

**Liberty Township Board of Supervisors  
39 Topper Road, Fairfield, PA 17320**

**May 22, 2019  
Workshop Meeting Minutes**

The Board of Supervisors of Liberty Township, Adams County, met Wednesday May 22, 2019 at 11 AM, at the Liberty Township Municipal Building, 39 Topper Road, Fairfield, PA 17320, for the regular monthly workshop meeting.

**Present:** Chairman John Bostek, Vice Chairman Bob Jackson, Supervisor Walter Barlow, Solicitor John Lisko; Roadmaster Brian Arentz, Secretary/Treasurer Wendy Peck; and Police Chief Sherri Hansen.

Mr. Bostek called the meeting to order at 11 AM and introduced Chief Sherri Hansen.

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**Supervisor Comments**

- **Mr. Jackson** stated that he attended the Emmitsburg Fire Department (Vigilant Hose) meeting yesterday. He also commented that yesterday's primary election went well.
- **Mr. Barlow** had no comments.
- **Mr. Bostek** reported on the May 14 Grand History Trail Bike Path public meeting proposing a bike path from the Gettysburg Battlefield to Emmitsburg, Maryland. He stated that a lot of people attended. Planning Commission member Rich Luquette also attended the meeting. Mr. Bostek commented that he would be out of office in 2020 and no longer able to represent the Township on the bike path committee. He went on to recommend that the Board consider having Mr. Luquette represent Liberty Township on the committee for the bike path in his place with Kate Bostek and Robert Jackson as alternates.

**Expenses:** Mr. Barlow made a motion to approve the 05/08-05/22/19 invoices. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion. All voted yes, and the motion passed. Mr. Jackson made a motion to retroactively approve the payroll for 04/28-05/11/2019. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion. All voted yes, and the motion passed.

**TOWNSHIP STAFF REPORTS**

**Police Department:** Chief Sherri Hansen reported that she joined the Township on May 13 and is getting up to date. She stated that she is getting out and meeting people. Mr. Jackson asked Chief Hansen to review the past formats for the monthly police department report and make recommendations. Mr. Bostek commented that Gettysburg Times Reporter Mary Grace Keller would like to interview the new chief. At that time, Mary Grace Keller announced that this would be her last meeting reporting on Liberty Township and that she has taken a new job in Carroll County.

**Road Department:** Roadmaster Arentz reported that David H. Martin Excavating rescheduled the ditching work to June 10. He stated that he pulled out the drainage pipe on Mr. Luther Ridge's property at 15 Liberty Hall Road and agreed to help replace the pipe once Mr. Ridge obtains one. He stated that he planned to start mowing. Mr. Barlow asked about mowing along the guide rail on Steelman Marker Road. There was talk about Harbaugh Valley extended and complaints that the road was washing out due to recent logging in the area. Mr. Arentz stated that he would look into it. Mr. Jackson commented that a logging company recently contacted the township about obtaining permission to exceed the weight restriction on Gladhill Road. He stated that they agreed to draft an agreement for the township to review, but the township has not received it yet. Mr. Grant thanked the Roadmaster for trimming the tree near his property and asked if it was trimmed enough. Mr. Arentz commented that it was cut to standard and that the tree is out of the right away and the township cannot cut it down. Mr. Barlow mentioned that there is a tree near Bullfrog Road and McGlaughlin Road that is hanging down. Mr. Arentz stated that he would check on it.

**Secretary/Treasurer:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Treasurer Bond Claim Status** – Mr. Bostek stated that the Board received an email from Mr. Mills who would like to have an Executive Session soon and is waiting for update from the bonding company.

- **Declaration of Conflict of Interest for Working Supervisors** – Mr. Lisko explained that this issue came up at the last month's meeting because working supervisors voted on the employee manual. It was stated that the Pennsylvania State Ethics Act states "Where voting conflicts are not otherwise addressed by the Constitution of Pennsylvania or by any law, rule, regulation, order or ordinance, the following procedure shall be employed. Any public official or public employee who in the discharge of his official duties would be required to vote on a matter that would result in a conflict of interest shall abstain from voting and, prior to the vote being taken, publicly announce and disclose the nature of his interest as a public record in a written memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting at which the vote is taken, provided that whenever a governing body would be unable to take any action on a matter before it because the number of members of the body required to abstain from voting under the provisions of this section makes the majority or other legally required vote of approval unattainable, then such members shall be permitted to vote if disclosures are made as otherwise provided herein. In the case of a three-member governing body of a political subdivision, where one member has abstained from voting as a result of a conflict of interest and the remaining two members of the governing body have cast opposing votes, the member who has abstained shall be permitted to vote to break the tie vote if disclosure is made as otherwise provided herein." It was noted that while Mr. Barlow and Mr. Jackson are considered working Supervisors, they both are only working as needed. Mr. Barlow worked during a few snowstorms early in the year and Mr. Jackson had worked zero hours to date. It was stated that Mr. Bostek voted on the 2019 budget that contained a line item increase of budget hours for the Elected Auditors which included compensation for his spouse. It was noted that it would be best for him to abstain from voting on such a line item in the future. There was much discussion on whether it was necessary or a precautionary measure. Mr. Lisko stated that the advice is given as conservative and in the best interest of the township. Mr. Barlow stated that he would like to have time for his lawyers to review the document. During the discussion Mr. Lisko informed the Board that he is not providing legal advice to any individual supervisor concerning whether or not they have a conflict of interest. That is a determination they need to make, after discussing with their attorney. Mr. Lisko stated that his advice is being provided as Solicitor for the Township.

*At 11:50 AM a member of the public came in the building and interrupted the meeting to obtain a complaint form. The Secretary left the meeting to get the form. At 11:52 The meeting resumed*

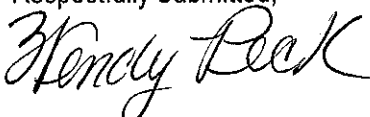
- **Declaration of Conflict of Interest for Working Supervisors continued** – Mr. Bostek made a motion to table the Old Business agenda items a) Declaration of Conflict of Interest for Working Supervisors and b) Policy Manual (consider retroactive approval) until the June 4 meeting. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion. All voted yes and the motion passed.
- **Campground Ordinance Questions from Planning Commission** – Planning Commission Chair Judie Hogan addressed the Board with several questions from the Planning Commission regarding regulations for campsites and campgrounds in the Zoning Ordinance. The Board received a list of questions in advance of the meeting. There was much discussion between the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission Members Judie Hogan, Geoff Grant and Rich Luquette. In summary, the main items of focus were potential sewage violations for extended camping, rights of citizens using their property, and a permit process for temporary and short-term camping. Mr. Luquette asked the Board if they were in favor of the Planning Commission drafting a limited use permit.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Bostek made a motion to accept **25A18-0008---000 SGI ORVIS Lot Addition** application for plan review. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion. All voted yes and the motion passed.
- It was decided that all issues had been resolved around the **Open Records Request and Septic Violation** and no Executive Session was needed.

**Adjourn:** At 12:19 PM, Mr. Bostek motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion. All voted yes, and the meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, at 7:30 PM at the Township Municipal Building.

Respectfully Submitted,



By Wendy Peck, Secretary/Treasurer