

**Upper Paxton Township Board of Supervisors  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
July 9, 2014**

Those in attendance: Ron Hepner, John Orr and Robert Stoner, Supervisors; Betty Warfel, Secretary/Treasurer; Peter Howland, Esquire; Luanna Zimmerman, Manager; Brian McFeaters, SEO, and TomShaffer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hepner at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Approval of Minutes and Financial Report:** Minutes of the June 11<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting and the June 25<sup>th</sup> workshop meeting were reviewed by the Supervisors. Treasurer Warfel presented a monthly financial report and list of bills for payment. Upon review of these documents, Robert Stoner made a motion to approve the minutes of the June monthly and workshop meetings. Second by John Orr. All in favor, motion carried. John Orr moved to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the list of bills as presented. Second by Robert Stoner. With all in favor, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

1. Brian McFeaters reported on Robert Chubb's response to correspondence regarding the septic issue on his property. Chubb reported that he was denied for the PennVest and two bank loans for which he had applied. He plans to provide written proof of the loan denials. He is continuing to apply for loans for the needed work to repair the system. McFeaters stated that Mr. Chubb has taken all the actions which have been requested by the Township and DEP, however, he just does not currently have the funds to complete the repair work. Neighbors continue to voice their displeasure regarding the septic problem. Pursuing District Justice action to have the repairs completed or have a court order issued stating that the property would need to be vacated would not be productive. Completing the needed work and placing a lien against the property would not be a good option for the Township. Attorney Howland advised that it would be prudent for an official of the Township to make a site visit to the property when water runoff occurs to get a good view of the extent of the untreated sewage at the property. Manager Zimmerman will arrange a meeting between Robert Chubb and the Supervisors to develop a plan of action in this matter.
2. Supervisors proceeded to discuss increasing the cost of permit fees. The cost of permits has not increased since 2005. Permit fees discussed included zoning, driveway, street cut, sign, well, and variance requests charges. Luanna Zimmerman will contact Marty Sowers at Light-Heigel to have him make recommendations for an appropriate basis to start determining the increase in current fees.

**New Business**

1. Chairman Hepner reported on the upcoming changes to the road crew. Beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>, Robert Hooper will only be employed on a temporary, part-time basis. Supervisors interviewed several qualified candidates for the road crew position. John Hoffman, Jr., will bring his expertise for equipment operation and maintenance

beginning on July 21<sup>st</sup>. His starting wage will be \$15.00 per hour plus benefits. Ron Hepner made the motion to hire John Hoffman, Jr., as the new full-time road crew member. Second by Robert Stoner. With all in favor, motion carried.

2. The Board proceeded to discuss dog kennels currently operating in the Township. One of these kennels has been in operation prior to zoning in the Township; and therefore, this kennel would be grandfathered in and would not require a Special Exception to continue operation. The 2008 PDA regulations set forth the physical conditions that must be present in the operation of a kennel. With respect to the Stoltzfus Special Application request, the access road may or may not meet the Township's mandate for a commercial business requiring ingress and egress on a land development plan. However, this may not apply because this is a private right of way. Tom Shaffer proceeded to explain why the Special Exception verbage was included when the Township's Zoning was developed. The Special Exception for dog kennels would prevent their placement in the path of future residential growth in the agricultural district. Luanna Zimmerman will instruct Marty Sowers to prepare letters to the owners of the existing kennels advising them to begin the Special Exception Application process in order to get in compliance with the Township's zoning regulations. If the owners refuse to comply with this request, they will be ordered to immediately cease and desist operation of the kennel.

3. Supervisors reviewed an estimate in the amount of \$910 obtained from Toughy's Spouting to repair the spouting and install ice and snow guards on the salt shed roof. Following discussion, Supervisors instructed Manager Zimmerman to obtain a second estimate for this work.

4. Ron Hepner reported that no repair work is being completed on the property of Tracy Lower Wertz and Matthew Wertz at 108 Maple Street in Lenkerville. The owners of the property have not complied with repeated requests to clean up and repair the burned out home. Luanna Zimmerman will contact Marty Sowers to have correspondence prepared citing the code violations and advising the owners that repairs and cleanup need to be done or fines will be imposed against them.

5. Supervisors proceeded to discuss preparation of an application for gaming grant monies to construct a new Township building. The timeframe to prepare the application is very short and the amount of grant money available may be limited. At the current time, the Board has set its priorities as follows: (1) completing and analyzing the road study; (2) making decisions about the purchase of major equipment; and (3) preparing a list of wants and needs. Following discussion, the application for funds for the gaming monies and construction of the new Township building were put on hold for future consideration.

6. Board members discussed the merits of having the road crew perform needed work on Charles Road over putting the project out for bid. The cost of the work would be substantially more if the project was placed out for bid. More detailed drawings would need to be prepared. Supervisors decided to move forward with having the road crew perform the work. They will meet with Steve Erdman to devise a plan of action for this project.

**Public Comments:** None.

With no further business to be discussed, Ron Hepner moved to adjourn. Second by John Orr. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Warfel,  
Secretary