

7:00 PM

July 8, 2015

SOUTH PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the South Pymatuning Township Board of Supervisors was held July 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the municipal building with Chairperson Rose Lyons, Supervisor Brian Geisel, Solicitor William McConnell, Jr., and Secretary/Treasurer Karen Presley in attendance.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge to the Flag.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2015 Regular Meeting and to dispense with the reading of them. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

Ed Wilson said he has not received a return call from Jed Davis of Dean Foods. Mr. Wilson talked about John (Chip) Mastrian and said he would be a good choice for supervisor.

Lindell Bridges announced to the public that he was videotaping the meeting.

Don Morrow asked if the supervisors were going to hire summer help, stating the road department was far behind. Rose said she proposed hiring three part-time helpers to the other supervisors, but was shot down. Mr. Morrow suggested that if summer help was not being hired, to start paying the Planning Commission members. He said they are permitted per the Municipalities Planning Code to be paid up to \$1,875.00 per year.

Anthony Sloan said Scott Drive has water issues and residents were told by someone in Mercer that it is not a private drive, but a road. Water from the neighbor's property is damaging Scott Drive and flooding Rita Sloan's property. The solicitor said residents are not allowed to artificially divert water to a neighbor's property.

Martha Stambaugh said she was on Scott Drive and it was like a washboard. Mrs. Stambaugh then said that at previous meetings, a resident took fifteen minutes talking about Dean Foods and another resident spent fifteen minutes criticizing Brian Geisel. She said the chairperson should never allow members of the audience to degrade anyone. Mrs. Stambaugh said people at the meetings have been disrespectful to her and she has been verbally attacked. She would like to see the meetings get back to the business of the township. Rose Lyons said she voices her opinions at meetings and allows others to do the same. Mrs. Stambaugh then talked about the fire department and said it should be audited for the last five years.

Steve O'Brien said elected officials have to stand up to some criticism and he sees no problem with the way the meetings are controlled.

Leo Scott said there is a water problem on Maplewood Drive and that the culvert is plugged. He said gravel and road debris from the top of the hill have clogged the pipe on his neighbor's property. Mr. Scott knows it's the home owner's responsibility, but he feels it is the negligence in cleaning the ditches above that caused the clog. He said water is washing yards out and sinking his driveway.

Joe Chrestay, from Wynwood Drive, said he owns a pond and the previous owner cemented the overflow pipe so the water does not flow. Mr. Chrestay said if the township has a storm water management ordinance, it should be enforced.

Kurt Toth asked again about line painting. The supervisors said all of the agility work is going towards the roads, not line painting. Regarding the previous water issue, Mr. Toth said the supervisors should look at the problem themselves before hiring a subcontractor. He then said the pipe on Buckeye Drive that is out of the ground is an embarrassment. Mr. Toth mentioned the John Deere tractor, saying the township paid \$90,000.00 for it. He went on to say that he hoped the supervisors filled the vacant supervisor position with one of the candidates that won the nominations.

Laurel Alexander asked if the dump truck was going to be fixed because it will be needed this winter. She then commented that the meetings should be on business and not about personal attacks.

Martha Stambaugh said Rose is in charge of the road crew and should prioritize what needs done.

Richard Harris said when people have tenure in a job, they do what they want to do, not what they are supposed to do.

Ed Wilson said the township needs an employee handbook, which would address disciplinary action and provide better management tools. The solicitor said there is a union contract in place.

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Kurt Toth said the Second Class Township Code addresses itineraries or logs on a daily basis being a requirement for the road crew.

Chuck Vranich said the downspouts on Wynwood Drive run into laterals then into a line that is parallel to the road. He said when there is a heavy rain, the line backs up with water and residents then have gushers coming from their downspouts. He mentioned that Roto-Rooter found where the blockage was and that the property owner did not fix the problem.

Evelyn Klein said the ditch from Shadow Drive onto Tamarack Drive needs dug, as she and her neighbor are flooded almost every time it rains.

Martha Stambaugh said the troubles in the township started years ago with previous Supervisors. Rose said that is why she ran for office.

Tom Lyons said people are talking about hiring more road crew workers, but for years, there were only two men. He then said that one of the two candidates that won the primary election should be appointed to the vacant supervisor position.

Don Morrow said he worked on a big job years ago where a situation, similar to the pipe on Buckeye Drive, happened with pipe coming out of the ground after a heavy rain.

Becky Ague said past precedence in the township has shown that people who win the primary election and then are appointed to fill a vacancy, stay on to finish their term.

Bill Klumph said a road is a private drive until it meets certain standards for the township to accept it as a road.

Lindell Bridges wanted to clarify that as the chairman of the Vacancy Board, he does not nominate a candidate, he just breaks the tie vote.

Police, fire, and zoning reports were read.

Brian Geisel read correspondence regarding tours of county government offices in July and August and said the information will be posted.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to pay the bills totaling \$83,234.15. Motion passed unanimously.

Rose Lyons announced that the Sharpsville VFW will hold a benefit Chinese auction on August 2nd from 1:00 to 4:00 PM for Angie Kudelko who passed away Monday from cancer. Donations of baskets or monetary donations will be accepted.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons to appoint Bill Klumph to the vacancy on the Board of Supervisors. The motion died for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Brian Geisel to appoint Laurel Alexander to the vacancy on the Board of Supervisors. The motion died for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to adopt an Ordinance amending the municipal pension plan and to authorize the chairperson and secretary to execute the contract. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to approve Ronald E. Matters subdivision. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Visitors in attendance:

Martha Stambaugh	Stephen O'Brien	Barb Meyer	Ethan Koser
Pat Layman	Eleanor O'Hare	Michaelene Harris	Richard Harris
Bob Layman	Troy Titus	Erica Titus	Jim Keating

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Dennis Sump	Guyla Sump	Joe Chrestay	Leo Scott
Becky Ague	Don Morrow	Lindell Bridges	Laurel Alexander
Amy Higgins	Chris Nagy	Evelyn Klein	Suzanne Lozier
Raymond Lozier	Ed Wilson	Janice Passell	Debbie Candiotti
Tom Lyons	Sheila Lyons	Kurt Toth	Joyce Geisel
Andrew Kocis	Chuck Vranich	Bill Klumph	Mike Derr
John Leyshon			

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Presley
Secretary/Treasurer