

**Gregg Township Board of Supervisor's
Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 13, 2025 @ 6:30 pm
Room 203**

Meeting called to order @ 6:30 pm by Chair Ben Haupt.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Memorial of Charles Stover – Chair Haupt said a few words about Charles Stover and then led a prayer that his family be watched over.

Chair Haupt announced that Carol Gingrich was voted in on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 to replace Charles Stover's remaining term of this year. Carol will also replace Charles Stover on the PVEMS Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Chuck Beirlien – Said he was going to pull a Gill Morrison:
 - a. Asked about Bond on past Secretary regarding the theft
 - b. Asked about Kylie Topeka's issue with neighbors
 - c. Asked about the dump truck on the agendaChuck was told these would all be addressed during the meeting
2. Donna Miller – Said that on January 30, 2025, that she represented Gregg Township at the Centre County Tax meeting. Donna said that they also had the reorganization meeting.

Donna said that on February 1, 2025, that a total of four tax bills were sent out to township residents by GSS.

Bills dated for March 1, 2025 and mailed by GSS will be real estate taxes.

Donna has concerns about accepting credit card payments and the formatting.

Donna said there is a GSS Zoom meeting next Tuesday so that they can voice their concerns.

Donna asked if there is a need to advertise about the new GSS Tax System. After a discussion, the BOS said that the information could be posted on the Township website and Donna said she can post it at the Gregg Township Post Office. Donna said that she will ask GSS if they will be advertising the new changes when she is on the Zoom meeting on Tuesday.

Donna said that her term is up at the end of this year and that she was not going to run for the position again, but she has changed her mind because of the condition the township is in and because of the changeover to GSS. Donna said the next term will be from 2026-2029.

Kylie Topeka asked Donna how does it work when someone has an escrow and if the paperwork is going to be updated. Donna reported that GSS was able to go into the system and mark that it should go to the escrow company.

Donna said that she will be checking to make sure everything gets transferred over.

ROADMASTER REPORT: Branden said that they plowed snow, ordered salt, trimmed trees, and will be

ordering backhoe tires. Brandon said that P. Joseph Lehman's might be able to get a grant to put up an additional storage area for equipment. Brandon said that he currently drives a 2001 Sterling truck and that College Township has a 2015 Single Axle International dump/plow truck. It has 40,000 miles, it was inspected in the fall, has new tires, and a stainless steel bed. Brandon recommends getting this truck to replace the 2001 Sterline truck. Brandon said that College Township is asking \$30,000. Brandon said that they are also selling a spreader and they were going to ask a couple of hundred dollars for it. Brandon said that he might ask and see if they will throw the spreader into the deal also. Brandon said that he compared prices with Bradco and for a single axle truck, the price is \$213,000. Brandon said that there is money in the equipment fund that we can pay for this truck. After the discussion, all feel that this is a great deal. Motion to purchase College Townships 2015 Single Axle International dump/plow truck for \$30,000 made by Carol Gingrich. Motion second by Vicky Vanada. No further discussion. Vote unanimous. Vicky Vanada said that a gentlemen stopped into the office today and complimented on the very nice job that Gregg Township Road crew does on the roads.

LIAISON'S REPORTS:

1. SOLICITOR REPORT: David Gaines

- a. Hearing for Auman property was on January 31, 2025. The purpose of the hearing was for contempt. Property has been cleaned up to some extent and Judge Oliver's order gives them 45 days to finish the cleanup job. Kylie Topeka spoke up and said that the judge said that the canopy needs to be removed. Kylie said that she encourages the Code Office not to allow the Auman's to put up another canopy back up. David Gaines said this would fall more under the Solicitor, rather than the Code Office and that under the ordinance, a resident can't put a canopy up to cover things up.
- b. Bond – David has had some good conversations with the Bond Company Representative. She said that there are new claims coming in every day and they need to be filed in a timely manner, so she needs to tend to the new claims as they come in. The Bond Company representative explained the process. She said that they have to go through the claim line by line and verify it. David said that he is doing his best to be the squeaky wheel to keep the claim moving. Chuck Beirlien asked what is their typical payout rate. David said that most claims are around \$300 to \$500. David said that payout is usually good and it is quick. But because of the extent of the past secretary's theft, it is going to take longer to get through the process of the line to line verification of all transactions on the claim. David said that he wants to make clear that this is a bond and not an insurance and they should pay out at 100%. The past secretary's Pre-Trial hearing is scheduled for March 17, 2025 at Bellefonte Court House at 8 am.

2. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT: Jim Smith not present

3. **FIRE COMPANY:** Chief Troy Parker said they had 11 calls in January. He said that the Fireman's Relief audit was good. There is BINGO on February 21, 2025. Centre Concrete is doing a Military Appreciation truck and they reached out to Gregg Twp Fire Company and asked for a picture of their fireman's patch. Troy said their patch will now be on

their concrete truck.

There will be a ham pot pie on March 29, 2025. Fire Company memberships will be put in the mail soon.

4. **OLD GREGG SCHOOL:**

- a. **Advisory Board** – Molly Miller, President said they had their meeting on February 4, 2025. They discussed the flowerbeds and that they had an issue with getting the flower beds done last year. Beth Znaniecki reached out to the prison to see about having the prisoners come and do the flower beds in the spring and Beth is also writing letters to garden centers asking for donations of flowers. Molly said they had a discussion about the cracked sliding board at the side of the building. She said the sliding board is approximately 25 years old and that to buy a new slide can cost anywhere from \$12,000 to \$20,000. They said that there is a sliding board in the playground across from the handicap entrance. The Advisory Board voted to tear the sliding board down and plant grass in this area.

Matt Stover went to the Advisory Board meeting with concerns about the baseball field; he said the area needs some TLC. Matt provided pictures of the ballfield. Matt asked if Gregg Twp can help to pay for any of the repairs. There was a discussion and Matt is to get some quotes and get back to the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board requested that a suggestion box be put out. Advisory Board looked at the pantry entrance by the door and the repairs/remodeling needed in that area so that it looks more appealing to those renting the kitchen. Dave Sweeley said that Poorman's Welding can probably make a "boot" for the outside entrance door by the kitchen. The current door has some holes at the bottom of the door and the boot will help to seal the door. The door also needs a fresh coat of enamel.

The Advisory Board also went down to the Underground gym and are open to fixing up that area also.

- b. **Maintenance Report** – David Sweeley reported that he has put thermostat covers on, sealed a few doors with weather strip. David said the big project now is sanding down the pantry and back kitchen door. Had another delivery of heating oil that costs \$7,000.

5. **PV Code Enforcement Agency (PVCEA)** – Three permits for January, 35 permits agency wide. Anticipates this will pick up. Justin asked about the new poles going up on Green Grove Road. Brandon said that they are Blackbear's poles and they will be zig zagged on both sides of Green Grove Road.

6. **PVEMS** – Carol Gingrich said that their meeting was canceled last evening due to anticipated bad weather.

7. **Planning Commission (PC)** – Ben Haupt reported that they had their reorganizational meeting and they also discussed the language for the Rec Fee-in-Lieu.

8. **Water and Sewer Authorities** – Jim Smith not present. Ben said that he attended the

meeting and they have Buckhart & Horn Engineers. Ben said the price for inspection or an official paper, Chapter 940 Report last year was \$500. This year, Buckhart & Horn Engineers are charging \$1,500. The Water and Sewer Authorities are looking for another Engineer. The problem is that this needs to be done by March.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Motion to accept the January 6, 2025 BOS Meeting Minutes by Carol Gingrich. Second by Chair Ben Haupt. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous
2. Motion to accept the February 4, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes by Carol Gingrich. Second by Chair Ben Haupt. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.
3. Motion to accept the 2024 year-end Balance Sheet and P&L (Profit & Loss) Financial Reports made by Carol Gingrich. Second by Chair Ben Haupt. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Language of Rec Fee-in-Lieu: When someone subdivides their land, the new owner will need to \$1,250.00 when they put a structure on the land. This was implemented years ago. The money is to go for parks. The problem is that it does not include the words maintain or upgrade, so we can't use the money for these purposes. There is about \$16,000 in the Rec Fee-In-Lieu account. The current wording states (Chapter 9, Part 1) "Any funds collected as fees-in-lieu of dedication of open space shall be deposited in an interest-bearing account. This account shall be separate from other municipal accounts and shall be clearly identified for the purpose of funding acquisition and development of recreation facilities. Interest earned on all monies deposited in such accounts shall become funds of that account. Funds from such accounts shall be expended at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors in properly allocable portions of the cost incurred to design, construct or acquire the specific recreation facilities that will benefit the subdivision or land development from which they were collected".

