

Ligonier Township Supervisors

Minutes

9 November 2010

The Supervisors of Ligonier Township met in regular session at 7 pm with all three Supervisors present: Chairman Timothy R Komar, William C Penrod Jr and Keith A Whipkey.

From the audience, Roger Payne asked for information regarding a code violation notice he filled some time ago. He asked how it was being pursued and how the matter might be resolved. Code Enforcement Officer Robert Shapiro appeared to discuss the matter. He responded that the neighbor was sent a violation notice and told that he must clean up his property. Officer Shapiro noted that the neighbor came into the Township office and obtained a building permit. Shapiro accepted this step as progress. He explained that, in order to take the individual to the magistrate for prosecution, he must be able to present a case that the accused was given a reasonable time to comply, and "reasonable time" varies in definition according to the danger risk needing resolved. Obviously, more time can be reasonably given if there is not immediate danger. In this case, Shapiro has given this case, and others similar, until the first of the year 2011 to comply. After, he will take the unresolved cases to the magistrate for prosecution. It has been the policy of the Township to try to work with property owners and only resort to incurring legal fees to prosecute in extreme cases. Magistrates also cannot be assumed to impose severe penalties in these types of cases and often will be lenient in enforcement. And once the decision is made by the Magistrate, further efforts by the Township to seek remedy are not permitted.

A motion was made by Penrod and seconded by Whipkey to approve the minutes of the 12 October regular meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Penrod and seconded by Whipkey to approve the minutes of the 26 October special meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Penrod and seconded by Komar to approve the Treasurer's report for October. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Whipkey and seconded by Penrod to approve payment of the current bills. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Whipkey and seconded by Penrod to accept the Police Incident report for October. Motion carried.

(2)

Zoning Office – Cynthia J Turley

1. A motion was made by Whipkey and seconded by Penrod to approve a subdivision for Frances Todd Stewart for the property on Barron Road subject to receipt of a DEP planning module. Motion carried.

Old business:

1. A motion was made by Whipkey and seconded by Penrod to accept the resignation of Patrolman Matthew Sherer from the Police Department. Motion carried.
2. Supervisors again announced vacancies as Alternates to the Zoning Hearing Board

New business:

1. Supervisors announced that two part-time vacancies exist for the Police Department
2. Engineer Nick Coppage and Solicitor Judith Cizek explained the need for the Township to update its flood plain ordinance. This is required in all communities wishing its property owners to receive discounted flood insurance. It is expected that the final draft can come to the Supervisors in January or February.
3. Supervisors announced that they will meet in special session at 8 am on Tuesday, 16 November to approve the preliminary budget for 2011.
4. A motion was made by Whipkey and seconded by Penrod to appoint Robert Angelo and Rick Penrod as Alternates to the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion carried.
5. A motion was made by Penrod and seconded by Whipkey to approve the 2011 contract with Hoffman Kennel at no increase in monthly cost. Motion carried.
6. Supervisors tabled consideration of paying \$590 in 2011 for membership in the Westmoreland Transit Authority. Supervisors are unaware of any regular stops made in the Township and have not had inquiries from anyone wishing to take advantage of the service.

A motion was made by Penrod and seconded by Whipkey to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A Whipkey

Secretary