

May 28, 2024

The regular meeting of the Ligonier Township Supervisors was held Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building with Chairman Dan Resenic presiding.

Members Present: Dan Resenic, Erik Ross, Scott Matson, Stephanie Verna, and John Beaufort.

Others Present: Township Manager Michael Strelac, Solicitor Dan Hudock, Engineer Ben Faas, Public Works Foremen Lance Griffith, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Rick Krouse, and Finance Officer Bethany Caldwell.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS

There were no comments from the Supervisors.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A **motion** was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Stephanie Verna to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2024 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Westmoreland County Land Bank 2023 Audit Report

REPORTS:

MANAGER

Mr. Strelac reported on the Land Bank's most recent activity in the Township and noted joining has been beneficial. The police commission discussed adopting a code of conduct at their last meeting. The Township's Board of Supervisors adopted its own code of conduct and he provided the Board with a copy of Resolution 11 of 2021. The public hearing for the possible adoption of the Zoning Ordinance amendments has been scheduled for June 25, at 6 p.m.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Hudock had nothing to report.

ZONING / CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Krouse presented his monthly report for April.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Griffith reported several stormwater grant projects have been completed and the crew continues to prep the roads that are going to be chip sealed later this summer.

FINANCE

The General Fund's budget vs. actual report for the month of April was presented.

BILLS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the bills payable as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Ligonier Beach's Master Site Development & Pool Feasibility Plan Bid Opening:

Six bids were received:

GAI Consultants – \$98,550

HRG – \$97,205

Mackin – \$100,000

KU Resources, Inc. – \$97,450

Aquatic Facility Design – \$39,055 + \$49,945 for a total of \$89,000

DK Lawrence & Design Studio – \$137,770

Bids will be scanned and sent to the study committee for review next week (June 5), no action was taken.

Ligonier Beach Cleanup:

There was a discussion about the Ligonier Beach and the best way to tackle the overgrown vegetation safely.

Westmoreland Conservation District Partnership Agreement:

The Westmoreland Conservation District staff help the Township secure permits and they offer assistance with sediment erosion control plans for our residents.

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by John Beaufort to renew the Westmoreland Conservation District Partnership Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Weidlein Residence Trust Plan:

This subdivision was reviewed and recommended by the Planning Commission.

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the Weidlein Residence Trust Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

National Night Out, Tuesday August 6:

Mr. Strelac asked the Board to mark their calendars and attend this event. He also asked them to consider sponsoring a component of the event, suggestions include – providing free water, hiring an artist to paint children's faces, or bring some ideas to the next meeting.

Country Market Special Events Permit Compliance Issues:

The County Market is in compliance with the maximum number of vendors but out of compliance with the maximum number of vendor spaces. There are still some safety concerns that need addressed in addition to the market's footprint: traffic backed out on Route 30, parking along Old Route 30, pedestrian congestion at the market's entrance, and emergency planning.

A motion was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson directing Mr. Strelac to go back and talk to the Country Market about the Board's safety-related concerns. Motion carried unanimously.

Ligonier Valley Trail Study Committee:

The Board agreed the study committee should be made of five (5) members. Two (2) members from the Township's Rec Board (board or alternates) and three (3) members from the public (residents not just property owners). They directed staff to solicit interest by posting on the Township's website and Facebook page.

Cops School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) Grant:

This grant would pay 75% of the purchase and installation of a radio repeater tower to improve campus communication. Private schools cannot be the primary grant applicant, they must partner with their local government. Staff would coordinate and administer the grant as a pass through.

A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded Scott Matson authorizing staff to submit an SVPP grant application on behalf of the Valley School of Ligonier, provided they supply the application's information and the grant match money. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Janelle Emory – commented on FOLB grant study and offered some suggestions for the Ligonier Beach property.

Terrell Funk – commented on the Ligonier Beach and asked about a volunteer clean up event.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Matson – asked Mr. Strelac to talk to Mr. Roberts about expanding the scope of work done at the Ligonier Beach, more mowing, etc. to keep it looking more presentable.

Supervisor Resenic – asked Mr. Strelac to talk to the insurance provider about the current Ligonier Beach property safety concerns. Mr. Strelac explained that an insurance rep recently visited the Township's facilities to ensure the policy coverage was accurate.

Supervisor Verna – asked Mr. Strelac if he had a report that documents the insurance rep's onsite visit facility review and she asked Mr. Hudock's opinion on the Township's liability with respect to the Ligonier Beach. She suggested the Rec Board and FOLB get together and identify some possible dates for a cleanup event. She rode around the township and saw where work

was done, saw some trees marked for removal on Griffith Road and noted there is water erosion on one side of the road, what can we do to improve? She understands people get frustrated and hopes they understand the Township is trying to manage and protect its assets.

Supervisor Resenic – said he will be sharing the LVPD’s code of conduct with the rest of the board for their information, as the Commission is made up of two (2) Township Supervisors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into executive session at 5:32 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue, specifically the union’s health care grievance. They resumed their regular meeting at 5:51 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A **motion** was made by Erik Ross and seconded by Scott Matson to adjourn the meeting. All of the board was in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer