

Branch Communicator

October 2010

Telephone Numbers Supervisors

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Robert Yeager 449-5226
Joseph Wank 544-3183

Township Offices

Branch Police 544-2901
Secretary/ Treasurer 544-4283
Joyce Beach
Township Manager 544-4283
John Andruchek
SEWAGE Problems
SCMA 622-8240

Police Report

The 4 Police officers traveled 3271 miles and handled 56 incidents and complaints, 10 follow up investigations, and attended 4 court hearings. 10 traffic arrests were made with citations issued and there were 5 criminal arrests. This report covered the period 9-1-10 to 9-30-10.

Upcoming events

Planning Commission Meeting Nov 3rd 7 PM.
Supervisors Meeting Nov 15th &PM

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

Supervisor Notes

Dissolve the BCRSA

A motion to dissolve the BCRSA was put on hold. The solicitor will check out the ramifications of Branch Township withdrawing from the Authority. The merger with SCMA leaves the Authority with no assets or liability but both Cass and Branch townships may be required to agree to the dissolution. If a future need for a sewage Authority is found, it will be just for Branch.

Liquor License Request

A request to transfer a liquor is being sought. The license would be located at 1415 Bunting Street, the old Terrace Music Center building if granted. A public meeting on the application will be scheduled some time in November.

County Commissioners to Meet in Branch Township

The Schuylkill County Commissioners have scheduled their meeting in the township Memorial building on Wednesday November 10th at 10 AM. This is a chance for local people to attend a county meeting in Llewellyn to catch all the action.

Road Masters Report

Work by township workers repaired pot holes on Church Road. The work improved the access to the road from Rte 209. It also filled the potholes along the area leading to the church. Next is some work on Black Diamond Road.

The solicitor introduces a resolution to amend the weight restrictions on township roads

including the Gumboot Road. This measure was necessary to assure the repair of roads damaged by over weight vehicles using the bridge on the Gumboot road and the access to the bridge on the Black Diamond Road. Logging activities will see "over posted weight" vehicles using these roads in order to transport timbers to saw mills or to pulping facilities. The resolution will protect the township from the costs of repairs caused by this by mandating fees to use these roads by the logging companies.

This and That

Fire Safety

The Good Intent Hose Co. has **free smoke detectors** from WNEP16 save a life program. Anyone that is in need of a smoke detector in the township can contact Fire Chief Mike Pothering 544-5644

Halloween Reminder

Trick or treat night will be October 28th from 6 PM to 8 PM. Leave an outside light on to entice the little ghosts and goblins.

Good Intent Hose events

The Good Intent Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor a Vera Bradley bingo on October 24th. Tickets available at the door.

A day after Thanksgiving Dance/ Karaoke will be held on November 26th at the Hosey.

Sewage News

We will be being billed as of November 1st by SCMA. For those with direct withdrawal you will have to go thru the same process as before, i.e. send a voided check so SCMA can withdraw your monthly payment automatically from your bank.

For those who pay by computer, your account number will be your old BCRSA number with the addition of 092 before that number and an additional 0 at the end of the old number. The new bills will be mailed starting November 1st and each month thereafter.

SCMA has put on notice those BCRSA customer who's account is delinquent. Aggressive collection action will be pursued to bring those accounts

into balance. Those who have existing payment plans with BCRSA and those whose delinquencies are greater than can be settled with a single payment **must** contact SCMA before their account is posted for water shut-off or filed with the court for collection. Failure to take immediate action or failure to comply fully with the terms of a payment plan will face immediate full payment collection actions by SCMA. You will only get one shot at a payment plan. ACT Now!!!

Election Day

November 2nd is Election Day, or oversight day or elimination Day: what ever way you want to look at it. The polls open at 7 AM and remain open until 8PM so no one has an excuse for not voting. If you are a senior citizen this is your chance to have your say on you social security. If you are a young person starting your working life this is your chance to register your feelings on the debt that is being placed on your

future. As a homeowner you can have your say on property taxes. And everyone can comment on the governing of the Nation and the State by voting.

When asked what the Constitutional Convention did?, Ben Franklin answered " We gave you a republic, if you can keep it". That makes you a watchman. Biblically, the gospel of Mark 13:37 commands us to Watch!

Planning Commission Meeting

Engineer Donahue presented an annexation plan from Ringtown Rentals (formerly Blaschok Coal Co) to Joseph and Jo Aucker of 7.0001 acres at the rear of the Aucker property located on Route 209 off Church Road. The annexation is not for development. A motion to forward the plan to the County was made by Gehres, seconded by Bell. All approved.

The board reviewed a plan to subdivide the David Lord Property on Oak Road submitted by Maurice Lord, executor of the David Lord Estate. The subdivision will divide the property into two lots, both currently with an existing, occupied resi-

dence. No further development is planned. A motion by Gehres to forward the plan to the county was seconded by Bell and approved by all.

A letter from Engineer Diane Lenick requesting advice concerning a proposed development of a subdivision of a property on West Lawn Street (Cross Road) by JMAC Reality. The property currently in an I-1 zoned area. The developer will need to apply for variances for a change of use and the number of variances will depend on the proposed use. A sketch showing the subdivision of one lot with a duplex residence into two lots and two lots which may be for single residences or

Financial Data

Income

Court Income	283.94
General Receipts	13,248.93
Permits	133.20
Tax Income	16,205.86
Total Income	29,871.93

Expense

Building Inspector	231.12
Contractors	228.75
Electric	2,396.40
Fire Companies	11,680.85
Garbage	7,997.65
Insurance	
Health Insurance	4,657.67
Insurance - Other	250.95
Total Insurance	4,908.62
Misc	121.91
Office Expense	129.98
Payroll Expenses	13,292.82
Police	593.95
postage	52.80
Solicitor	180.00
Supervisors	147.12
Tax Collections	1,607.86
Telephones	378.90
Truck & Equipment	2,005.00
truck Loan	360.12
Utilities	1,810.21

Total Expense 48,124.06

Net income/Loss -18,252.13

The Constitution gives you the chance to act. On Tuesday November 2nd ACT!

multiple residential structures was examined. The board will need further clarification of the intention of the developer as to the nature of the proposed use before offering advice on variance requests.

Lenick's letter also advised that an easement maintenance agreement letter is being prepared for the Koury development. This letter will clarify maintenance responsibilities of the access alley off Hill Terrace Drive between the Malley and Sommers properties and the owners of a new lot proposed by the Koury subdivision.