

**MINUTES
NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
APRIL 4, 2011**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the North Lebanon Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building located at 725 Kimmerlings Road, Lebanon, PA with the following people present:

Kenneth C. Artz	Chairman
Richard E. Miller	Vice – Chairman
Edward A. Brensinger	Treasurer
Cheri F. Grumbine	Township Manager
Harold L. Easter	Chief of Police

Absent Frederick S. Wolf Township Solicitor

Also in attendance were Kathy Hackleman of the Lebanon Daily News and several other individuals. The meeting was called to order and the pledge to the flag was done.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

A.) Lt Wengert & Chris Miller – Fireworks @ Union Canal Tunnel Park

Chris Miller, High Safety Consulting Services, presented the Supervisors with an overall summary of the arrangements that have been made pertaining to the fireworks display planned for a Scouting Jamboree to be held May 14th. The fireworks display is scheduled to be held at the Union Canal Tunnel Park. Mr. Miller stated the Friends of Union Canal and the Historical Society have already been informed and given their approval of the event. Local Fire Police as well as Fire Companies will be on duty that evening. It was agreed there would not be anything larger than a 3” mortar used during the display. An ambulance will be on location while the fireworks are being displayed as well as Lt Wengert and several other Fire Police for traffic control. He said there are a few concerns about the area along Hanford Drive which will be reviewed and a plan put into place. Hershey has given approval for the parking lot at their warehouse location, off N 25th Street, to be used for parking. The Board thanked Chris for keeping them informed about this event and all the safety measures that are being planned.

B.) International Property Maintenance Code FYI & Update

Lt Wengert and Chris Miller prepared a slideshow presentation to go along with a verbal update of what the IMPC program is about and how it is implemented within the Twp. Lt Wengert started his comments by telling the public he wanted to thank this Board and Administration for being farsighted and advancing with this type of Code enforcement program. In his opinion the program helps to keep property values and the overall value of the Twp at a higher level. By tracking and enforcing these trouble spots, surrounding neighbors are able to keep the value of their properties consistent. Lt Wengert stated he started his code enforcement career about 5 years ago. However he is still an active Police Officer at the same time. He talked about some of his impressions and the situations he discovered when he first started this job. Lt Wengert described his part in the enforcement of the Twp ordinances. Chris Miller, who is an employee of High Safety Consulting Services, has the certification to inspect and declare the safety of the actual structures, which Lt Wengert does not.

Chris Miller discussed his role in visiting these different locations and the situations that warrant a visit from Lt Wengert and himself. He also mentioned the various Twp employees involved in this program. A slide show was prepared to present to the public that shows many of the situations that were being discussed. Miller stated that the Code enforcement is not restricted to residential situations. There are business properties with environmental issue that have been discovered. Lt Wengert mentioned some of the situations that involved animal cruelty.

International Property Maintenance Code (con't)

The laws in Pennsylvania make it very difficult to prove farmers are committing animal cruelty. He stated he is actually attending some training sessions this week concerning animal cruelty and the legal aspects of enforcement for these types of situations. When dealing with farmers it is difficult to prove mistreatment of animals.

Both Miller and Wengert explained they could not discuss names and addresses from the slides being shown. They also discussed the difficulties of working within the legal system which is why it sometimes takes a long time to deal with these situations. They stated that some of the complaints they are now receiving are regarding repeat offenders.

Ruth Keller – Gary Ave

Ms. Keller asked if these situations come to Lt Wengert's attention as complaints or if he just drives around looking for these situations. Miller replied that most of these situations start with a phone call as a complaint. Then once a visit is made several other violations are recognized. Sometimes there are violations on neighboring properties noticed. It seems to be a "snowball" effect.

Ms. Keller asked Lt Wengert if he has the authority to pursue these situations when he sees them or if he must receive a complaint. Lt Wengert replied if he sees a situation he tries to make verbal contact to discuss it with the property owner. Once he sees what all is involved and it is his determination that the issues are not within his authority, he then calls in Chris. The 2 of them then work together with the owner to address any situation that might be unsafe as well as any Ordinance violation.

Charlie Allwein – Martin Dr

Mr. Allwein questioned if there is a list of properties for public viewing that are being worked on for code violations, such as on the website. He felt if there was a list somewhere that people could access, they would know whether or not to call the Police Dept about situations in their own neighborhoods. Lt Wengert said there is not a list available to the public. Lt Wengert stated that once he completes his reports for his activities, the information becomes confidential. He is bound by certain confidentiality issues that must be abided by in order to safeguard any hearings or court cases that might arise are not compromised. In answer to anyone who thinks he is dragging his feet on addressing these problems they do not understand the laws involved. The law states that these types of problems must be handled within reasonable means. Some of the situations have existed for years and cannot possibly be corrected in 30 days. Lt Wengert stated that as long as a property owner shows he is trying to address the situation, Wengert will continue to work with them until the problems are resolved.

