valley Green entrance by the end of this calendar year and motion passed.*

Gary reported that Wayne was up and surveyed Beyers/Artley/Roup Road and he indicated that he got the signed agreement from both Ron and Lucinda Beyers.

Mike gave an update on the radios – The system has to be replaced and the Montour County Commissioners have been doing a good job to get resolution. If we would do a stand-alone, it would cost Montour County 25 million but if we go with starnet which is States Radio Network which the Pa State Police have been using and are pleased with, the cost would now be 10 million. The equipment is very expensive and the Montour County Commissioners have been negotiating with Motorola where they can get 60 to 70% off the cost. Valley Township can replace our radios with the county agreeing to pay \$18,500 and Mike was wondering if the township would be in agreement to participate toward this. *Motion by Gary, 2nd by Mike to put \$9,500 toward this and motion carried.*

Approval of Bills: *Motion by Mike to pay the bills, 2nd by Gary and motion passed.*

Adjournment:

Motion by Gary to adjourn @ 9:05, 2nd by Mike and motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Achy, Valley Township Secretary