

*Typed: November 30th, 2020*

*The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Wednesday, November 18th, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Township's Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.*

*Present at the meeting were: Mike Sorokach, Antoinette Purcell, Frank Angelo, and Kevin Olenick.*

*Brenda Helt calls the meeting to order.*

*All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.*

**Roll Call of Officers:**

*Brenda M. Helt – present.*

*David W. Califf - present.*

*Elvin E. Brennan Jr. - present.*

**Other attendance/attendees:**

*Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary – present.*

*Donald G. Karpowich, Solicitor – present.*

*Michael P. Combs, Officer in Charge, CTPD – present.*

*Chairperson Helt states that the minutes from the October 2020 Supervisor's Meeting minutes have been placed at each seat. Helt calls for a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes and to accept them as they are printed if there are no corrections or omissions. Brennan makes the motion. Helt seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

*Helt opens the meeting for public comment.*

*Mike Sorokach, Owl Road – Asks Road Master Brennan about the purchase of a new dump body insert stating that Elvin said it was bad; Mike states that it wasn't bought that long ago. Brennan responds that the whole shaft where the motor hooks on – the whole thing tore right out. Mike asks how that happened. Brennan responds he couldn't tell him, he wasn't using it. Mike states that Stork's does do repairs. Elvin responds it would be approximately \$4,000. Mike states that at the time the Township bought it, it was new and around \$5,500 – and that was only about (5) years ago – it would be a shame to junk it after only (5) years. Elvin states that it's \$4,000 to re-do it and if it was traded-in, they will only give \$100.00. Mike states that it's funny – because those things last forever – contractors have them for many years. Elvin states that we have (2) of them out there; he did know which one Mike was referring to. Mike states the new one was bought around 2015 when the GMC truck was bought. Elvin states that there is (2) stainless steel and the same thing is wrong with both of them. He states that*

*you can only use them in the wintertime. Mike states that the only problem with the insert is that you are cutting back on your capacity and then you have the wear & tear on the vehicle because it's on the vehicle all the time. Brennan asks Califf what happened when the spreader broke. Califf explains what he believes happened. Mike said so basically the bearing seizing up is what caused the problem. Califf states that is what it seems like - but he checked it and there was pretty fresh grease on it. This discussion continued between Mike, Elvin, and Dave.*

*Frank Angelo, High Road – Asks for an update on the cable situation. Helt explains that she has reached out to a few companies – only one was interested. They are currently doing the field work and are reaching out to other municipalities to see if they would be interested also – because it will cost a lot of money. Helt states again that she wants a company to provide service for the entire Township – not just certain sections – so we are awaiting a response from the findings of their field work. Brenda states that she was told that if this company decides to bring service to our community, it will not be until sometime next year when their installation is complete. Antoinette Purcell asks Brenda if she explained that our school students are now mostly virtual because of the pandemic, but so many of them do not have internet service at their homes and they cannot connect to the internet to do their schoolwork. Brenda states that she did explain those issues during her conversations with the company representative.*

*Mike Sorokach states that he was at the recycling center one day and there was guy parked in the Township's lot with a truck and trailer unloading a 4-wheeler. He asked if people/riders are now allowed to park here. Helt explains that they are not supposed to park in our lot – this is a Township building – we are not opening up the property to people to park and unload their ATV's and then run the roads to get to Reading Anthracite's off-road park. Brenda explains that she just heard about this incident tonight; she will find out who it was - and it will be addressed because we are not going to have that going on at this property.*

*Hearing nothing further, Helt closes the public discussion and moves on to the agenda items.*

*Advertise 2021 Tentative Budget - Helt calls for a motion to advertise the 2021 Tentative Budget when it has been completed by the Board of Supervisors. Brennan makes the motion. Califf seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

*Complete/Submit 2021 Tax Rate Form – County Assessment Bureau – Helt calls for a motion. Califf makes the motion. Helt seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

