

West Sadsbury Township, Board of Supervisors Work Session

December 17, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman, Ed Haas at 9:30 AM. In attendance was Vice Chairman, Ed Haas; John Keeseey and Patti Piersol.

Patti Piersol stated that she was recording the meeting.

1. John Keeseey was sworn in by Judge Nancy Gill on 12/11/2019.
2. Ed Haas made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by John Keeseey, motion carried.
3. The Millage rate needs to be reported to Chester County because they are required by law to compile statistical tax rate information. Ed Haas made a motion to state the Real Estate millage rate for 2020 is 1.5 plus 1.1 for the Fire tax, seconded by John Keeseey, motion carried. These are the same rates as last year.
4. Lancaster County notified the Township that they plan to replace the East Octoraro #1 bridge, it will be closed approximately 9 months from March 2020 to November 2020. Detours will be posted.
5. P P & L informed the Township that they will be performing routine vegetation management on Township property at 4415 Upper Valley Road.
6. The Township's energy contract runs out 11/2020 with Direct Energy and they want the Township to sign up soon. The Board wants to investigate other options.
7. We were notified by our Solicitor that we must register our CDL drivers with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse that goes into effect 1/6/2020. We will register Tim Nichols and Charlie Kauffman.
8. Insurance Services have been approved. A package of coverages through the Francis Hall Agency – automobiles, traffic lights and building at a cost of \$18,374.00 plus \$250.00 for general insurance. Motion by Ed to approve the insurance package and conditional approval on the Workman's Compensation Insurance depending on the cost, seconded by John. Motion carried.
9. The Independence Blue Cross contract expires 2/1/2020, if changes are wanted, need to choose and return forms by 12/31/2019. Chief Fidler said that in the past they have just let it roll over. Ed made a motion to keep the current health plan, seconded by John, motion carried.
10. Ed Haas stated that they budgeted for a fifth police officer. Chief Fidler recommends the Township the Township hire Mike Sasso, who is currently a part time officer for the Township. Ed made a motion to hire Michael J. Sasso as a full-time officer for West Sadsbury Township effective 1/1/2020, seconded by John Keeseey, motion carried.
11. Office closing for holidays: The office will be closed Wednesday, 12/25, Thursday 12/26 and Friday for the Christmas Holiday. Then Wednesday, Jan 01/01/2020, Thursday 01/02 and Friday for the New Year's Holiday.
12. Ed asked if anyone has any problems with the office being closed on Fridays. None was expressed. So, Ed made a motion to have the office closed on Fridays in January, seconded by John, motion carried.
13. The re-organizational meeting will be on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:30 PM.

14. Per Chester County, as of 11/14/2019 the West Sadsbury Township Real Estate valuation including mobile homes is \$152,948,623.00 with public utilities at \$109,890.00.

Questions from the residents:

Donald Stoltzfus said that he was talking to a former Supervisor of another Township and he said that things ran more smoothly when they increased their Board from 3 to 5. Ed said that he thought you need to petition the Court of Common Pleas to expand, he will check with our Solicitor.

Aaron Zook asked about the process to get the third Supervisor. Ed said that they were going to speak to our Solicitor on Thursday to find out more. He knows that we will need to petition the Court of Common Pleas, then it will need to be put on the docket. Presentations and information are all controlled by the Judge.

Can the re-organizational meeting be done with just 2? Ed said yes

John Keeseey asked if Ed Haas would vote for Darren DeVoe for Supervisor. Ed told him, that time has passed, they could only name a vacancy board member at this late date. They can't agree so it is going to the Court.

Hank Cochran asked about the Work Session meetings, Ed said that they would be in the evenings. Ed made a motion to have the Work Session on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6 PM, seconded by John, motion carried.

Dan Bush asked if the Board was going to re-appoint the Zoning Officer for 2020. Mr. Bush does not feel the he is doing his duties. John Keeseey asked him to make a compliant in writing.

Jim Landis spoke about the \$75,000.00 budgeted for the Engineering fees with Stormwater Management. He said that the DPA allows for a waiver. Ed that Cory Rathman had applied for that when he was the Township Engineer and the Township was denied. Mr. Landis asked if the EPA was aware that the area is changing, less dairy farming. Mr. Landis also asked about White Horse Construction, what is the Township's intent: close them, limit them? He said if you look at some of the home occupations, you need to look at all of them.

Dan Bush asked what will be the approach to applying for grants, will this become part of a job description? Ed said, probably add it to the Managers job description. He also asked about the Manager, when does short term run out, any Doctor's information.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:13 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Piersol, Administrative Assistant.