

Branch Communicator

August 2009

Supervisors Meeting Notes

Telephone Numbers

Supervisors:

Robert Keifer 544-2249
Joseph Wank 544-3183
John Purcell 544-5890

Township Offices

Branch Police 544-2901
Township Garage 544-3557
Secretary/Treasurer Joyce Beach
Township Manager 544-4283
John Andruchek 544-4283
Sewage
Tina Williams 544-1764
Kim Karzinsky 544-1764

Police Report

The Police officers traveled 3358 miles in patrolling the townships using 3 police vehicles. 621 incidents, Assists or Complaints were handled by 4 officers. They attended 5 hearings at District Judges offices. There were 25 traffic arrests and 11 criminal arrests.

The report covered the period 7/1/09 to 7/31/09

Wings and things

The Good Intent Hose company of Llewellyn is serving Wings every Tuesday from 6PM until all are gone. They will also serve clams and peel and eat shrimp. Come out and support the Hose company while enjoying a tasty dinner.

The Branch Communicator is a privately published newsletter to provide residents of the Township with information on governance by their elected and appointed Township officials. Opinions expressed are those of the Publisher and do not reflect the opinions of Sponsors nor officials. Questions and comments should be directed to Norm Bertasavage 544-6583.

Recycling Center

The recycling Center on Brick Road will be posted with hours of operation. Recycling items can be dropped off during the hours of 8 AM and 9PM 7 days a week. These hours will be enforced by the police.

Please do not drop off materials when the recycling bins are full or place items on top of the bins.

Central Schuylkill COG

Examination of the ordinance proposed for the Central Schuylkill Council of Governments resulted in tabling of the issue. Under the ordinance the hiring of an executive director, part or full time clerks, benefits and administrative cost could potentially cost the township over \$1,000.00 per month. These cost paid before any benefit to the township was gained by membership in the COG.

Property Maintenance Code Ordinance

This ordinance, to prevent dilapidation of township buildings was accepted by the supervisors. No provisions for enforcement were given at this meeting.

Earned Income Tax Collector

The legislature passed act 32 and section 505b of the act requires there be only one earned income tax collector for each county and that each municipality appoint a delegate and alternate to the Tax Collection Committee. The Supervisors appointed Harry Ebling as the Delegate. He will be one of the 67 committee members in Schuylkill County to assist in overseeing and regulating the collection of the earned income tax on county residents. This act purports to simplify and standardize the collection of and distribution of the tax receipts.

Liquid Fuel Reporting

The supervisors adopted a resolution amending the online reporting of liquid fuel tax reports which was passed at the last meeting. The resolution was necessary because an additional report was added to the system.

Bids for Garbage Collections

The advertised request for bid for garbage collection resulted in 4 bids being received. Bidders included Waste Management, Kreitzer, Muscara and Dave Evans. The low bid was from Dave Evans, our current collector with a bid of \$8075.97 per month for 5 years.

Sewage Authority Appointment

The Supervisors voted to appoint Dave Bell to the BCRSA as a replacement for Rick Yutko.

Federal Money for local Governments

The Supervisors approved a resolution to be sent to Senators Specter and Casey to support HR 3007. This bill will provide an annual amount of \$30,000,000.00 for local governments. This will give each of the 50 states an average of \$600,000.00. For Pennsylvania's 2700 municipalities it would provide an average of \$222.22 to each.

Road Masters Report

The township workers were busy with weed cutting along township road right of ways and preparing the playground for the coming school year.

Annual meeting of Supervisors.

The annual meeting of Schuylkill County Municipal officials will be held on October 21st. The Township Supervisors approved attendance at this meeting.

Trick or Treat Night

The Supervisors approved of Trick or Treat night to be held on Thursday October 29th from 6PM to 8PM. Residents are forewarned that ghosts and goblins and other monsters will be found trekking through the township and that special care should be taken while operating vehicles during this time. An outside light burning will tell the tricksters that goodies are available. Mean people will leave their lights out!!!!

