

**Ligonier Township Supervisors
Regular Meeting Minutes**

June 8, 2021

The Supervisors of Ligonier Township met in regular session at 7:00 PM. Present were Chair, John Beaufort; Vice Chair, Paul Knupp; Secretary/Treasurer, Stephanie Verna; Supervisor, D. Scott Matson; and Supervisor, Dan Resenic.

Also present were Manager, Terry Carcella; Solicitor, Michael Korn; Engineer, Ben Faas; Public Works Director, Russ Morgan; Zoning Officer, Jim Nieusma, and Finance Officer, Bethany Caldwell.

Public Comment “A”

1. Wendy Buza, (remote) – concerned about speeding on Jinks Trail. There are about 12 houses along this road, there aren't any speed limit signs, and she worries about kids getting hurt and about the speeding getting worse after the road is paved.

Chairman Beaufort stated we did not have an immediate answer but staff would investigate. Mr. Korn added that without an existing speed limit, the default is 55 mph and would require a study to change the speed limit. Enforcement is difficult as the local police are not allowed to use radar.

2. Julie Donovan clarified item 1 under New Business on the agenda should read, the “Ligonier Beach Park Master Plan.” She discussed the “Friends of the Ligonier Beach” (FOLB) community group’s plan, which includes creek access, a fishing pier, pollinator gardens, an education center, a bathhouse, new restaurant / event center, preservation of historical architectural elements, with the focal point being the swimming pool that’s been transformed into a natural pool.

3. Debbie Nicely – stated the FOLB proposal would make Ligonier Beach the nation’s largest natural swimming pool. It involves renovation while preserving the pool and conversion to natural. Eliminates chemicals. Uses a biological filter (BioNova), which protects the Loyalhanna. If flooding occurs, it enhances the environment.

4. Jim Steward – referenced a book, “Blue Mind,” and the author writes being near, on, in, and under, the water makes you happy. Water covers more than 70% of the earth and makes up most of our bodies. Water promotes wellness and relaxation, reduces stress, and increases health benefits.

5. Melissa Eller – summarized the FOLB vision, passion to develop unique property to put us in the national spot light. Noted support for the group has increased. The Friends of Ligonier Beach committee is committed to a partnership with the Township.

6. Sharon Detar – spoke on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. The FOLB proposal will have a positive economic impact as it is another destination of the Ligonier Valley –

along with the Fort, the county market, Idlewild, etc. Additionally, a large natural pool is unique and will draw people from outside the area.

7. Ann Nemanic, Laurel Highlands Executive Director – discussed the four reasons why people visit this area: 1) outdoor recreation, 2) history & culture, 3) wellness through nature, and 4) classical amusements. Provided tourism economics - \$1.9B is spent by visitors to the Highlands every year. \$772M spent in Westmoreland County annually. \$142 spent per day by “day trips,” \$498 spent if overnighting. There are a lot of B&Bs and air B&Bs in our area. The FOLB proposal supports and sustains local businesses. The tourism asset is multi-faceted. If given the opportunity, this proposal will allow the Visitors Bureau to tell our story.

8. Barb Kapusta – told the Supervisors she has been having problems with a neighbor and asked if there is something they can do to help with respect to local ordinances.

Mr. Korn asked her to meet with him after the meeting for further discussion.

- A motion was made by Dan Resenic and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Supervisors Comment

Supervisor Verna – it is nice to see everyone.

Supervisor Resenic – thanked the speakers for the way they addressed the board – it was polite, intelligent and gave him a lot of information to think about.

Supervisor Beaufort – was pleased with the turn out, it would be nice if the public attended meetings more often.

Manager’s Report

Mr. Carcella shared a MAWC / Township joint press release, regarding the start of the Charlotte / Hi Acres plan water line replacement grant project.

Correspondence

1. Ligonier Beach Master Plan
2. Ligonier Beach emails – multiple
3. DEP Response to ACT 537 Plan Submittal
4. DEP Appointment letter
5. Wendy Buza (Jinks Trail) email
6. Mary Jane Stetter (Byers Lane) email

Engineer Report

Mr. Faas reported the intern is 4 weeks into the Stormwater Study, ahead of schedule. Will provide a status report at the next meeting. Mr. Faas is working with the LTMA Engineer and coordinating a meeting with the DEP to get clarification on the Act 537 comments.

Police Report

See attached. Chief Berger reminded everyone to be careful of phone call scams and *never* give out personal information.

Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Kornis reported that an executive session was held at 6-7 PM and certified compliance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Laws as the discussions pertained to real estate and personnel matters.

Mr. Kornis also reported that the Governor's order with respect to occupancy limits expired on May 31. The mask order is still in effect for individuals that have not been vaccinated and that will expire when 70% of the state is vaccinated or June 28, whichever comes first. It is time to think about terminating the Township's emergency order. Finally, Mr. Kornis was on paternity leave in May and is still working on the property maintenance order and hopes to have it before the board in July.

Public Works Report

Mr. Morgan said that Truck 1 (2012 dump truck) needs a new oil pan, part was ordered on April 26, however we are still waiting.