*Hiring – Chief of Police - Chairperson Helt explains that Rick Clink resigned as the Chief of Police; he has since been rehired as a patrolman. In the interim, Minersville Police Chief*



*Michael Combs has filled in as the Officer In Charge. He also gave the Board options to think about relating to joining forces with Minersville PD. The Supervisors have been collecting feedback from our residents and they don't seem to want it. In addition, looking at our budget, we do not feel it is feasible at this time. We would like to thank Mike Combs for his help in getting us through this trying time with our police department; however, the BOS had an executive session on the 17<sup>th</sup> and it was decided that we will promote from within the Department. The Board would like to promote Gerard Daley as Chief of Police for CTPD – effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – with an hourly pay rate of \$20.00 – part-time only – no benefits. Helt calls for a motion to hire Gerard Daley as Police Chief. Brennan makes the motion. Califf seconds. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. Antoinette Purcell asks if Daley is also the Chief in Ashland. The Board responds yes. Antoinette asks if there will be a conflict. Helt states that she asked Daley and he said no. Mike Sorokach states that he would like to thank Chief Combs because his mailbox was hit by a vehicle in May – and when Chief Combs took over the Department, he was able to get payment from the guy and got it resolved. The Board members once again thanked Chief Combs for all his help. Helt states that if Chief Combs is agreeable, he will be OIC until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.*

**Treasurer's Reports:** *Helt states that the public summary and the list of transactions for the month of October 2020 have been placed at each seat; she calls for a motion to accept the report as printed and to pay all outstanding bills that can be paid at this time. Brennan makes the motion. Califf seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

**Planning Commission / Engineer's Report** – *Nothing to report.*

**Police Report:** *OIC Combs reads the report. Helt makes a motion to accept the report as read. Brennan seconds. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote. Reports are on file in the Police Department for review upon request.*

**Road Foreman's Report:** *Helt states that the report is placed at each seat and calls for a motion to accept it as printed. Califf makes the motion. Helt seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

**Correspondence** – *None.*

**Old / New Business:**

*Recycling Center – Road Master Brennan states that the Board is considering getting rid of the Township's recycling center. Mike Sorokach asks why. Elvin explains the cost outweighs what we get back (from grant reimbursements), in addition to, the additional road crew duties relating to the bins. Mike Sorokach asks about camera surveillance. Elvin states that additional cameras are on back-order for over (2) months. Mike states that years ago, people were afraid to dump here – now the word is out that this place is a dumping ground. Califf*

*states that there are a lot of other municipalities that are also doing away with their recycling because of changes that will take place on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Antoinette Purcell asks if there is a way to join with Minersville Borough for recycling. The Solicitor states that the County just made it mandatory – so if you have a private hauler, they will need to pick up recyclables – that’s part of what happened in Schuylkill County. Elvin asks Evelyn what it costs per month. She responds it varies per month - \$400-\$600 - depending on how much garbage (not recyclables) is in the bins. Califf asks if it has increased over the past (2) years. Evelyn responds yes – because they are not being monitored properly anymore. Helt states that Brennan brought it up – so the Board members will need to discuss it and come to a decision. Califf states that it isn’t set in stone, things still need to be looked at and discussed. Mike Sorokach states that he sees all kinds of garbage being dumped into them – and there are a lot of outsiders bringing stuff in too; he feels the bins should be monitored; and people should be cited if there is illegal dumping. Brennan comments about the cost and states that we have no way to determine what we are getting billed for because the hauler picks up at our recycling center and then travels to other municipalities and picks up theirs all in the same truck. This discussion continued.*

**Motion to Adjourn:** *With no further business, Chairperson Helt makes a motion to adjourn. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

***Meeting adjourned.***

**ATTEST: Brenda M. Helt, Chairperson**  
**TIME MEETING ENDED: 6:57pm**

**ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan Jr., Vice-Chairperson**  
**TIME MEETING ENDED: 6:57pm**

***The next monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township will be held on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Township’s Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.***