

**Benner Township Supervisors
November 7, 2016**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Chairman, David Wise with members Randy Moyer and Mark Capriani present. Also in attendance were Nate Campbell, Tim Miller, Chris Anderson, Dennis O’Leary, Don Franson, Shirley Gryczuk, Kevin Abbey, Tim Miller, Tom Moyer, John Kostas and Sharon Royer.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Pam Adams/Centre Region Garbage Contract Coordinator: Mrs. Adams noted that the Townships are currently in year 2 of a 5 year contract. It was noted that it is not anticipated that a rate change will occur in 2017.

Mrs. Adams noted that Advanced Disposal made arrangements to locate a dumpster here at the municipal building to assist residents that had damage/additional trash as a result of the storm on October 20/21. The Centre County Solid Waste Authority paid for dumpsters to be dumped using their yearly allotment from Advanced Disposal as a means of community support. These funds were remaining from the annual Spring Creek Clean Up event. It was noted that about three full dumpsters were disposed of.

Mrs. Adams noted that in the upcoming 2020 contract it is anticipated that organic collection will be considered. This would include both food and yard waste. It is approximated that 30% of the garbage that is taken to the landfill could be composted. State College borough has been collecting organics for a few years now and has had much success with their program. Mrs. Adams noted that this is in its infancy and wants more feedback from the municipalities. More information will be forthcoming in the next several months. It was noted that discussions are being held about conducting a small scale pilot program to see how it goes.

Kevin Abbey/ Clearwater Conservancy: Mr. Abbey was present to present the Slab Cabin Run Initiative, whereas Clearwater is proposing to purchase a conservation easement on the Everhart Farm and the Meyer Dairy farm. The purpose of this would be to protect the community’s drinking water at its source, restore the health of Slab Cabin Run and to preserve key agricultural land. The project will cost 2.75 million in total of which they are proposing that 50% will be covered by private donations and the remaining 50% through local municipal entities. Clearwater is asking that Benner Township contribute \$10,000 towards this initiative. Mr. Abbey noted that these funds would be needed by the 3rd quarter of 2017. The Board noted that they would take this under advisement noting that the 2017 tentative budget is complete at this time.

MINUTES

The minutes of October 3, 2016, were presented to the Board for their review and comments. Mr. Moyer moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Wise seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Capriani – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Wise – yes

BILLS

The bills of November 7, 2016 were presented to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. Moyer moved to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Capriani seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Capriani – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Wise – yes

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Franson reported on the following:

*MS4 – Mr. Franson noted that funds will be required in 2017 for this new requirement. Mrs. Royer noted that money has been designated in the proposed budget for this.

*Spring Creek Canyon Trail: Mr. Franson noted that the Township is still awaiting agreements from the Game Commission and Fish Commission for rights of access before the trail project can proceed.

Mr. Abbey noted that Phase 1A of the trail has been completed with the Game Commission and the Dirt and Gravel Road program.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. O'Leary reported on the following:

*Retaining wall almost complete.

*Storm damage repairs are continuing. Claar, Ameron Construction and the road crew have been working hard to get the repairs done. Hawbaker will be coming in to do paving work to Big Hollow and Purdue Mt. road. Keystone Guiderail will be coming in to make the guiderail repairs. Mr. O'Leary noted that he will be meeting with Advanced Disposal after the paving at the turn around is complete to see if they feel that this area will be sufficient to use as a turnaround for the garbage trucks. It was noted that the school district has made arrangements to continue using the smaller busses/vans.

*Purdue Mt. Road: It was noted that the Township is in receipt of a proposal from Hillis Carnes in the amount of \$14,250.00 to do core sampling testing on Purdue Mountain in order to determine what will be required to fix the road to a traversable cart way. Much discussion was held. Mr. Moyer questioned what if Spring Township decided that they didn't wish to fix their damaged section then this work would be pointless. Mr. Moyer noted that he would speak with Spring Township to see what their thoughts are. Mr. Wise moved to sign the contract contingent upon Spring Township being willing to contribute 30% of this contract. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Capriani – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Wise – yes

*Leaf collection will take place during the weeks of November 7th and 14th.