The Planning Commission talked about the language at their February 3, 2025 meeting and they suggest the BOS consider the following language for the Rec Fee-in-Lieu language: "design, construct, repair, improve, maintain or upgrade". The Planning Commission is an advisory board to the BOS.

Chuck Beirlien asked how much the Rec Fee-in-lieu generated. Justin Dashem, PV Code said that he could give some history on the Rec Fee-in-Lieu. He said that the Rec Fee-in-Lieu came about when Gregg Twp., Centre Hall, and Potter Twp. purchased the land for the Tri-Municipal Park.

David Gaines said that the Rec Fee-in-Lieu is an ordinance and he feels that the Planning Commission's language suggestion is fine. David said that there needs to be a motion to pass an update to the language in the ordinance. David said that there may be an outstanding issue and he is not sure if the updated language ordinance will capture the monies that are already in the account. David said that he will check into that and he will advertise for the Rec Fee-in-Lieu Ordinance. Motion to add "design, construct,

repair, improve, maintain or upgrade” to the Rec Fee-in-Lieu language made by Carol Gingrich. Second by Vicky Vanada. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.

2. Agricultural Security Areas – Need a new ordinance. David Gaines will advertise the new Ordinance and we will have to reestablish and re-recognize the Agricultural Security Area at the next BOS monthly meeting. Motion made by Carol Gingrich. Second by Chair Ben Haupt. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.
3. P. Joseph Lehman Engineers – Needs agreement signed by township to open bidding process for roof, parking lot, and electrical upgrade. We have a \$500,000 grant to use for these projects. Motion made by Vicky Vanada to sign the agreement and get the bidding process started. Second by Carol Gingrich. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.

New Business:

1. Anne Messner, Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization – Anne said that she is the Transportation Planner. She said that this can deal with roads, bridges, or other related infrastructures. She said the long range plan needs to be updated every five years and it is due September 2025. She said they are visiting all 35 municipalities. Anne Messner provided paperwork to the BOS and Solicitor. She said that equipment and labor go beyond the scope of what they can fund. She said that the need the townships input to develop a plan for adoption in September 2025. She said that they are also asking on their questionnaire about the Amish buggies and the UTV's. Questionnaire's are due by March 14. Anne said they are fiscally restrained and the first four years are pretty much spent. Anne said to let her know if we have any questions.
2. Discussion of 2015 Single axle International dump/plow truck from College Twp – Already discussed under Roadmaster's Report.
3. Vote on BOS Vice-Chairman – Motion to appoint Carol Gingrich as Vice-Chairman by Chair Ben Haupt. Second by Vicky Vanada. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.
4. Conditional Use Fee – The Conditional Use fee set in 2019 is \$150.00. When compared this fee with other municipalities, other local townships ranged from \$500 to \$1,000; Penn Township charges \$1,000. It was decided that our fee needs to be increased from \$150.00. Motion to increase the Conditional Use Fee to \$500.00 by Vicky Vanada. Second by Carol Gingrich. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.
5. Free radon kits through Radiation Protection Program – Information is listed on the website
6. Discussion on repealing Amusement Tax of 5% from May 2017. David said this was enacted because of the concert Penns Cave was organizing but then canceled the event. David said that there would need to be a motion to advertise for an ordinance. Motion made by Carol Gingrich to table the Amusement Tax. Second by Ben Haupt. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.
7. Discussion on changing the BOS meeting time to 4 pm. After a discussion by residents

and BOS, Chair Ben Haupt said that it would be best not to change the time for now due to the issues the township is facing. Motion by Carol Gingrich to table changing the BOS meeting time for now. Second by Chair Ben Haupt. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.

Correspondence: None

Carol Gingrich made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm. Second by Chair Ben Haupt. No further discussion. Vote was unanimous.

Next meeting is on Thursday, March 13, 2025 @ 6:30 pm in room 203 @ OGS.

APPROVED