

**Benner Township Supervisors**

**January 21, 2002**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Chairman, Richard Lahr with members Dave Breon and John Elnitski, Jr. present. Also in attendance were Doug Weikel, Norm Spackman, Scott Strom, Norm Lathbury and Renee Swancer.

**AT & T Conditional Use Request:** Tabled upon the request of the applicant.

**PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Norm Spackman/Scott Strom: Mr. Spackman was present to bring the Board up to date on the addressing project. It was noted that mobile home park owners from Maple Village, Sunrise and Waites were all contacted and gave blessing on the addresses that were assigned. It was noted that all addresses from the original mailers have stayed the same.

Mr. Lahr moved to approve the mailers to be sent out to the remaining mobile home parks after Mrs. Swancer gives the addresses a final review. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Lahr – yes

Mr. Spackman noted further that they will need to come before the board at least one more time for the addresses along Spring Valley Road, Robinson Lane and the Benner Pike after the problems are worked out.

Other address problems discussed included Stanford Drive, Kuhlman Lane and Jennies Gap Road. It was noted that the property owners living along Stanford Drive are refusing to change their addresses even though their current addresses are confusing and have no order to them. It was questioned if the two drives off of Stanford Drive should have a name of their own since there is two or more homes located along each of them. The Board noted that they would like to have more research done prior to making a final decision on the address assignments.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of January 7, 2002, were presented to the Board for their review and comments. Mr. Breon moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Lahr – yes

**BILLS**

The bills of January 21, 2002, were presented to the Board for their review and approval. It was noted that check 21624 for \$225.00 made payable to PSATS was added to the bill list for a total of \$32,067.90. Mr. Breon moved to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Lahr – yes

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Weikel gave the Board a copy of his written report on the various items that he is reviewing on the Board's behalf.

**ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Swancer previously provided the Board with her written report on the various items that she has worked on for the last two weeks.

It was noted that the Centre County Chamber of Business and Industry has called recently to inquire why they have been paying for the streetlights in the Penn Eagle Industrial Park and not the Township. Discussion was held. The Board noted that if the Chamber doesn't wish to pay for the lights any longer then they may have them disconnected and removed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Spring Township Agreement/Boundary Change: Tabled.

Patton Township/Benner Township Boundary: Tabled.

Magyar Sewer Problem: Tabled.

Skid Steer Quotes: Skid steer quotes were received for the following models: Cat, Case, John Deere, Bobcat and Gehl. Questions were raised if the horsepower that quotes were received on would be large enough to meet the township's needs. The Board tabled the quotes until the next meeting so that further information can be obtained.

Propane Quote: Mr. Elnitski noted that he has obtained a quote from Amerigas for supplying the township with its propane needs. A leak test will need to be performed at the cost of \$55. There is no charge for the gas storage equipment. The cost of the propane will be based on the terminal at the Mt. Belvieu posting plus distribution and \$.40 margin over the posted price. The price at the time of the quote was .79 per gallon. The Township is currently paying \$1.29/gallon through Agway. Discussion was held. Mr. Lahr moved to enter into an agreement with Amerigas for a period of 2 years. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon - yes                      Mr. Elnitski - yes                      Mr. Lahr - yes

Norm Lathbury - Ag Land Preservation: Mr. Lathbury was present on behalf of the Centre County Ag Land Preservation Program. Mr. Lathbury asked the Board if they would be interested in making a contribution to the County Preservation Program that would be used to assist in the purchase of a farm easement for the Paul Hartle Farm along Spring Creek. Mr. Lathbury noted that not all of the final details have been worked out and should be finished up within the next week. Mr. Lathbury noted that if the township decided to participate and contribute something that the Township would be noted on the farm easement deed based upon the percentage that is contributed. If the easement is sold at some point in the future, the township would then receive its percentage of the proceeds received from the sale. Mr. Lathbury noted that the ownership may change from the Hartles to another property owner as long as the property remains an agricultural use. If

the property is sold for a use other than agricultural, the farm easement would need to be purchased back from those who bought it initially. Discussion was held. Mr. Breon stated he was in favor of making some kind of contribution to this program because of the results of various surveys done in the township. Residents continually reply that farmland preservation is one of the top items of importance to them.

Mr. Breon moved to pledge \$2,000 to the Centre County Ag Land Preservation Program if it can be used for the purchase of the Paul Hartle farm easement. Mr. Lahr seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Lahr – yes

**NEW BUSINESS**

Memo of Understanding for Polymics: Mr. Lahr moved to approve and sign the memorandum of understanding for Polymics. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Lahr – yes

UAJA Conditional Use Request: The Board was in receipt of the Conditional Use request from the University Area Joint Authority for it Beneficial Reuse Project. Mr. Lahr moved to accept and forward this request on to the Planning Commission for their review and comments. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Lahr – yes

Centre County Mutual Fire Insurance Company – DEP Planning Module Postcard: The Board was in receipt of the planning module postcard for the Centre County Mutual Fire Insurance Company. All necessary letters have been received for approval and signatures. Mr. Lahr moved to approve and sign the postcard. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Lahr – yes

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

1. Act 537 HRG Response letter to Rogers'
2. C-Net information
3. UAJA Notice of filing of NPDES Permit
4. Copy of letter sent to SBWJA from Dean Fenton Re: sewer connection
5. Spring Creek Watershed Commission Bi-Monthly Meeting notice (1/22)
6. Letter from Penn Dot Re: re-profile of SR 550 and SR3008

**NOTES**

Mr. Elnitski noted that he would like to do some research on what kind of increase in crime can be expected with the completion of I-99. Mr. Breon noted that the Special Prison Advisory Committee he served on asked the same question and couldn't find anyone to answer to that question.

Mr. Lahr noted that he is pleased to finally see that the re-profile of SR550 and SR3008 looks like it may finally happen. It was noted that Mr. Lahr has pushed for this project to be done for the last 10 years while serving on the CRMPO Board.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE**

It was noted that an executive session was held this evening from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel annual wage review. Mr. Lahr moved to approve a 4% raise across the Board for Township employees. Mr. Breon seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Breon – yes                      Mr. Elnitski – yes                      Mr. Lahr – yes

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned the time being 10:26 p.m.

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Sharon Royer, Sec.