

Black Creek Township Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes **July 9th, 2019 2:00p.m.**

The Regular Meeting of the Black Creek Township Supervisors, held on Tuesday, July 9th, 2019, at 2:00pm.

Attendance: Lescowitch; Rohrbach; Adams

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Minutes:

Chairwoman Adams asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of regular meeting held June 11th, at 2:00pm.

- A motion by Lescowitch, seconded by Rohrbach, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting, as presented.
- Roll Call: Lescowitch yes; Rohrbach yes; Adams yes

Financial Report:

Supervisor Rohrbach gave the township's financial report from June 1st-30st, 2019.

General Fund:	\$202,282.96
State Fund:	\$80,223.20
PLGIT- Class Savings:	\$81,291.03
<u>Total Funds:</u>	<u>\$363,797.19</u>

Alumni Account: \$4,935.74

- A motion by Adams, seconded by Rohrbach, to approve the financial report.
- Roll Call: Lescowitch yes; Rohrbach yes; Adams yes

Bills:

Payment of the bills, as presented.

- A motion by Lescowitch, seconded by Rohrbach, to approve the bills as presented and to pay any and all bills in all funds that become due before the next regular meeting.
- Roll Call: Lescowitch yes; Rohrbach yes; Adams yes

Correspondence:

Tarah Toohil: Seniors, beware of scam involving property tax/rent rebate program

Reports:

Zoning Report: Zoning/Codes Officer Tony Harris not present, submitted a report

Fire Company: Fire Chief Joe Lescowitch reviewed the activity report

Emergency Management: Steve Motil- not present, no report

Engineer Report: Twin Oaks Consulting- John Acherman- presented his report:

- Tower Road Box Culvert guide rail issue- the Luzerne County engineer will be meeting with the contractor that installed the guiderail to discuss the issue. Dr. Rohrbach contacted the county and requested the township be present for this site meeting.
- Knies storm water pipe- Rohrbach questioned the size of the existing pipe on the plans; she thought it was 15". Acherman stated he measured it himself and it was 18". Rohrbach would like to see a larger pipe installed, at the recommendation of two other engineers. Acherman stated that his plans were developed after he completed a storm CAD, designed to meet the standards of a 25 year storm. Rohrbach would like a larger pipe installed due to the two 24 inch pipes the township had installed, which are running into the Knies pipe. An executive session was called, during the meeting.
- Lescowitch made a motion to approve upgrading the plans for the installation of a 15" pipe to an 18" pipe, seconded by Rohrbach, contingent upon the landowner signing an agreement.
- Roll Call: Lescowitch yes; Rohrbach yes; Adams yes
- Joyce Knies is concerned that the pipe upgrade is not large enough and that after she signs off she will be responsible for the maintenance.
- Bachman- a swale will be installed on the property to correct the drainage issue, contingent upon the landowner signing a release.
- Lescowitch made a motion to approve the plans for the swale, seconded by Rohrbach. The property owner must sign an agreement, before the work can begin.
- Roll Call: Lescowitch yes; Rohrbach yes; Adams yes
- Brush and Pineapple St Storm water Problem- plans were developed to alleviate the issue
- Trees in Scotch Run Creek, above the Tower Road Box Culvert- the landowner is responsible to remove the trees and was contacted by the township. It was confirmed by the DEP that permits are not needed, unless heavy equipment is used.

Solicitor: Donald Karpowich, Esq.: The township solicitor gave a report:

Completed zoning amendments for the small wireless communication facilities and short term home rentals. Recommended the planning committee review. He will forward the amendments to the Luzerne County Planning Commission.

- Adams made a motion to approve advertising these amendments for a September Hearing, seconded by Lescowitch.
- Roll Call: Lescowitch yes; Rohrbach yes; Adams yes

Road Department: The road department report was reviewed by Chairwoman Adams

Old Business:

Sewer Authority replacement for George Currilla- none

Ambulance Service coverage for the Nuremberg/Weston area- Lescowitch has not received a report. Dr. Rohrbach submitted a Right to Know Request to Schuylkill County for ambulance

time logs in Black Creek Township. She received the response and presented the time logs to Supervisor Lescowitch, for the time study.

New Business:

Bid Reveal for Seal Coating on Cedarhead Road, Church Road, and Red Fox Lane- no bids were received, the engineer recommended re-bidding the project in August to have the project underway in September. The supervisors agreed.

