

**Benner Township Supervisors
October 5, 2015**

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 Pam Adams, Chris Anderson, Dennis O'Leary, Don Franson, Tom Zilla, Shirley Gryczuk, John Kostas, Tom Wilson, Jack Schuster, Doug Laromore, Edward Galus, James Martin, Frank Savino, Linda Jabco, Tom Moyer, Jeff Lucas, R.B. Powell, George Powell, Greg Jeffries, Helen Alters and Sharon Royer.

Mr. Wise noted that the Township Newsletter "CrossRoads" recently went out and encouraged the public to share any ideas that they have concerning the construction of a new municipal building. It was noted that the current building is old and in need of serious repair as well as we are out of space to hold and store office staff and files as well as expensive equipment which needs to be kept inside.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Pam Adams: Mrs. Adams was present to give the Board an update on the current garbage contract. Mrs. Adams noted that we are nearing completion of year one on the five year COG contract. She noted that fall bulk waste pick up is scheduled for next week. Another change is that CNG fueled trucks will start to be used for garbage collection. Mrs. Adams noted that the survey results on organics recycling were positive and that this will be something that will be considered in the next contract. It was noted that approximately 30% of trash that is collected is organic material that could be kept out of the landfills.

Tom Wilson/ Jack Schuster: Mr. Wilson noted that he and Mr. Schuster were present to see how the Board feels about looking into dusting off the plans of 8 years or so ago making some modifications and create a biking/walking trail that would link Milesburg's Letterman Park to State College. They noted that they have a lot of individuals and groups that have shown an interest in being involved in such a project. Mr. Wilson noted that they envision a path that everyone could utilize from runners, walkers, bikers and those that need to use motorized scooters to navigate. Mr. Wilson noted that his main objective this evening was to let the Board know that this is being discussed and to give the Board an invitation to sit down and discuss this further with Mr. Schuster and himself.

Jim Martin – Cleveland Brothers: Mr. Martin noted that Cleveland Brothers is seeking permission to expand their warehouse facility in the Benner Commerce Park by 29,000 sq. ft. Land Development plans have been submitted to the County. Mr. Martin noted that they are planning for a March 2016 construction start date. Mr. Martin noted further that no new employees will be hired at this time. He noted that with Caterpillar's product line expanding that they need additional room to warehouse parts for the various machines.

Tom Zilla – MPO: Mr. Zilla was present to give the Board a presentation of the MPO and what services they provide to the Township. Mr. Zilla stated that should the Township decide to continue to be voting members, the 2016 proposed budget figure for the township will be \$8,098. Mr. Zilla briefly went over the funding formula and how it is calculated. He noted that while population is used for part of the formula, the inmates are taken out of the population for the Township. Assessed values and lane miles of roads (-interstate miles) are also used in the funding formula. Mr. Zilla in closing stated that he hopes that the Township will decide to continue to contribute and stay a voting member of the MPO. If, however, the decision is to drop out, he and his office will still assist the township anyway that they are able when situations come up.

MINUTES

The minutes of September 3, 2015, were presented to the Board for their review and comments. Mr. Wise moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

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

BILLS

The bills of October 5, 2015, were presented to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. Capriani moved to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

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

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Anderson reported on the following:

- *A request was received from the Village of Nittany Glen for rezoning the property.
- *Approvals were given for the building addition at the Rockview Prison
- *12 permits were issued in the month of September, one of them being for a new home.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Franson reported on the following:

*The Conservation District/DEP is going to require a NPDES permit for the stream encroachment for the Spring Creek Canyon Trail project

*Mr. Franson noted that a portion of the project will not meet the ADA specifications, however he feels that under the circumstances that DCNR will approve the option being proposed.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. O'Leary reported on the following:

*Tar and chipping has been completed. Was pleased with the work that Pine Creek Township did.

*Guiderail work will begin later this week.

*Dirt and Gravel Road Project will be bid to be open at the Board's next meeting.

*Mr. Franson is going to come and shoot some elevations for a preliminary layout for a new township facility. A meeting has been scheduled with Morton Buildings to get some preliminary numbers on what a new building could cost.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Royer noted that she attended two meetings on behalf of the Township:

*Hazardous Mitigation meeting was held on September 16, 2015. Attendance and participation in the plan is required or the Township would no longer be eligible for Hazardous Declaration Funds if a disaster is declared.

*The Bellefonte Fire Executive Board meeting on September 24th. Percentages for the budget have changed slightly over the last year due to the Township's Assessed value increasing. Bellefonte will pay 39.94%, Spring Township 25.44% and Benner's percentage is 34.62%. While the final budget hasn't been submitted, Bellefonte has indicated that the increase will be about 4%.

OLD BUSINESS

Powell Conditional Use: It was noted that the continuation of the Powell Conditional Use hearing is scheduled for the Board's next meeting, November 2nd, unless another extension is requested.

NEW BUSINESS

Conditional Use Application for JOLI Ventures, LLC: The Board is in receipt of a conditional use application from JOLI Ventures, LLC to convert the Big John Corp. building in Peru to an automobile sales and service facility. Mr. Moyer moved to pass this application on to the Planning Commission for their review and comments. Mr. Capriani seconded the motion.

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

2016 MMO for the Pension Plan: It was noted that the computation for the 2016 contribution to the Benner Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan has been received from the Pension administrator. The amount that is required to be budgeted for 2016 is \$49,488.00. Mr. Wise moved to include the MMO into the 2016 budget. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. Mrs. Royer noted that the state does contribute to this amount, but the state auditors have noted that the entire amount must be included in the budget.

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

Cleveland Brothers MOU: The Board is in receipt of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Cleveland Brothers Land Development Plan. Mr. Capriani moved to approve and sign the Cleveland Brothers MOU. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

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

Bellefonte Little League: The Board is in receipt of a request from the Bellefonte Little League for the Township Road Crew to haul a load of infield mix for them. They noted that they would reimburse the Township for the load. Mr. Capriani moved to haul Bellefonte Little League one load of the infield mix. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

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

Budget Work Session: The Board decided to hold the budget work session on October 19, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Powells – The Powells submitted an outline of Engineering Services that they received from Nittany Engineering. They noted that they are seeking guidance on whether they need to complete the items outlined in the proposal or just need to explain how they will address the conditions. George Powell noted that this is quite expensive and does not wish to spend such a large sum of money if other items could come up. Mr. Wise noted that the Board will need clarity on what they plan to do and how they intend to meet the conditions of Ordinance 125.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

1. Centre County Planning Commission
 - a. Lot addition and replot Fisherman's Paradise to Graystone Court
 - b. G. M. McCrossin Time Extension
 - c. SCI Rockview Time Extension
 - d. Restek Fitness Center Land Development Comments
 - e. Mammoth Restoration & Construction Land Development
2. Real Estate Appeal Hearing notice
3. Conservation District Comment letters
 - a. Centre Co. Airport Authority long term parking lot
4. SBWJA Minutes – August 24, 2015, September 14, 2015
5. Memo from Bill MacMath Re: CCMPO Long Range Plan I-99/I-80 interchange

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned the time being 8:25 p.m.

Sharon Royer, Sec.