

PORTER TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

August 12th, 2024 7:00PM

Attendance was Supervisors Phil Courter, Keith Yearick, Ryan Gates, Secretary / treasurer Carol Colucci, Zoning Officer Rich Brungard and 9 members of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Phil Courter at 7:00PM. The July meeting minutes were reviewed and on a 1st motion by Keith Yearick and 2nd by Phil Courter motion passed to approve the minutes as presented.

Public comment was from Elaine Miller. Elaine reported she had several complains about her neighbors. Previously she stated the problem with a neighbor burning garbage and smoldering smoke. Currently she found abandon mobile homes burnt making a bad odor burning her eyes and nose. She is requesting something to be done about it. This same neighbor has advertised his business but lives in agriculture zoned area, is this allowable?

There is also a problem of her neighbors have free range chickens on her property eating her plants and letting a mess. Elaine would like to be notified what is being done about her complaints and the progress of a violation.

Cameron Brenaman is requesting the use of the community building for a wrestling event October 26th. He would be charging admission and has an 18-foot wrestling ring with a million-dollar insurance coverage. The Supervisor's reply was it does not sound like a good fit for the facility and suggested the fire company would be larger and better suited for that sort of event.

There was no one present from the fire company however there was a discussion on the follow up of the propane tank installed. It was stated previously that the township is only paying for the propane tank to heat the building and not the smaller tank that is used for the kitchen stove. It was clarified the fire company owns both tanks and only the larger tank is connected for heat and cooking. Supervisor Yearick amended and withdrew the previous motion to only pay for heat. On a 1st motion by Yearick and a 2nd by Gates motion passed to pay the propane bill for both heat and the stove for cooking motion passed. It was inquired if there has been any change on the request for a cell tower on the fire company property. There has been no action taken.

There was no Recreation Board meeting for August. The Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday Oct 5th 12:00 – 5:00PM at the park sponsored by the Recreation Board.

The Heritage Committee was requesting the use of the storage shed at the community building. A follow up was a quote for a lock to secure the door was \$3,200. After a discussion it was proposed that the committee pay for a door from their funds, the Heritage Committee money. However, it would still be property and regulated by the township. Chairman Courter inquired to a committee member "what is the committee's intent for using their funds for the community?" It was agreed to send a letter to the committee asking the committee to pay towards the expense for replacing a door & lock.

The Park sign planter box rebuild has been completed. The sign has been refurbished and the planter box is all new blocks and materials a total of \$3,584.00. Harry Rupert gave free labor to the project with no expense for his time, thank you Harry.

Old business was a discussion about the traffic light grant work by Kuharchick. There is a balance left over from the grant. Penn Dot engineer Jon Tate e-mailed a response requesting Kuharchick to give a quote for the raider detector in place of the loop to be repaired. Supervisors all agreed to get a quote before making the decision.

New business was a resignation from Steve Bason from the Water Authority Board. On a 1st motion by Yearick and a 2nd by Gates motion passed to accept the resignation. A letter of interest was received from John Shapira to fill the vacant board position. On a 1st motion by Courter and a 2nd by Yearick motion passed to appoint Shapira to the Water Authority Board.

Property management report was Brungard reported the township building water line has a leak from the building to Rt 64 main line. For now, they are just watching.

Brungard reported there are more dead trees in the park that is a storm hazard. There was a discussion of how many needs removed. A quote is needed for the next meeting.

A road report was provided of past projects with expenses and dates for future planning and upcoming budget meetings.

There was no Planning Board meeting in July. Zach Armstrong with Larson Design Group was present for a conditional approval from the Supervisors for the subdivision plan for Nittany Valley subdivision O'Connor property. On a 1st motion by Yearick and a 2nd by Gates motion passed to conditionally approve the plan with the required letters to be signed and submitted.

Final plans for Sam Allgyer 382 Dotterers Road for a poultry barn were reviewed for sign off. On a 1st motion by Courter and a 2nd by Gates motion passed to approve conditionally upon a sewer module Permits for July was \$830. There was one new driveway, new shed and a demolition.

The Secretary report was a liquid fuels state account audit was held Aug 6th. All was ok no findings. The American Red Cross is requesting to hold a Blood Drive at the Community building Aug 20th waiving the rental fee. On a 1st motion by Courter and a 2nd by Yearick motion passed to approve and waive the fee.

Pastor Dan Christopher is requesting to use the Community building for the community Christmas event December 14th also waiving the fee for a community event. On a 1st motion by Yearick and a 2nd by Gates motion passed to waive the fee.

It was brought to the Supervisors attention that the appointed Uniform Construction Code building inspectors Williams Inspection Agency, have not been in contact with Porter or responded to the letter requesting confirmation that we were told the agency is no longer providing inspection services. We

requested a response by August 12th. There has been none. On a 1st motion by Courter and a 2nd by Yearick motion passed to remove Williams as the appointed code Inspector for the township.

There is a letter of interest from Keystone Inspection Agency Rick Hampton for the position. On a 1st motion by Yearick and a 2nd by Gates motion passed to appoint Hampton to the Inspector position.

Treasurer Carol proposed dates to schedule a budget workshop meeting to prepare for the 2025 budget. The Supervisors agreed upon Monday September 23rd and Oct 21st at 6:00PM this will be advertised.

The additional Insurance for storage garage building is \$389.86 and the new truck is additional \$1,725.00 for the year. It was recommended to get quotes for the township insurance annual policy. Gearhart Herr was suggested. Carol will look into other companies.

It was proposed to purchase a cell phone owned by the township. A simple trace phone would be enough due to the request for security codes for banking and numerous government websites needing to enter a security code to log on.

The East Nittany Valley Joint Municipal Authority loan was discussed following up on the request from the lender S & T Bank. The bank is requesting finance information due to the 3 townships Walker, Porter and Lamar being co-signers for this loan. Chairman Courter suggested to ask Arlina for the information first and draft a letter to the authority.

Total revenue for the month of July was \$40,300.35, total expenses is \$226,147.04 a net income - \$185,846.69. That is due to the \$118,648.25 for the balance of the road project and the truck payment. On a 1st motion by Courter and a 2nd by Yearick motion passed to approve all finances and pay bills. The next meeting is scheduled for September 9th. On a 1st motion by Yearick and a 2nd by Gates motion passed to adjourn at 8:15PM.

Porter Township Supervisor Chairman
Philip Courter



Porter township Secretary Treasurer
Carol Colucci