Quaker will begin fiber matting 3.86 miles of roads in Oakwood Hills on June 21. Estimate work will be completed in 3-4 days. Then the contractor will chip & seal Old Lincoln East & Thomas Road, followed by Old Lincoln West, Orme, Clark Hollow, and the lower end of Matson Road. Next Berkley Road will be triple sealed and finally Jinks Trail will be double sealed. Almost 14 miles of road total.

Zoning & Code Report

Mr. Nieuwma went over his monthly report. A copy of chapter 94 from the Borough was in Supervisors' packets and he explained that codifying ordinances makes them searchable and much easier to find information. A quote for this service was also provided.

Treasurer's Report

Supervisor Verna reported the account balances as of June 8:

General Fund	\$ 489,659
General Fund Reserves	688,196
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund*	412,137
Capital Fund Reserves*	20,863
Ligonier Beach Park*	123,248
Mill Creek Memorial Park*	8,100

Charlotte Hi Acre Waterline*	1,548
Developer's Account*	2,000
Total Funds Balance:	\$1,745,751

*denotes funds are restricted

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the bills for May / June as presented. Motion carried.

New Business:

1. Three surveillance system quotes were shared with the Supervisors for consideration.

2. EZ texting one year contract

- A motion was made by Dan Resenic and seconded by Paul Knupp to approve the one year contract. Roll call vote – Scott Matson, Paul Knupp and Dan Resenic voted yes, John Beaufort and Stephanie Verna voted no. Motion carried, 3 to 2.

3. SMMP contract

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Dan Resenic to move forward with the Grass Roots contract not to exceed \$39,725. Motion carried, with Supervisor Knupp abstaining.

Public Comment “B”

1. Melissa Eller – offered to meet with the Supervisors if they have questions / comments regarding their proposal.

Supervisor Comments

Supervisor Verna – asked for an update on the Teeter & Associates contract. Mr. Carcella stated it's been on hold as we were waiting for the Friends of the Ligonier Beach to submit a comprehensive plan.

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Dan Resenic that the sketch and packet provided tonight be presented to Teeter & Associate for use in their Ligonier Beach feasibility study. Motion carried.

Supervisor Verna directed staff to invite two members from the Board (Scott Matson and John Beaufort volunteered) along with members from the Friends of Ligonier Beach (Julie Donovan and Melissa Eller) and staff to be at the meeting with Teeter.

Supervisor Verna also said that Shaffer Road complaints need be investigated to make sure nothing has changed and is still in compliance.

Supervisor Resenic – said that he has received complaints about the condition of the Ligonier Beach. He would like to know which buildings are key to the pool peoples plans and which ones can go so that the place can be cleaned up sooner rather than later.

Supervisor Beaufort – Agreed with Supervisor Resenic

- A motion was made by Stephanie Verna and seconded by Paul Knupp to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Caldwell
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Ligonier Township, Westmoreland County, PA
Bill Payments for All Vendors
June 8, 2021

Vendor	Type	Num	Amount
Jun 8, 21			
AFLAC	Bill Pmt -Check	24201	102.92
Bethany Caldwell	Bill Pmt -Check	24202	36.14
Comcast	Bill Pmt -Check	24203	133.35
Credit Card Dept-First Commonwealth Bank	Bill Pmt -Check	24204	445.76
Fayette Parts Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24205	18.65
Glassmere Fuel Service	Bill Pmt -Check	24206	1,954.85
JSB Holding, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24207	394.15
Laurel Valley Hardware Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24208	71.36
Lehigh Hanson Heidelberg Cement Group	Bill Pmt -Check	24230	5,180.72
LVTech	Bill Pmt -Check	24209	1,544.80
Mutual Aid EMS	Bill Pmt -Check	24210	450.00
ODB Company	Bill Pmt -Check	24211	713.28
PennPrime	Bill Pmt -Check	24212	6,389.00
PennPrime	Bill Pmt -Check	24229	13,695.00
Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24213	159.30
Pleasant Unity Supply	Bill Pmt -Check	24214	2,976.00
Rampart Security Systems	Bill Pmt -Check	24215	255.00
Royal Oak Retriever, LLC	Bill Pmt -Check	24216	60.00
Shred America	Bill Pmt -Check	24217	236.08
Terry Carcella	Bill Pmt -Check	24218	119.28
The EADS Group	Bill Pmt -Check	24219	583.30
Total Service, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	24231	174.21
Town & Country Motors	Bill Pmt -Check	24220	110.00
Tricia Levander	Bill Pmt -Check	24221	1,291.78
U.S. Municipal	Bill Pmt -Check	24222	242.63
UAW LOCAL 204	Bill Pmt -Check	24223	320.80
UniFirst Corporation	Bill Pmt -Check	24224	350.70
Valley Landscaping & Lawn Care	Bill Pmt -Check	24225	676.00
Washington National Insurance Company	Bill Pmt -Check	24226	268.14
West Penn Power	Bill Pmt -Check	24227	193.42
Western Pennsylvania Teamsters and Employ	Bill Pmt -Check	24228	24,367.41
Jun 8, 21			63,514.03

SAW
6-8-2021

12:52 PM

06/07/21

Ligonier Beach Property Project
Bill Payments for All Vendors
June 8, 2021

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Jun 8, 21 Ligonier Township (GF)	Bill Pmt -Check	1006	06/08/2021	500.00
Jun 8, 21				<u>500.00</u>

SA
6-8-2021