Sewage Authority

Financial Data

Income	
Court Income	548.30
General Receipts	23,458.32
Other Income	4,012.01
Permits	2,149.00
Total Income	30,167.63
Expense	
advertising	115.46
Building Inspector	229.97
Contractors	2,304.13
dues	1,095.42
Electric	3,268.49
Engineering	133.50
Garbage	7,543.78
Insurance	
Health Insurance	3,744.57
Insurance - Other	333.40
Total Insurance	4,077.97
Misc	151.46
Payroll Expenses	9,271.45
Payroll Taxes	3,692.02
Police	624.65
postage	44.00
Road Work	1,200.00
Sewage	165.00
Solicitor	100.00
Supervisors	220.68
Tax Collections	1,446.10
Telephones	518.01
Truck & Equipment	1,989.02
truck Loan	360.12
Utilities	1,079.10
Total Expense	\$39,630.33

Budget Meeting

2010 Budget planning meeting will be held **Sept 16th at 6PM** in the Township Bldg. This meeting will discuss the needs of the township and begin the process. Public is invited.

Planning Commission

Lengthy discussions were conducted concerning the Pioneer Pole building's property in the South Gate Development. They have requested corrections to property line distances and metes & bounds lines in the original plan for the development. Multiple errors in the original survey need corrections to properly define lots 4 & 5. The corrections will have no effect on lots 1,2 and 3 or on the property of the Church. More adequate notations are required on the survey plan to clarify and explain the nature of the corrections being requested. The corrections and the notations will be presented to the Planning commission at a later meeting.

Gordon Land Company submitted a sketch for comment for a 3 acre subdivi-

sion (annexation and one lot) at the end of Springwood Drive. A problem with the plan is due to the end of Springwood Street never having been dedicated and ownership still residing with the original developer. It was decided that the sketch would be returned to Gordon without comments with instructions for them to submit a formal sketch plan with payment of the proper fees to cover cost that may be incurred in reviewing the matter.

Ed Heffron asked the status of his request for a sub-division of property off Bunting Street in West-West Terrace. He was advised that no information was received from his engineer. He then requested a special meeting of the commission when the data is received. That request will be considered upon receipt of the data.

Up Coming Events : The next supervisors meeting will be *Sept 27th* . Planning Commission Sept 8th . Public meetings start at 7PM . Sewage Authority meeting will be Thursday Sept 17th @ 4:30 PM.

Note: Branch Communicators are available on line at www.normbert.com/

Another "no-business" conducted meeting

The lack of a quorum again resulted in the Authority being only able to discuss things, not act on them.

Jack Purcell, Branch twp supervisor informed the Authority that because of a members 3 unexcused failure to attend meeting the Branch Township Supervisors will be appointing a replacement member to the Authority. Anyone from Branch township willing to serve on the Authority is asked to contact one of the Supervisors.

The Authority discussed the commercial/industrial grease trap and grinder pump problems. A letter will be prepared for the next Authority meeting to go out to all commercial users informing them of their responsibilities in maintaining grease traps and grinder pumps. This includes self-inspections and record keeping responsibilities.

Delinquencies

Delinquencies were up a little for the past month. 32 notices of intent to cut off water were sent out. All of the current payment plans are being kept up.

Insurance Bids

The current property damage and liability insurance policy expires in October. Request for bids were sent to several local insurance providers.

Notifications

A customer voluntarily had the water company stop service in March but failed to notify the Authority so billing could be stopped. The customer is now requesting refund of payments made after the cut off. The responsibility for notification of all changes is the on the end user. Don't depend on the water company to inform the Sewage Authority.

News letter Sponsors

Enbee Tax Service, Federal and State E-filing Service
available
[544-6583](tel:544-6583)

Don's Classis Restoration & Auto Body Inc
[544-8209](tel:544-8209)

Patrons:

Jerry Rizzardi

Other Notes

July saw a township **crime wave**. There were more traffic arrests in July than in the previous 4 months. There were also 5 non-traffic arrest in addition to the 25 traffic arrests as well as 11 criminal arrests. Felons and speeders beware. The Cops are watching !