

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Conemaugh Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on September 21, 2011 by Chairman Steven Buncich. Board members present were Steven Buncich, Chairman, and Wayne Kauffman, Vice-Chairman. Albert Zuccolotto, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, was absent. Solicitor William Barbin was present.

Pledge to the Flag.

### **FLOOR OPENED TO PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ON AGENDA:**

None.

### **NOTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE & WORK SESSIONS:**

None.

### **MINUTES:**

There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Buncich, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of August 24, 2011. Roll call vote: Mr. Kauffman – yes, Mr. Buncich – yes, and Mr. Zuccolotto – absent. Motion carried, one absent.

### **BILLS:**

There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Buncich, to pay the bills for the month of September 2011 in the amount of \$86,217.89 for the General Fund, \$15,586.83 for the Liquid Fuels Fund, \$253,198.87 for the Sewer Fund. Roll call vote: Mr. Kauffman – yes, Mr. Buncich – yes, and Mr. Zuccolotto – absent. Motion carried, one absent.

### **POLICE REPORTS:**

The police report as submitted by Chief Louis Barclay for the month of August 2011 for the Conemaugh Township Police Department was available for review. Total reported incidents/complaints were 196. There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Buncich, to accept the police report as submitted for the month of August 2011. Roll call vote: Mr. Kauffman – yes, Mr. Buncich – yes, and Mr. Zuccolotto – absent. Motion carried, one absent.

### **PERSONS TO BE HEARD:**

1. **Joe Stevens** – Sewer Department - Mr. Stevens requested an update on the McKool lawsuit. Solicitor Barbin stated there was nothing new; Mr. McKool had until September 24, 2011 to file an appeal to the Supreme Court.

Mr. Stevens stated he had been told there were missing sewer maps, but he could not confirm it. He referred to the Jerome Sanitary Sewer Project where there were 4” lines installed instead of 6”. Mr. Stevens wanted to know if someone knowledgeable had been in charge of that project. Solicitor Barbin stated that the Township did that sewer project and Russ McCauliff had been the sewer department manager at that time. He further stated that the engineering firm on that project had inspectors for the project. Mr. Stevens noted that for the Davidsville Sanitary Sewer Project sewer lines were miss-located and he was still dealing with that.

Mr. Stevens felt it should be standard procedure to pay tap in fees first, like he had to do, before anyone could tap into the sewer system, and the connection should be inspected before it was covered. He wanted to know if every tap-in was inspected. Chairman Buncich stated they were to the best of his knowledge. Mr. Stevens asked if maps were kept on those. Chairman Buncich

## **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2011 MEETING CONTINUED.**

stated a sketch was made of each lateral connection which the Sewer Department kept.. Mr. Stevens wanted to know if those sketches were open to the public. Solicitor Barbin stated a really good reason had to be established for the public to see those private property sketches.

Mr. Stevens wanted to know how the Township knew if everyone paid their tap fee. Solicitor Barbin stated that a person must tap into the sewer system and pay the tap fee. If the tap fee was not paid, they still had to tap in. Solicitor Barbin noted that those were two entirely separate matters. He further stated that liens could be placed on a person's property for the tap fee, but it was up to the judgment of the Supervisors regarding the best investment of Township money.

Mr. Stevens wanted to know who was responsible in letting Mr. McKool get away with not paying his tap fee. Solicitor Barbin stated it was a prior Supervisor, but reiterated that there were two separate things here. Chairman Buncich noted that each lot at Pine Crest was already connected to the main system at Pine Crest.

Mr. Stevens stated that he was being told that the sketches of laterals had been lost. He wanted to know who the inspector was, who was responsible – was it Albert. He was answered, no, it was not Albert. Township employees inspected the laterals on the current sewer project. It was stated that the records should be in the Sewer Department. Mr. Stevens asked if this could be checked into and an answer brought back for the next meeting. Solicitor Barbin stated he would do that and send him a letter with the answer.

2. **Kathleen Wallace** – Pine Crest Water Meter Readings – Not present.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. A letter was received from the Conemaugh Township Fire Company Ideal/Krings Station 610 requesting the Township's assistance with installing an automated signal control at the Tire Hill traffic light. Chairman Buncich explained he was working with Minahan Sign Company to have three signals show red, and to show green on the signal for the fire company during fire calls in order to avoid an accident at that intersection.

2. A letter was received from the Conemaugh Township Youth League thanking the Supervisors for all their assistance.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **INSIGHT PIPE CONTRACTING L.P. QUOTE:** Chairman Buncich explained that the Township was performing televising of the sanitary sewer line to cut down on infiltration. He said this was an emergency situation where heavy rains had caused flooding; therefore prior approval had been given to have this area televised. There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Buncich, to ratify the September 13, 2011 approval of the quote received from Insight Pipe Contracting L.P. to televise a 12" sanitary sewer line located along Rte. 403 & Rt. 601 in Davidsville/Hollisopple at a minimum cost of \$1,075.00 (5 hours). Roll call vote: Mr. Kauffman – yes, Mr. Buncich – yes, and Mr. Zuccolotto – absent. Motion carried, one absent.

