

BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP
July 16, 2020
BIG CREEK TOWNSHIP HALL

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Booth, Stone, Mitchell, Avery, Mundt, Sheriff Grace, Commissioners Bondar and McCauley, LVFD Asst. Chief Wyrembelski, 14 electors

ABSENT: None

MINUTES – June 18, 2020 Regular Meeting, July 7, 2020 Election Commission

Mitchell/Stone to approve June 18, 2020 minutes as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Booth/Mundt – to approve Election Commission minutes of July 7, 2020 as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

LIST OF BILLS

Stone/Mitchell pay bills totaling \$16,500.45 as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Revenue sharing down about \$5000 this month due to COVID-19.

Avery would like to get a scanning machine to use instead of taking checks to bank. There would be a \$50/month charge, and a \$.15 per check charge for any checks over 500. Total estimated annual cost would be about \$800, which could be paid from Admin. Fee which is now collected with the taxes.

Stone/Mitchell to authorize Avery to get a check scanner. All ayes. Motion carried.

Account Balances: General Fund - \$516,389.86; Cemetery Fund - \$58,352.17; Parks Fund - \$69,737.08; Road Fund - \$265,696.86; Luzerne Fire Fund - \$122,092.43; Fire Millage - \$141,687.50.

FIRE REPORT

Wyrembelski has a trash pump that froze up and broke while in the CONEX box. He’d like to purchase it. Will put it up for bids for next month.

- Update on hazard pay for volunteer firemen – State has a plan to help Twp. pay hazard pay costs due to Covid. Will look into it and address it in August. Stone will contact the State on if it will be available for volunteers.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Handicap swing installed at Comstock on 7/15/20.

Board of Review will be next Tues (7/21/20) from 6-8 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tri-Town – approved 2 new firemen

BLIGHT OFFICER REPORT

New cases: 5; Court files completed – 3; Citations – 11; Notice to appear mailed – 5; Hearings – 1, Citations paid – 4.

The Twp. only receives \$45 per ticket. Costs for preparing for court can be added on the cost of the ticket. Bundoff is looking at the hourly cost, printing costs, etc. for going to court.

Booth/Mitchell to add to blight tickets additional costs for preparing for court and time spent at court. All ayes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Thompson Road update – Engineering cost is \$20,000 to \$30,000, substantially more than quoted at the meeting Booth and Stone had with Road Commission. Construction will be approx. \$300,000, and an alternate route will need to be created before Thompson Rd. can be closed for excavation.
Booth will contact C2AE to get an estimate for engineering, hoping their estimated costs are less than the \$300,000 quoted by the Road Commission.
Road commission wants to get out of the dust control projects, they supposedly would cost share but want the townships to take care of contracting for the brine application since townships would like to have the application made on different schedules.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ryan Bills Re: Beer & Wine License – Want beer and wine license (tavern license) for Blue Collar Clothing. All ayes.
Stone/Mitchell to approve application for Blue Collar Clothing’s tavern license. Roll Call Vote: Stone – yes, Mitchell – yes, Avery – yes, Booth- yes, Mundt – yes. Application Approved.
- Brian Sukarukoff Re: Use of old Kof C Hall, Vacating Street
The Road Commission has already approved vacating the alley, now a resolution to vacate needs to come from the Township. Will prepare the resolution for August, but give Sukarukoff a letter saying we support vacating the alley. Buildings have been built on the alley easement.
Stone/Mitchell to author a letter saying we support the vacation of the alley that goes thru the center of block 35, plat of the village of Mio. All ayes. Motion carried.
- Gypsy Moth Spraying – County is going to put a millage on the Nov. ballot to cover the gypsy moth spraying. We will have Kevin Kirby do a survey this fall.
- Electronics Recycling –Flyers will be available soon to put out for people paying taxes. Recycle will be at Tri-Town Fire Dept. on Sept. 12, 2020.
- Discussed MDOT’s plan to reconstruct M-33
Mitchell/Avery to prepare a letter supporting MDOT’s plan for repairs/reconstruction of M-33 from 14th Street to McKinley Rd. All ayes. Motion carried.
- Event Application – July 25 at Bigfoot Lodge in Luzerne. The applicants have not provided any supporting information as required by the permit application. The application also needs to be made 60 days prior to the event, which it wasn’t.

Booth/Mitchell To deny the Special Event Permit for My Herbal Forest Cannabis Festival at Big Food Lodge on 7/25/20 because the applicant hasn't provided any supporting information. All ayes. Motion carried.

MAIL:

- Donation of "Welcome to Luzerne" sign – Luzerne Chamber of Commerce has raised money to put solar lights on the signs.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Candidates' comments
- Deb Coulon - Twp. Trustee
- Ann Galbraith – County Clerk/Register of Deeds.
- Kevin Grace, Sheriff's Dept. 25 years.

Grace – new state laws on CPL, Sheriff's Dept. has more paperwork to complete and the time to get approved takes a little longer. Requesting support for millages which are being renewed again this year (sheriff's operating millage, drug enforcement millage).

K. Swartzendruber thanked the Board for looking into the Thompson Road situation as he's been having trouble getting any cooperation from the Road Commission.

BOARD COMMENT:

ORV signs – County does not have any, so Stone will contact the USFS about signs.

Complaints from neighbors about music (outdoors) at Sky Ranch bar.

Complaints about the size of the marijuana grow operations. Maybe we should look into limiting numbers of licenses, or requiring a buffer between grow operations and neighbors.

Meeting adjourned 8:34 pm.

Rhonda Mundt
Township Clerk