

## SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SHEFFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

August 24, 2022

The special meeting of the Sheffield Township Supervisors was held to finalize the plans for the Memorial Park playground was held on August 24, 2022, at 6pm at the Sheffield Food Pantry at 18 Leather Street, Sheffield, Pennsylvania.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jay Fitch with Supervisors Jeff Labesky and Nathan Lindberg, Solicitor Andrea Stapleford, and Administrator/Treasurer Kristi Kulka-Leichtenberger present.

The Pledge to the flag was recited.

**MINUTES** With a Lindberg/Labesky motion, the Board of Supervisors accepted the Minutes from the August 15, 2022, Regular Meeting.

### RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Kenneth Schrader, Jr, Patti Blum, Scott Paris, Nadine Pollock, Kathy Geiger, Kim Holden, Richard Fergus, Curvin Johnson, Rita Goldthwaite, Glenn Weaver, Pam Pederson, Jason Silvis, Gloria Roell, Debbie Koza, Lori McNeal, Kyle McNeal, Rick Petruney, Randy Petruney, Shelah Brush, Michele Grubbs and Jamie Steffan.

Kathy Geiger addressed the supervisors expressing her concerns for the bullying that goes on meeting after meeting, it reminds her of high school, and she is hoping for a solution to all these matters. She also stated she is very grateful that she doesn't live beside any of these cited properties.

**BILLS FOR APPROVAL** in the amount of \$2,533.90 was approved with a motion/second by Lindberg/Labesky

### OLD BUSINESS

- a. Playground Bid, township is receiving an equipment grant for up to \$100,000.00 from Game Time once we spend \$100,000.00 on equipment that falls under the criteria of the grant. A new proposal is available from Game Time. Supervisor Labesky stated that under the new proposal we would be receiving \$22,200 in grant funds. Supervisor Labesky made a motion to keep the existing equipment at both playgrounds and purchase approximately 58 tons or 9,000 square feet of rubberized mulch for both playgrounds. Township staff will remove broken equipment, remove old mulch, and railroad ties, we will purchase 2 primetime swing sets to replace the old one at a price of \$3,553. Jay will contact the company for the rubberized mulch at a cheaper price than Game Time for a time frame for delivery. At our September meeting we will have a final price, motion was seconded by Lindberg and duly carried.
- b. Howe Township Fire Agreement The last time this was addressed was 2013 when the rate was \$3,500 and it increased in 2014 to \$4,400. Chief Bell was not present to discuss this.
- c. Bob Hennessey, Supervisors and Roadmaster meeting to discuss Henry's Mills Road Improvements.

### NEW BUSINESS

- a. Sheffield VFW contributed \$1200.00 for all new flags
- b. Report on Multi-Municipal Emergency Services Commission Meeting on August 17, 2022. Supervisor Fitch stated that there are 2 proposals on the table with Emergycare and the City of Warren for coverage from 5am-5pm for ambulance.
- c. Received the bill from IA Construction for \$150,457.26 for the 2022 blacktopping
- d. The Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Sheffield Township Pension Plan is \$7,759.94, and the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police Pension Plan, obviously there is no obligation for police, but both are ready for adoption for 2023. With a Labesky/Lindberg motion/second the MMO's for 2023 were accepted.

### GRASS VIOLATIONS

- e. 4031 Route 6 letter returned timed out, property will be posted, and violation be filed
- f. 23 Willow Street letter, Code Enforcement checking on this property

- g. 12 1<sup>st</sup> Mill Street letter not received yet
- h. Cottage Avenue letter returned unclaimed, property posted, and charges filed
- i. 63 2<sup>nd</sup> Mill Street letter not received yet
- j. 7312 Route 6 has until 9/6/2022
- k. 300 High Street has until 9/6/2022
- l. 116 Alling Road has until 9/6/2022
- m. 172 Keystone Avenue has until 9/6/2022
- n. 59 2<sup>nd</sup> Mill Street

**SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS:** 13 1<sup>st</sup> Mill Street contacted office and state it is not garbage he's in the process of moving.

**NUISANCE & JUNKYARD ORDINANCE NO. 91** courtesy letters sent to:

- o. 27 1<sup>st</sup> Mill Street
- p. 5-13 Center Street
- q. 17 Center Street, grass violation
- r. 1526 & 1548 Austin Hill Road, grass violation also
- s. South Main Street
- t. 1842 Austin Hill Road

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rita Goldthwaite commenting on the condition of Bloss Hill Road absolutely unexpected obviously not a priority for the township, its getting worse, drainage, gullies on the side of the road.

