

Branch Communicator

July 2008

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
John Andruchek 544-4283
Sewage
Tina Williams 544-1764

Police Report

The Police officers traveled 2937 miles in patrolling the townships using 4 police vehicles. 50 Incidents, Assists or Complaints were handled by 3 officers. They issued 4 traffic arrest citations, 5 non-traffic citations and made 2 criminal arrests.

The report covered the period 6/1/07 to 6/30/07

Congratulations Miners Girls

State champions and Regional Contenders. Well Done!!!!



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.

Llewellyn Good Intent Hose Co. 100th Year Anniversary Dinner Banquet

Everyone welcome. Friday Sept. 26, 2008, Pre-purchase tickets \$20.00 each includes good food and drinks and special speaker.

Contact Mr Sinko 570-527-0219 or see any member for tickets.

REMINDER

No parking on Willing and Railroad Sts on Saturday Sept. 27, 2008 9AM to 6PM. because of Fire Truck Parade.

Sludge Ordinance

A resolution to accept the Land Application and Storage of Sewage Sludge Ordinance was accepted by unanimous vote.

Penn dot Response

Penn Dot has responded to the township concerning the dangers of the 901/209 intersection at Turkey Hill. They will be installing 3 new "Stay in Lane" signs, 3 new "Left lane must turn left" signs and additional route marker signs on the east side of the highway prior to the 209/901 split. They will also paint a 6 inch solid white line dividing the west bound lane of route 901 to keep traffic in the proper lane after the split near Turkey Hill in the direction of Kings Mall. These actions will be taken as soon as the signs are manufactured and received by Penn Dot. The Line painting will be completed later this summer.

These signs should help reduce the accident potential at this intersection. No sign trumps stupidity and in-attention. It is still the driver's responsibility to observe and obey signs. When they don't, accidents happen. Look at the Cressona bridge accident rate for proof of this.

Mark's Junkyard Tire Fire

A tire fire with multiple flair-ups at this spot on the Silverton Road has filled the air with terrible odors for the past few weeks. The fire companies have responded several times and watered down hot spots. The township has used its backhoe to disburse the tire pile to prevent additional flair-ups. The Supervisors

have also appealed to our legislators for funding to complete the clean-up of the junk yard. DEP has some funding available and hopefully some of those funds will be made to effect the clean up.

Noise Ordinance

Bigger than normal attendance at the meeting was apparently prompted by interest in the township's proposed noise ordinance. Several residents voiced opinions including the hours of enforcement to be 24/7 rather than just from 11PM to 7 AM. Other questions concerned the enforcement of the ordinance and the proposed fines of not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$1000.00 for violations. The Solicitor stated that minor modifications to the ordinance would not require re-advertising. He also stated that there is a court case pending in Schuylkill County courts that may impact our ordinance. There is also an article in the Township Supervisors magazine that may influence any new noise ordinance. The supervisors voted to delay implementation of the ordinance as presented until review of the court docket and the article by the solicitor can assure that the proposed ordinance is not so restrictive as to be subjected to overturning by the courts.

Silverton Road Weight Limit

This problem is yet to be resolved. According to the Solicitor, the paved section of the road must be rated differently than the unpaved sections. And apparently the posting must take into consideration engineering data that will support the weight limits posted. Stay tuned.

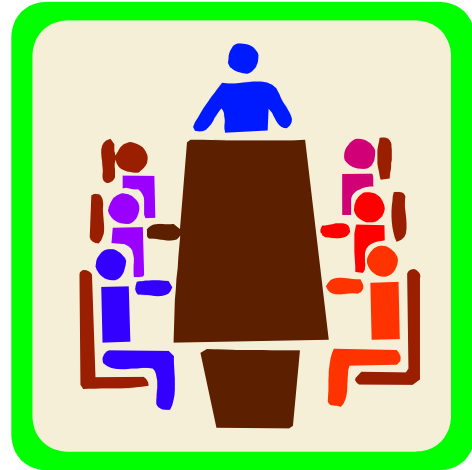
Road Masters report

Township workers are removing swales and taking other measures on Church Road to prepare for less costly resurfacing of this road next year when possible funds are available. They are also busy keeping grass cut and other road maintenance actions within the township.

The Supervisors also approved an increase in mileage reimbursement to \$0.585 cents per mile as per IRS rulings.

Sewage Authority

No monthly meeting due to lack of a quorum.



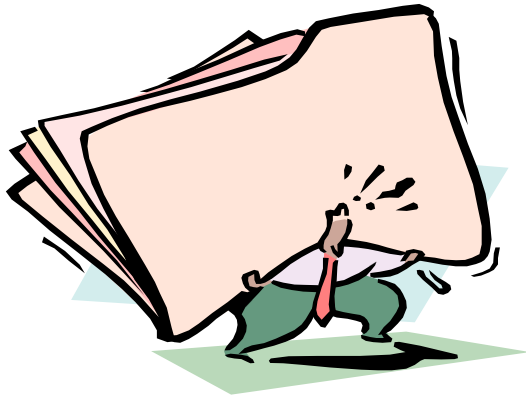
Financial Data

Income	
Court Income	389.16
General Receipts	1,354.85
Other Income	840.80
Permits 73.00	
Tax Income	18,964.96
Total Income	21,622.77
Expense	
advertising	250.44
Building Inspector	128.51
Contractors	25.00
dues	564.74
Electric	3,295.51
Engineering	2,070.00
Garbage	7,202.06
Insurance	3,522.50
Misc	763.37
Office Expense	20.47
Payroll Expenses	8,429.14
Payroll Taxes	3,491.91
Police	75.97
Road Work	490.00
Sewage	165.00
Solicitor	180.00
Supervisors	220.68
Tax Collections	830.14
Telephones	376.80
Truck & Equipment	1,260.26
truck Loan	360.12
Utilities	5,636.79
Total Expense	39,309.41
	-17,686.64

\$15,000.00 was transferred from the Penn Vest account leaving a deficit of \$2,686.64.

Planning Commission Meeting

There was no business to conduct so there was no July meeting. Recommendations made last month concerning Pioneer Pole Building's request for changes to the subdivision plan for the South Gate development were put on hold on the advise of the township engineers and the solicitor.



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)

Up Coming Events : The next supervisors meeting will be *August 25th* . Planning Commission August 5th . Public meetings start at 7PM . Sewage Authority meeting will be Thursday August 21th 4:30 PM.

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