

Branch Communicator

October 2006

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
Joanne Schultz 544-4283
Sewage
Donna Kroh 544-1764
Township Manager
John Andruchek 544-4283

Police Report

The Police officers worked a total of 305 hours. They traveled 2011 miles using 4 police vehicles. 45 Incidents, Assists or Complaints were handled by 6 officers. Officers attended 3 hearings. There were 4 Traffic citations issued and 2 criminal arrests.

There was a rash of car break-ins and anyone with information about the perpetrators is asked to call the police.

The Township is advertising for additional part-time police officers. Interested qualified individuals should contact the Police Department.

The report covered the period 9/1/06 to 9/30/06

Compost Site

The Compost site will be in operation on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 3PM to 5PM for now. Saturdays from 9AM to 1PM. This will continue until further notice.

All are reminded that the compost site is just that. It is for Branch Residents only and the items accepted for composting are leaves, lawn clippings and shrub and tree branches.

It is not a dump for construction materials or unused household items. Your co-operation is appreciated.

Branch-Reilly Police Meeting

A meeting between the Branch and Reilly Township supervisors is to be scheduled in the near future to discuss the joint police force. The continuation of the jointure is to be discussed.

Supervisors Convention Report

Supervisors Keifer and Wank along with members of the Auditors attended the Convention. An item of interest from the convention was the availability of moneys from the Game Commission. Up to 40 cents per acre is available to those townships where state game lands are located. The question for Branch is whether the agreement between the Game Commission and Ryan properties is still in effect. If it is, the township will be eligible for additional funds.

Budget Dates

Meetings to establish the 2007 township budget will be held in mid November. The actual dates will be advertised when they are scheduled.

Legal Notice

The township was put on notice that they are being named as a party in an accident claim. The Accident happened on the East Donaldson Road which is not in Branch Township. The secretary is to notify the township's insurance company of the potential claim.

Phoenix Park fire Company

The Phoenix Park Fire Company has been notified by Rep Tim Holden's office that they will be receiving a grant to pay 90% of the cost for a new Tanker/ Pumper truck. The Supervisors were invited to attend the check presentation on October 30th.

Mark's Junk Yard

The Solicitor reported that he has been in contact with Madonna Enterprises concerning the completion of the clean up of this site. A representative of the company cited higher priority jobs that they are working on at present. The Solicitor will review the contract with Madonna for the clean up and proceed from there.

BOCA Permits

A resident questioned the Supervisors about the issuance of Permits and BOCA (now International Codes Council) requirements. The township has elected to fall under BOCA and appoint it's own inspector rather than to fall under the State's requirements.

The resident questioned the need for engineering approval to construct a pole building. He was informed that the township will issue the permit with drawings from the builder as pole buildings are pre-engineered to BOCA standards.

Township residents are reminded that major renovations and new construction need a BOCA inspection. Contact the Building Inspector for information.

Strossertown Bridge

No new word has been given on the grant money awarded for construction of a new bridge. Chairman Keifer has been in contact with the staff of Rep Holden's office but no final word has been received. Additional grants have been applied for to cover the increased costs of this bridge.

Subdivisions Approved

The recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the Bosack subdivision was approved. (next page)

Sewage Authority News

The Authority Secretary has been unavailable for some time so no minutes, agenda nor financial data was available for the meeting.

Chairman Andruchek reported that township workers excavated the culvert in Phoenix Park reportedly causing a back-up into a resident's home. No blockages were discovered and a check of the pipe with a light revealed nothing to cause a backup that would result in flooding.

A question was directed to the Authority concerning the number of residents who have not yet hooked up to the sewage system. It is between 19 and 23.

Nothing has been heard from Reilly Township regarding their Act 537 Plan and it's impact on sewage for the Steins Mill Area.

The Solicitor requested an executive session to discuss personnel matters.

Plant Operations

Effluent Quality remains good all parameters well within specifications. Average daily sewage flow for treatment in September was 177,300 GPD. High daily flow was 256,00 gallons and low was 122,000 gallons.

There were two grinder pump calls in September. Both were for float problems.

Engineers Report

The Engineer reported that a meeting with Cass resident to determine if existing check valves are functional. This will hopefully determine the cause of basement flooding.

The Bassininski plan revisions were approved with the exception of lot 1. A letter will be sent informing Bassininski that lot 1 has not been approved for development.

The Appleby Subdivision was also approved.

Road Master's Report

Supervisor Wank reported that the township workers have been engaged in picking up leaves and ashes. They are also readying equipment for the winter season.

Money from FEMA for road work which last month was promised in 2-3 weeks has not yet been received.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission received the Bosack and Appleby subdivision plans back from the County. They will be forwarded to the Supervisors with a recommendation of approval

Nothing has been heard back concerning the land swap between Reedy and the Good Intent Hose Company.

Zoning Hearing Board

The Zoning Hearing Board approved the Gudinas variance request after certain stipulations were recommended by Chairman Bell of the Planning Commission. These included the building of the garage no closer than 4 feet from the back lot line and no closer than 7 feet from the rear of the residence.

It is the responsibility of the Supervisors to see that these stipulations are adhered to by the owner. The authority to enforce the stipulations may be delegated to the Building Inspector but it is the responsibility of the Supervisors.

Rejecting Rick

Being soft on terrorism is a charge leveled by Santorum against his opponent. This from a man who has been in Congress since 1991. During his tenure we've had the bombing of the World Trade Center, attacks on US Embassies in Africa, the attack on the Navy's USS Cole and the 9/11 destruction of the World Trade Towers, Flight 93 and the Pentagon. Terrorism increased on Rick's watch. Who's soft on Terrorism???

News letter Sponsors

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[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 *November 20th*. Planning Commission November 8th. Public meetings start at 7PM . Sewage Authority meeting will be November 16th 4:30 PM.

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

