

POTTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
September 28, 2020
124 Short Road, Spring Mills, Pennsylvania

ATTENDED BY:

BOARD: Dick Decker, Chair
Jake Tanis, Vice-Chair
Dennis Foust
Karl Eysenbach

STAFF: Lisa Kroner, Township Secretary/Treasurer
David Boliek, Public Works Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Decker called to order the September 28, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Potter Township Board of Supervisors at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jerry Himes, Jr., a forester from Allegheny Foresters & Consultants, spoke about long-term forest management. A forest management plan can be designed for the township-owned property at 286 Sinking Creek Road.

Peter Buck, resident of State College, introduced himself and noted that he was just visiting and observing the meeting.

Colleen Swetland, Penns Valley Park & Rec Association board member, reported on the 2020 operations at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park. Two large projects this year included installation of an ADA-approved lift chair for the pool, and a major electrical upgrade to the entire park and pool. The pool was closed this year due to COVID-19 pandemic resulting in a significant financial impact. PVPRA requested the Board to consider supporting this community facility and help to manage the impact of the lack of membership and very limited fundraising opportunities during the 2020 season. After discussion by the Board, Vice-Chair Tanis offered a motion to donate \$250.00 to the Penns Valley Park & Rec Association. Motion seconded by Mr. Eysenbach. **Vote in favor was unanimous. 4-0**

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Foust made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 meeting. Mr. Tanis seconded the motion. **Vote in favor was unanimous. 4-0**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Penns Valley Regional Planning Commission –The by-laws are being reviewed for needed updates and proposed changes.

- B. Tri-Municipal Park – The 2021 proposed budget was presented. All three municipalities are being requested to budget \$5,500.00 for expenses at Tri-Municipal Park. Volunteers have planted 68 trees at the park.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works Superintendent – A sewer line and conduit has been installed for the new building at Potter Run Park. Electricity has been provided to the pavilion as well.

Brush collection is Oct 5th & 6th and Riff Raff is scheduled for October 9th & 10th, with collection for seniors on Thursday, October 8th.

Crack sealing is being done this week. A request for a new blade for the G120 Caterpillar grader was requested to assist in maintaining the dirt & gravel roads. The cost for a new blade is \$3,500.00. Mr. Tanis presented a motion to purchase a new blade for the Caterpillar grader. Motion seconded by Mr. Eysenbach. **Vote in favor was unanimous. 4-0**

Discussion continued on new mid-mounted boom mower with IVS. Leasing is 3.75%. No decisions were made.

Secretary/Treasurer – The fall newsletter has been mailed to property owners.

A request was presented for purchase of a laptop computer for the administration office. Mr. Foust made a motion approve purchase of a laptop up to \$1,500.00. Motion seconded by Mr. Tanis.

Vote in favor was unanimous. 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chairman Decker presented Resolution R-2020-07, a resolution establishing a temporary 30-day township-wide ban based on the opinion and in the discretion of the Fire Chief on any and all open burning, to include burn barrels and any other type of outdoor burning. No questions or further discussion was offered on the proposed resolution. Mr. Tanis made a motion to adopt R-2020-07 establishing a ban on open burning. Second by Mr. Foust. **Vote in favor was unanimous. 4-0**

**POTTER TOWNSHIP
CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION R-2020-07

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF POTTER, COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING A BAN ON OPEN BURNING**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors are desirous of providing for the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Potter Township; an

WHEREAS, at times, the Township experiences record low stream levels, very low ground water levels, and drier than normal temperatures; and

WHEREAS, due to periods of minimal rainfall, the Township may experience an increase in brush fires, thereby keeping the wildfire potential very high throughout Potter Township; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief, on behalf of the Centre Hall Fire Company, notifies the Township of concerns when fire potential poses a serious and imminent threat to the life and property within Potter Township; and

WHEREAS, emergency measures are required to reduce the severity of this danger in order to protect the health, safety, welfare, and property of the residents of Potter Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: we the undersigned Board of Supervisors of Potter Township may establish a temporary 30-day township-wide ban based on the opinion and in the discretion of the Fire Chief on any and all open burning, to include burn barrels and any other type of outdoor burning. Open burning is hereby defined as the ignition and subsequent burning of any combustible material (garbage, leaves, grass, twigs, litter, paper, vegetative material involved with land clearing or any sort of debris) out-of-doors either in a burn barrel (screened or unscreened) or on the ground. The use of propane or gas stoves, charcoal briquette grills, or the use of tobacco in any form is not covered under this resolution. Campfires, in designated licensed campgrounds, are allowed in fire rings that confine and contain the campfire.

DURATION – The ban shall continue for 30 days from the effective date commenced by the Township unless terminated earlier by subsequent resolution.

NEW BUSINESS:

Save Colyer Lake, LLC has requested financial assistance to offset the engineering fees to conduct the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis for the footbridge project at Colyer Lake. Save Colyer Lake, LLC will be using their funds to pay for the construction of the foot bridges on the trail. Mr. Foust made a motion to approve payment of the invoice, in the amount of \$850, from In-Lieu-Of Parkland Dedication Fund. Mr. Eysenbach seconded the motion. **Vote in favor was unanimous. 4-0.**

Mr. Foust made a motion to employ Anne Sanders as the Administrative Secretarial and Zoning Assistant in the Administration Department. Motion was seconded by Mr. Eysenbach. **Vote in favor was unanimous. 4-0.** Ms. Sanger will begin employment on October 5, 2020.

Mr. Tanis made a motion to declare Saturday, October 31st from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM as the Trick-or-Treating night in Potter Township. Second by Mr. Eysenbach. **Vote in favor was 3-1.** Mr. Decker voted against approving a Trick-or-Treat night.

Sewage Enforcement Officer, Stan Wallace submitted a Request for Waiver from the well isolation distance, as defined in DEP's Rules and Regulations Title 25 Chapter 73.13 (c) (3) An individual water supply (well), for Tax Parcel 20-8A-15. The on-lot sewage disposal system on the aforementioned property has failed. The lot is only 0.28 acres in size.

A suitable location has been located for the installation of an on-lot sewage disposal system. However, the tested area encroaches on the well isolation distance as defined by DEP. As a condition of permit issuance, an Ultraviolet Light will be required to be installed on the water supply. Mr. Decker made a motion to deny the Request for Waiver until more information can be provided on the proximity of wells on neighboring properties. Mr. Foust seconded the motion to deny the request. **Vote in denial of the request was 4-0.**

Planning Commission By-laws address member attendance of regular meetings. The by-laws state commission members may accumulate no more than four unexcused absences for regular meetings per year. Mr. Foust voiced concern for a few members not attending meetings and not notifying the Planning Commission Chair. Mr. Foust offered a motion to send a letter to those members notifying them of their removal from the Planning Commission. Motion seconded by Mr. Tanis. **Vote in favor was unanimous. 4-0.**

A draft 2021 General Fund budget was reviewed. Draft budgets for all accounts will be presented to the Board throughout October.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Foust made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:10 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Tanis. **Vote in favor was unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Kroner
Township Secretary/Treasurer