

Ligonier Township Supervisors
Regular Meeting
August 12, 2014

The Ligonier Township Supervisors met in regular session at 7:00 pm. Chairman Paul Knupp took roll call. Present were Chairman Paul Knupp, Vice Chairman D. Scott Matson and Timothy R. Komar.

Public Comment:

Maggie Nied questioned whether former Ligonier Township Zoning Officer Cynthia Angelo had received unemployment and wanted to know which supervisor allowed this to happen. Paul Knupp stated that he had no comment. Solicitor Michael Kornis said this could be addressed during supervisors comments if one of the Supervisors wished to address this question.

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Timothy Komar to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2014 meeting. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Timothy Komar and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2014 public meeting. Motion carried.

Zoning Office:

Zoning Officer Shelly Kaltenbaugh reported that she will be starting a survey for blighted structures. This would involve structures that show signs of deterioration sufficient enough to constitute a threat to human health, safety and public welfare. She stated that funds are available through the County CDBG Grants that would allow the township to demolish these structures. She asked that anyone who knows of a blighted structure that should be included in this survey to contact her at 724-238-3640. Kaltenbaugh stated that she has been finalizing the Request for Proposals to update the Comprehensive Plan and prepare a Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance and Map. She will be sending it to the Solicitor for review and to include the legal component of the Request for Proposals. Also, there have been a number of Nuisance Complaints from residents. She stated that residents wishing to file a complaint should download a complaint form from Ligonier Township's website and submit it to the zoning office. The Planning Commission will hold a meeting on August 19 with the agenda including the construction of a new office building and three simple subdivisions. She announced that the Supervisors are holding a special meeting on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 7:00 pm to hear the application of Verizon for locating a 150 Foot self-supporting Cellular tower in the Ligonier Valley Cemetery. The Zoning Hearing Board will meet on the following evening, August 26, to hear the application of CINGULAR to place a 165 foot monopole at 100 State Route 271 North.

Police Report:

Chief Michael Matrunic reported that they have full activation at the intersection of 271 and 711, by Sheetz, having received assistance from PennDot to put a speed trailer there to notify drivers of the speed limit in that area. Lines have been painted and enforcement is ongoing. Citations have been issued since this was implemented and they will continue to monitor traffic in that area. Matrunic

stated that they are approved to be paid through a grant for enforcement in that area. He stated that Law Publications was in this area recently securing donations to cover the costs of pamphlets for the police to pass out to residents when they give talks to various groups and schools.

Treasurer's report:

Interim Financial Director Rae Ann Tronetti stated that as of April 30 the cash position is approximately 1.2 million and as of now the township is at 1.4 million, which is a \$200,000.00 increase. The balance sheet is presented on a cash basis at this time and the plans are to eventually put it on the modified accrual basis in accordance with government auditing and accounting standards. Highlights for July income include real estate tax revenue which is mainly in and earned income tax is currently coming through. We received the Act 13 impact fee money. That money comes through the PUC and is calculated based on a formula. Approximately \$48,000.00 has been received through the Act 13 impact fee. A truck has been purchased from state liquid fuels money, costing approximately \$42,000.00. Tronetti stated that approximately \$15,000.00 has been spent on legal fees for the month of July. The K-9 fund has approximately \$27,000.00, including a donation of \$4,500.00 from the RK Mellon Foundation and a donation of \$4,500.00 from the Pittsburgh Foundation for a Thermal Imaging Camera.

- A motion was made by Timothy Komar and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the Treasurer's report for July. Motion carried.

Engineer's Report:

It was stated that they had reviewed a few small subdivisions and continue to work with the engineer from Bethlen Homes on the grading issues.

Solicitor's Report: None

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Timothy Komar to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- A motion was made by Timothy Komar and seconded by Scott Matson to adopt a resolution to hire Ligonier Township Manager candidate Terry L. Carcella and approval of Township Manager's Contract as presented. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Timothy Komar and seconded by Scott Matson to approve a Curative Amendment to Table 201, C-2, General Commercial allowing office use to be a permitted use in the C-2, General Commercial Zoning District. Motion carried.

Supervisors comment:

Supervisor Komar stated that road sealing in the Township will begin on August 25, 2014 through August 29, 2014 and requested that people not blow grass onto the roads because this will cause a delay as they will have to sweep the roads off again. Komar attended a CDBG meeting recently about grant money that is available. The township has to do a basic cost analysis regarding what money we are looking for to tear down these buildings. Partial costs then go to the Township and when those properties are torn down and cleaned up, a lien is placed on the property. If the property is then sold, the township would get their money back. Komar responded to Maggie Niede's question regarding Cynthia Angelo receiving unemployment. Komar stated that "Yes, Cindy Angelo did get unemployment. No, no one allowed it to happen. We went to several hearings, fought tooth and nail to stop it from happening and we are very well educated that you can say non-truths under oath and get away with it. We have further sent the information of the non-truths to the state ethics board and that is being dealt with and when their ruling comes down, if it is proven that these were under false pretense, the money will be returned."

Supervisor Scott Matson stated that he wishes the DA would get done with what they are supposed to get done with. He stated he has called and they don't return his calls.

Supervisor Paul Knupp thanked the Recreation Board and Larry Shew for their hard work extending the Ligonier Valley Trails to the Church Camp. He asked residents to please support the fire companies during their annual fund drive. Knupp stated that the new township manager is a seasoned government administrator with over 21 years' experience with two townships in Western Pennsylvania. He held responsibilities the last 13 years as Zoning Administrator. He possesses excellent skills as a grant writer, in addition to being a certified instructor for subdivision and land development. He specializes in union negotiations. His background includes Zoning, Code Enforcement and Public Safety.

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Timothy Komar to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara L. Hollick
Assistant Secretary