Michele Grubbs is very happy about the park plans, asked for clarification on the swings. Supervisor Labesky stated new swings will be purchased to take place of the old ones in both sides of the playground.

Rick Petruney asked about Mike Service Station Work. Private business getting work done, why was township their working on a private business. Supervisor Labesky stated he's being billed for this work, and this will never happen again. Roadmaster was on vacation, Assistant Roadmaster did the work, and it will never happen again. Much more discussion on working at a private business by township was held.

Patti Blum stated that we better go to bid for the playground project \$10,000 is the threshold for bidding. Solicitor Stapleford corrected her at \$21,900 being the current threshold for bidding requirements. Minutes: why can't we see all the minutes on the township web page, Supervisor Fitch stated they are in the office and available just ask for them. She stated many errors including Josh Schrader was not in attendance at the last meeting. She stated the minutes do not reflect what is said at a meeting. She also stated again about the priorities of work being done in the township, Bloss Hill should have been fixed not the playground. Mrs. Blum also asked about the insurance money that was received from her insurance company to purchase a new bench, when she had an accident and damaged the bench in the playground, she wanted to know why a new bench was not purchased?

Debbie Koza questioned money for playground, she understands that their other sources of money for this from groups and organizations plus township money. Supervisor Fitch stated that a budget is put together every year to allocate funds for each of the township programs. She also asked how we plan to plow Bloss Hill, there is nothing left of this road. Supervisor Fitch stated that this is a priority for next year, but funds have already been spent for roads. We go to bid in March for our paving and allocate funds for that then. She also mentioned a tax increase for a police officer. Much discussion on police referendum that was in place for voters. Supervisor Lindberg stated it would cost \$150,000 for 1 police officer in our town and are you willing to have your taxes raised to pay for this?

Kim Holden is concerned that the supervisors are not knowing what their roadcrew is doing and that they aren't doing what they are supposed to be doing.

Kyle McNeal asking if the mulch has been ordered for playground and will it be put down this year. The Sports Boosters would like their donation back if the mulch isn't in place this year. He also thanked the Supervisors for the job on Bloss Hill earlier this year. The roadcrew did a tremendous job on the upper part of Bloss Hill, but from 2<sup>nd</sup> Mill Street down is bad.

Jason Silvis asked when the top ½ of Whipple Street drainage issue is going to get fixed, cover on catch basin by 607 Whipple Street, Gloria Roell stated that the catch basin is covered over and needs to be addressed. Supervisor Labesky stated that they will look at this when the roadmaster returns.

Glenn Weaver stated that taxpayers elect people like you to work for us, He then reviewed the Sunshine Act. He reviewed the duties of the supervisors, budget monies to playground for rubberized mulch but no money for roads. Parks and Recreations over \$200,000 on playground but landmines in front of township maintenance garage. Roadcrew leaves equipment out, taxpayers pay for that equipment, and they leave it all out.

Rick Petruney questioned the \$150,000 for road work this year, only get \$78,000 a year.

Kim Holden questioned the 3 minutes of interrupted time that she gets to speak, she wants minutes amended, she did not receive citations from the magistrate's office like the minutes stated, she's not the only questioning the content of the minutes, but she received a certified letter from the solicitor, comments made by others not in minutes, perhaps solicitor should get facts before sending letters.

Kenneth Schrader, Jr asked that an ordinance be passed to not allow the lanterns that go up during the Johnny Appleseed Festival. He stated that they are unsafe, and he found them in his pastor in years past. Kristi stated that they are not having them ever again, they will be doing luminaries on the stage, which are bags with lights in them, no flames.

Shelah Brush asked the life expectancy of the rubberized mulch. Supervisor Labesky will find out for her.

Supervisor Fitch informed the group to run for office in 2years, if your disgruntled with us then run for office, we are taxpayers too.

More discussion on Mike Services Station works that township did, asking Mike to pay \$180 for the work that he didn't request be done, and we are asking the Municipal Authority to pay us \$150 an hour for use of our equipment and workers.

With a Labesky/Lindberg motion, second the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 to an executive session to discuss personnel policy.

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Administrator/Treasurer

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J. Jay Fitch, Chairman

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Nathan Lindberg, Supervisor

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Jeff Labesky, Supervisor

SHEFFIELD TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** to discuss personnel matters