*It was noted that a representative from the Bellefonte Little League stopped in and offered to assist the Township is repairing the Buffalo Run Community Park in the Spring due to the amount of damage that was done by the storm.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Anderson noted that he issued 4 permits last month with three of them being new homes. The Planning Commission continues to review and revise the draft Zoning Ordinance. The Crosswinds Parking Lot has requested a time extension. The company commissioned to

construct a hangar for the State Police at the University Park Airport has filed for a variance from the Spring Creek Overlay Ordinance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CATA: Mr. Wise noted that he and Mrs. Royer attended a joint meeting with Spring Township, Bellefonte Borough and CATA to discuss the cost sharing formula for the bus service that we receive. It was noted that the formula is now fixed cost and does not model the “Miller” formula. It is noted that \$90,000 is in local funding and the remaining 1.1 million is funded with federal funds.

OLD BUSINESS

New Municipal Building: It was noted that bids for the new municipal building were opened at 3:00 p.m. today. It was noted that the bids came in over budget at 1.581 million with the target being 1.4. It was noted that the bids will now be more fully reviewed and the Board will need to decide whether or not to award or rebid.

NEW BUSINESS

Restek Fitness Center Surety: It was noted that Restek is seeking release from their surety as they say that their job is complete. Mr. Franson noted that the county is requesting a final walk through prior to the surety being released. Mr. Wise moved to release the surety upon a successful final inspection. Mr. Capriani seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Capriani – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Wise – yes

Memo of Understanding for ARL: It was noted that this paperwork was not submitted.

Memo of Understanding for May Brands LLC: The Memo of Understanding for May Brands were submitted for the Board’s approval. Mr. Moyer moved to approve the MOU for May Brands LLC who is planning to construct a Dunkin Donuts along the Benner Pike. Mr. Capriani seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Capriani – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Wise – yes

2017 Budget: The proposed 2017 budget was presented to the Board for their tentative approval and to be placed out for the required public comment period. Mr. Moyer moved to tentatively approve the budget to begin the public review process. Mr. Wise seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Capriani – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Wise – yes

Quote for a new Copier: Mrs. Royer noted that they are no longer updating the software for the township’s existing copier. While the copier still functions well, the computers cannot update to the latest version of windows because the copier will not support it. Mr. Anderson did update his and now his computer must route through Mrs. Royer’s in order to scan and print. They have also indicated that parts are going to be increasingly harder to come by. The cost of the new copier/scanner/printer/fax from WPS is \$134.11 per month (payment and maintenance package for 60 months). Mrs. Royer noted that she has been very pleased with the service that they have received from WPS. Mr. Moyer moved to purchase the MP 3054-SS copier/scanner/printer/fax from WPS. Mr. Capriani seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Capriani – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Wise – yes

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board acknowledged the following correspondence:

1. Benner Township Water Authority Minutes of September 20, 2016
2. SBWJA Minutes September 26, 2016 and October 10, 2016
3. Centre County Planning Commission
 - a. Time Extension Sullivan's Mini Storage Phase VI
4. Letter to Discount Remodelers RE: Non-Connection to sewer
5. Centre County Conservation District RE: Earth Disturbance Airport Rehab GA Apron
6. PennDot Comments on Graystone Court at Eagle Point Traffic Study
7. Letter from PA DEP RE: Bellefonte Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant Act 537 Special Study
8. Proposal from C-Net for Services

NOTES

Tim Miller:

Mr. Miller noted that he would like to thank the Township for the use, once again, to the Boy Scouts for their annual food drive. He noted that they appreciate the space for gathering and sorting the food that is collected.

Mr. Miller noted that the customers of Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority will also not see any changes to their sewer rates in 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned the time being 8:27 p.m.

Sharon Royer, Secretary/Treasurer