

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 2, 2007

A special meeting of the Conemaugh Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:16 p.m. on January 2, 2007 by Chairman Calvin Gindlesperger. Board members present were Calvin Gindlesperger, Chairman, Wayne Kauffman, Vice-Chairman, and David Hart, Secretary/Treasurer. Solicitor James Beener was present.

Pledge to the Flag.

### FLOOR OPENED TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

**Alice Trinder** of 156 Somerset Avenue, Jerome requested something be done about the crime happening in Jerome. She stated there were various incidents of vandalism, including tires being punctured, and burglaries. Mrs. Trinder noted they had requested a curfew be enacted this past spring, but nothing was done. She proceeded to read a quote from the newspaper earlier in the year where Chief Jackson had said a curfew could be looked into, but only if there was a uniform ordinance throughout the municipalities that the police department patrols. Mrs. Trinder wanted to know who he thought he was to say what they did not need. She wanted something done about the kids running at night and committing crimes. She wanted to know what was done with the crimes they committed. Mr. Hart stated the Supervisors would have to discuss this with the police; noting that the Supervisors create the ordinances and the police have to enforce them. Solicitor Beener asked if the crimes were reported to the police. Mrs. Trinder answered, yes, and that she also called the State Police, but was informed it was the Township's jurisdiction.

**Eric Ewing** of Railroad Street, Jerome said kids vandalized his house at night by rolling tires down a hill into his siding, denting it. He stated there were various tires slashed and thefts occurring, which were all reported to the police. Mr. Ewing noted that when he asked a police officer what was being done about the crimes, he was told he did not need to know everything, and was asked how did he know whether or not the kids were caught. He requested nighttime patrolling by the police—they should not be sitting at coffee places, talking, and waiting for a call. Mr. Ewing said kids were walking down the streets of Jerome smoking marijuana; and also, someone had been selling drugs out of a house in Jerome. Chairman Gindlesperger stated the Supervisors would discuss this matter with the police officers. Mrs. Trinder noted that there were also four-wheelers running on the road. Solicitor Beener asked Mr. Ewing if his residence was in the same area as Mrs. Trinder's. Mr. Ewing answered, yes, and further stated he knew who the kids were who damaged his house and he had told the police—they came from the other side of town. Solicitor Beener asked him if he was aware of when the tires were rolling down the hill toward his house—did he call 911. He wanted to know if the police responded in a timely fashion. Mr. Ewing answered that he did not call 911; he was unclear as to what was happening at the time.

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In another matter, Mr. Ewing wanted to make the Supervisors aware of the hazardous condition of the wooden footbridge in Jerome going from Railroad Street to the Post Office. He indicated that it had been metal at one point, but the ditch was dug up to get the vegetation out, the metal bridge was removed, and the Supervisors installed a wooden one in its place. Mr. Ewing stated someone was going to get hurt on that bridge and could sue the Township since they installed that bridge. Mr. Hart noted that this bridge was on private property, and he did talk to the property owner about it. Mr. Ewing again stated the Township put this bridge in about twelve

years ago and the Supervisors would be responsible, at least partly, if someone was hurt. He noted that the other bridge down further was metal and in good condition. Solicitor Beener asked if both bridges were used, and would it be a hardship if they were removed. Mr. Ewing answered that they were both used heavily, and that people would have to go down to the fire hall to cross over if the bridges were removed. It was noted that there was approximately 100 yards between the two bridges. Solicitor Beener asked how these bridges originally got there. Mr. Ewing answered that thirty years ago the Township installed the metal bridges as walking bridges. About ten or twelve years ago the State was dredging the ditch out and removed the one bridge, but stopped short of the other one. The Township then installed a wooden bridge where the one had been removed. He requested that the Township put something down on the wooden bridge temporarily so someone would not get injured, noting that a lot of elderly individuals use this bridge. Mr. Ewing again stated this could somehow come back on the Township.

**Alice Trinder** asked who the dog enforcer was for the Township. Mr. Hart informed her the County was—she should call the police department and they would call the County dog officer. Solicitor Beener noted most municipalities did not have dog enforcement officers. Mr. Ewing stated the County's dog enforcement position was vacant at this time.

#### **MINUTES:**

There was a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Kauffman, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 20, 2006. Roll call vote: Mr. Hart – yes, Mr. Kauffman – yes, and Mr. Gindlesperger – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **OPEN & ACCEPT BID(S) FOR GASOLINE:** Chairman Gindlesperger opened the only bid received, which was from The Lockard Company (Pacific Pride) of Indiana, PA. The bid was for regular unleaded gasoline with the OPIS Altoona Average as of 12/15/06 being used **MINUTES OF JANUARY 2, 2007 SPECIAL MEETING CONTINUED.**

at 1.68556. The firm add-on cost was .057; net bid being 1.74256 per gallon. Mr. Hart stated the price per gallon would fluctuate up and down with the changes in the OPIS rate. The following sites were listed for the card system usage: Scalp Avenue, Johnstown, Napoleon Street, Johnstown, Nees Avenue, Johnstown, Route 56, Johnstown, and Route 403 – Copper Avenue, Johnstown. It was noted the Township would use the Route 403 location, and would use a two-card system. Mr. Hart noted that the Township was currently purchasing gasoline at Moore's Gas Station at \$2.39 per gallon since the Township's gas system broke down last month. There was a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gindlesperger, to accept the bid for the purchase of regular unleaded gasoline from The Lockard Company for the year 2007 using a two-card purchasing system at a rate of 1.74256 per gallon, which would fluctuate according to the OPIS rate. Roll call vote: Mr. Hart – yes, Mr. Gindlesperger – yes, and Mr. Kauffman – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **RESOLUTION R01-07:** There was a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Kauffman, adopting Resolution R01-07 amending the Service Fee Schedule for the administration of the PA Uniform Construction Code. Roll call vote: Mr. Hart – yes, Mr. Kauffman – yes, and Mr. Gindlesperger – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Township Supervisors would be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Hart, to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Submitted by,

David A. Hart, Secretary/Treasurer