Pool Security Camera- Static IP address- Dr. Rohrbach explained that the pool has a dynamic ip address, which means the address changes, causing the camera to not function. This typically occurs when there is a power outage, several times yearly. A service call is required to repair the connection, which costs approximately \$60 to \$95, each occurrence. ICU Surveillance recommended obtaining a static ip address to alleviate this problem, several years ago. Atlantic Broadband charges \$21 per month for a static ip address. Rohrbach recommended obtaining a static ip address, Adams agreed. If a second camera is needed at the pool, it would cost a flat fee of \$200. Rohrbach will look into a second camera, recommended by ICU.

Luzerne County Development Grant. Black Creek Township would have to complete an income survey to attempt to regain the grant.

- A motion by Lescowitch, seconded by Rohrbach, to approve completing the income study.
- Roll Call: Lescowitch yes; Rohrbach yes; Adams yes

Chicks Lane- repairs and grants

Engineer Acherman recommended a surface treatment. Some areas will require base repair, prior to chipping. Rohrbach stated that Chris Getz, who is in charge of liquid fuels, and a LTAP engineer both stated it would only last one year and advised against it, last year. Rohrbach would like to fix the road properly, in phases, starting at the top. Drainage issues need to be addressed prior to the repair of the road. Rohrbach does not see any point to having a surface treatment of this kind. Acherman is going to review options for Chicks Lane.

Options for Township Recycling- a Darreck Smaka volunteered to open the recycling center Saturday mornings.

Dr. Rohrbach clarified that signs Supervisor Adams had an employee hang in the recycling center, saying that there would be no recycling on Saturdays per Dr. Rohrbach's request, were a complete fabrication. Adams said the secretary hung the signs saying there would be no Saturday recycling, and she told her to add per Dr. Saura Rohrbach. Adams stated that Supervisor Rohrbach told the secretary she wanted the recycling center closed Saturdays. Rohrbach stated this was not true. Adams brought the secretary into the meeting room, but attorney Karpowich recommended against this, as it was turning into a personnel issue.

Residents have complained that large truckloads of recycling are coming in and filling the compactor. Other townships do not allow truckloads and man the recycling center, only permitting their residents to recycle. Rohrbach wants to know if the board would want to entertain changing the hours, manning the recycling center, limiting recycling to Black Creek

and Sugarloaf residents, and not allowing truckloads of recyclables. Only allowing residents and Sugarloaf Twp to recycle would reduce the amount of recyclables and the hauling. Sugarloaf must be allowed to recycle, since there was a joint grant for the recycling center; they own half. No changes were made.

The next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held Tuesday, August 13th at 2:00pm.

Review Public Comment:

Wayne Bruggar- no time estimate for the repair of the tar issue in front of his house

The Sypecks asked Supervisor Rohrbach to look at a ditch issue that has been ongoing for over a year on Red Rock Road. The residents were unable to attend the meeting. Rohrbach brought pictures for the board and asked it be addressed

A resident who could not attend asked Rohrbach to address an issue of incessant shooting, by his neighbor. This has been ongoing for years and he filed official complaints with the zoning officer. He would like to see if there could be an ordinance addressing hours of shooting or length of time of shooting. These neighbors shoot during all hours of the day and night. Karpowich is going to review the issue.

Public Comment:

- Leighann Feola- residents in Orchard Hill Estates are unhappy with the patch quality on their road. Only some of the holes were patched and she got tar all over her car, after driving up her road. They would like their road repaired. She would like to know what can be done to change the meeting from 2:00 to a time more convenient for the working person. The recycling center also does not have convenient hours, for the working person.
- Rohrbach stated she has tried to change the 2:00pm meeting time on several occasions, but the other supervisors will not.
- Rohrbach recommended leaving the recycling center open until 6:00pm on Thursdays, when the zoning officer has office hours and will be able to close the center. Adams and Lescowitch agreed.
- Joe Gans presented information on the Emerald Ash Borer. The insect kills the ash trees, which are causing issues throughout the state when these trees die and fall over the roads. This is going to create additional expenses. He urged residents and local government to contact Toohil and Gordner to try to find a way to help with this issue.
- Rick Davis- recommended having a survey sheet in the recycling center for a feasibility study, to determine what townships are using the recycling center.
- Ted Sherock- commended the newspaper article that was in the Standard Speaker about Black Creek Township.

Adjournment:

A motion by Adams, seconded by Rohrbach, to adjourn the meeting at 3:40p.m.