

Cass Township Board of Supervisors

1209 Valley Road, Pottsville, PA 17901

Telephone: 570.544.5370 Fax: 570.544.3158

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The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Wednesday, July 31st, 2024 at 7pm at the Municipal Building – Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting: See sign-in sheet (attached).

Brenda Helt calls the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call of Officers:

Michael Sorokach III – present. Elvin E. Brennan Jr. – present. Brenda M. Helt – present.

Other attendance/attendees:

Mark Semanchik, Solicitor – present. Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary – present.

Chairperson Helt states that the June 2024 Supervisors Meeting Minutes have been placed at each seat. She calls for a motion to approve the minutes if there are no corrections or omissions. Brennan makes the motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Helt opens the meeting for public comment.

Antoinette Purcell, High Road – Had comments relating to no Township police force and a situation where a dog is left chained outside in extreme heat. She was provided with contact information for the Pennsylvania Dog Warden.

Rick & Barb Pielacha, Forest Lane – Had questions and comments regarding the Township disbanding the police department – stating that during power outages, they don't feel safe. They added that they would like the Board to approach PPL about the frequent power outages.

*This leads to a very lengthy discussion among several residents and the Board members regarding the disbanding of the police department, as well as the response times and handling of calls by the Pennsylvania State Police.

Tina Skibiel, Pine Knot – states that she checked her records, and the Township has always paid the worker's compensation insurance for the fire companies; however, last month Frank Zukas said that years ago, one of the Highridge businesses paid WC for one of the fire companies and that's how the fire assessments began. Tina states that it was not a worker's



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comp premium that was paid for a fire company, it was a different insurance premium. Mike Kulpcavage agreed.

Rebecca Smith & Shawn Bonsall, Condor Lane – Had many complaints about issues on Condor Lane.

Ken Koscil, Primrose - Asked for an update on his many requests to pave West Lytle Lane.

Supervisor Brennan states that if any resident thinks they can do a better job (as Supervisor), he'll resign and let them have it.

Hearing no further questions or comments, Helt closed the public discussion and moves on to the Agenda items:

<u>Change Order # 1 – Martin Paving, Inc. - Schaeffer Hill Seal Coat Project:</u> Helt makes a motion to approve the change order in the amount of \$1,090.00 to extend the seal coat to meet the new paving. Sorokach seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

<u>Payment – M&J Excavation – Schaeffer Hill Paving Project</u>: Helt makes a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$274,943.05 which includes change orders for the addition of a cross pipe (\$8,672) and additional paving (\$21,821.05). Sorokach seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

<u>Signage Request – South Cass Fire Company</u>: Helt makes a motion to approve the request. Sorokach seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

<u>Treasurer's Reports</u> – Copies of the Treasurer's Reports are placed at each seat. Helt makes a motion to approve the report(s) as printed. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Planning Commission/Engineer's Report -

<u>Parcel 05-05-01.000 – Proposed Warehouse Development</u>: The applicant requested and was granted an extension to the October PC meeting by the Planning Commission. Solicitor Semanchick also recommends the Board approve the request. Helt makes the motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

<u>Tyson Land Development</u>: Benesch received an extension request which would grant a 90-day extension for the review of the project to allow them time to address Benesch's comments. Solicitor Semanchik recommends that the Board accept/approve the extension. Helt makes the motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.



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29 Plum Road – Ed Hossler – Zoning Variance: Benesch and Solicitor Semanchik have both reviewed this request for variance for setbacks to construct upon his property. It is their interpretation that the variance can be granted without a zoning hearing and the permit be issued based on the conditions listed in email correspondence. Solicitor Semanchik recommends that the Board take action to approve. Helt makes the motion. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Road Foreman's Report: A copy of the report is placed at each seat. Sorokach reads the report. He also gives an update on the Schaeffer Hill Road project. He and Supervisor Brennan explain the details relating to an accident involving an ATV which struck the Township dump truck as it was parked at the Forestville Playground. An estimate for repairs is \$9,400. Helt makes a motion to accept the Road Foreman's Report. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

<u>Code Enforcement Report</u>: Nick Hazlett read the June and July 2024 reports. He states that the Magistrate's office is no longer accepting paper copies of citations – so he is in the process of learning to e-file them. Helt makes a motion to approve the reports. Seconded by Brennan. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Solicitor's Report:

<u>Executive Session</u> – Solicitor Semanchik states that he met in executive session with the Board of Supervisors at 6pm this evening to discuss issues of property, personnel, etc.

<u>Correspondence</u>: Nothing.

Old/New Business: Nothing.

Motion to Adjourn:

With no further business, Helt makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Sorokach. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

ATTEST: Brenda M. Helt, Chairperson

SEAL:

ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan Jr., Supervisor

JOHN RAVOVENKI DONNA KALOSCAK Brian Mull JUDY MULL Jim Duck Antinette Purcell Herdy Studlack Ruth + Barb Pielinka Ken Koscil 07/31/24 BOS Meg