## **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2011 MEETING CONTINUED.**

2. **ORDINANCE NO. 683:** There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Buncich, to adopt Ordinance No. 683, a fourth amendment to the Police Pension Plan of January 1, 1989, pertaining to early retirement benefits. Roll call vote: Mr. Kauffman – yes, Mr. Buncich – yes, and Mr. Zuccolotto – absent. Motion carried, one absent.

3. **FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT:** There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, to approve the CTMA to replace the fire hydrant located at 1464 Tire Hill Road near the Conemaugh Township Intermediate School, which was too low to use, at a cost of \$2,679.83, not including labor. Chairman Buncich stated that he would like to look into this further with the fire company to see if this would be money well-spent. The motion died for the lack of a second.

4. **ADDITIONAL PART-TIME POLICE OFFICERS:** Chief Barclay was requesting the hiring of a minimum of two additional part-time police officers due to scheduling issues. There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Buncich, to approve the hiring of two additional part-time police officers due to scheduling issues. Roll call vote: Mr. Kauffman – yes, Mr. Buncich – yes, and Mr. Zuccolotto – absent. Motion carried, one absent.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. **Update on the matter regarding the development of Laurel View Village.** – Solicitor Barbin stated he had received a letter from Attorney Dan Rullo (LVV Attorney) advising that they were in the process of having a PRD map prepared and that David Mishler, Executive Director of LVV, would be out of the Country until September 30, 2011; therefore they were requesting an extension of two weeks regarding the timeline in this matter. Solicitor Barbin had sent a letter back approving the two week extension until October 17, 2011. He said he was not sure how things would go, but a public hearing was required before the Zoning Hearing Board and it could end up in litigation. Solicitor Barbin felt the Township was being reasonable with the two week extension. Joe Marisa, Jr. voiced various objections in this matter. Solicitor Barbin stated that the Township did not want to just go in and shut someone down.

### **FLOOR OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL:**

**Joe Marisa, Jr.** of Stone Hollow wanted to know how certain residences in Carpenters Park could have sewage running out onto other property without tapping into the sewer system. It was noted there were no sewers in that area. Mr. Marisa stated that there were septic tanks there. Solicitor Barbin stated that the Township would respond to complaints concerning this, but would not just go out searching for this. If a complaint was made, the Township would send out the Sewage Enforcement Officer.

Mr. Marisa asked what was going on with the EMS; they had requested one mill of taxes from the Township. Chairman Buncich stated that he had received a telephone call notifying him that they were struggling, but there was nothing in writing. Mr. Marisa stated that the comment was made that the roads were more important. Chairman Buncich stated that the Township could put on a mill of taxes for EMS, one mill for the fire companies, and one mill for the roads, but then no one would want to live in the Township anymore – how could the Township fund everything. He stated that he had contacted the State Representative who had said that the State was pushing for county-wide fire and EMS. Brian Shoff commented that there was a lot of consolidation going on. Chairman Buncich noted that the Township finances were not a bottomless pit.

## **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2011 MEETING CONTINUED.**

**Neil Marisa** of Hollsopple asked about his request for permission to route Greater Johnstown public water alongside the Covered Bridge Road, from Govier Lane down to 257 Farm Lane in the Township's right-of-way; a total distance of 2200 feet from public water to the entrance of their lane. Chairman Buncich apologized stating that it had inadvertently been taken off the Agenda for tonight. He stated the Supervisors had to look at this. Solicitor Barbin stated that the Township could approve this request, and would need to issue a Highway Occupancy Permit. Chairman Buncich stated Mr. Marisa would need a plan, noting that he was not doing this work until spring.

**Elsie Turous** of Tire Hill Road wanted to complain about the "lights" installed by PennDOT on the Krings Bridge. Chairman Buncich stated that PennDOT never said they would put in lights, just reflectors. Ms. Turous said the reflectors were not enough. Chairman Buncich stated he would make another call to PennDOT informing them of the complaints regarding the need for better lighting on that bridge.

**Joe Stevens** of Hollsopple asked for more explanation regarding Item #1 regarding the televising of sewer lines. Chairman Buncich said this was being done to see if there was a "plug" in the line going under the river. Mr. Stevens stated there had been a flow meter installed at Pine Crest and he wanted to know if there were records on the flows and should they be charged if excess water was going to the sewer plant. Solicitor Barbin stated that Township would need to look at the entire system and set a policy regarding flow meters that would apply to everyone. Mr. Stevens asked if records were being kept on the flow meters. Chairman Buncich said he would check with the Sewage Enforcement Officer, Randy Younkin.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. HRI is tentatively scheduled to pave Old Cider Press Road & Fernwood Drive beginning September 29, 2011 – possible road closings during that time were expected. Chairman Buncich stated he had coordinated with the school district in regard to the bus schedules.
2. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Township Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Buncich, to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Submitted by,

Cindy L. Walerysiak, Secretary/Treasurer