Martin Barondick – New Street

Mr. Barondick questioned some of the farm situations that were depicted in the slideshow. He was curious if the farms were located within North Lebanon Twp. Lt Wengert replied the farms are located in North Lebanon Twp. However he told Barondick it is not the farm that Barondick was thinking about. About 2 years ago Barondick had discussed a particular farm violation with Lt Wengert. He asked Wengert if anything had ever been done about his complaint. Lt Wengert stated that was one of the violation cases that had been lost in court. Wengert explained how difficult it is to try to enforce violations against famers.

Suv Miller stated he never realized the problems were so severe. He asked if these situations have gotten worse since last year when the Board met with Miler and Lt Wengert. Lt Wengert replied it may be that the situations are just being discovered. Suv Miller then asked if there was some way this Board could assist in making this process easier. Chris Miller said in his opinion the address identification is the biggest problem. The addresses are not displayed on the properties. The second issue would be smoke detector Ordinances and then a hazardous building identification program (following FEMA). Suv Miller questioned if they have a sample smoke detector Ordinance to which Chris replied yes he does.

Glen Kreiser – Shellie Drive

Kreiser thanked Lt Wengert and Chris Miller for their presentation. His question was directed to Chris Miller and how much this evenings' presentation cost the Twp? He also questioned Lt Wengert if he is on duty tonight or if this is overtime for him. Chris Miller responded that yes he is on the clock for this evening. He is not self-employed and answers to the people who own the company he works for. Lt Wengert stated he is not on overtime for attending this evening. It is the end of a very long day for him that started at 7am this morning and he is not working overtime.

Kreiser reminded the Board about a complaint he had brought to them 3 years ago on E Lehman Street. At that time, Suv Brensinger told Kreiser he would turn the complaint over to Lebanon County Planning Dept. According to Kreiser nothing was ever done about his complaint Lt. Wengert said he thinks he knows the property Kreiser is referring to and would look into it.

Kreiser also thanked the Supervisors for participating in the tire collection held at the Fairgrounds. The collection provides an opportunity for residents to dispose of unused tires.

John Leahy Sr. – Cedar Crest Drive

Mr. Leahy thanked the Supervisors for the presentation tonight. He thinks it is a shame there are not more residents here to participate in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION was made and seconded to approve minutes from the March 21, 2011. Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL PAYROLL and PAYMENT OF INVOICES

MOTION was made and seconded to approve payroll, invoices for payment subject to audit. Motion was unanimously carried.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT**A.) Report for Month of March**

Lt Wengert agreed to read the report in Chf Easter's absence. The summary of several activities was read which showed the total Police contacts for the month were 837. A discussion followed about the number of faulty equipment cards issued, the failure to dim and wipers being used on rainy days.

TOWNSHIP MANAGERS REPORT – Cheri F. Grumbine**A.) NLT Fire Police Roster Change**

Chief Easter had forwarded a request to remove Russell Weitzel Sr. from the Fire Police Roster due to lack of participation. Mgr Grumbine is suggesting the Board take action on the Chief's request.

MOTION was made and seconded to approve removing the name of Russell Weitzel Sr. from the NLT Fire Police Roster. Motion unanimously carried.

B.) Award of Bid – Damaged 2007 Crown Vic @ \$2400

During the February 21st meeting the suggestion of placing a damaged cruiser car on the Municibid website was approved. The auction for the vehicle is now complete and a bid of \$2400 was the top bid. Mgr Grumbine is asking the Board to approve this bid received for the damaged cruiser vehicle.

MOTION was made and seconded to approve the bid received on Municibid for the damaged cruiser car in the amount of \$2400. Motion unanimously carried.

Municibid (con't)

Suv Brensinger suggested to his fellow Board members this might be a good method to sell off used equipment and vehicles when it is no longer needed. The process seemed easier and went quickly.

C.) Award of Bid – Fuel; Paving; Inlet Boxes

Mgr Grumbine told the Board that the advertised bid process had been completed and on Friday, April 1 the bids were opened. The information was outlined and has been provided to the Supervisors. The Board is being asked to review the bids and approve a bidder for each topic.

PAVING BIDS received for Project 1 - 2 roads (Horst Dr/ Mountville Dr) including the base and the wearing; Project 2 is paving at the salt shed. Bids were as follows:

Pennsy Supply - \$96,868.45

Landis Deck & Sons - \$100,663.60

MOTION was made and seconded to approve the bid from Pennsy Supply in the amount of \$96,868.45 for the two projects listed for 2011 paving project. Motion unanimously carried.

FUEL BID received from Meyer Oil at 3.35 is for delivered diesel fuel.

MOTION was made and seconded to accept the fuel bid from Meyer Oil at 3.35 for delivered diesel fuel. Motion unanimously carried.

PRECAST CONCRETE STRUCTURES were bid on by 3 different vendors. By-Crete was the lowest bid at \$17,909.00. Suv Brensinger explained that inlet boxes are the structures that are below surface where the water drains. The end walls are the walls at the sides of the road that protect the pipes.

MOTION was made and seconded to accept By-Crete's bid of \$17,909. Motion unanimously carried.

D.) Pertinent Issues.**1. Regional Comp Plan Update; Next Meeting April 7 @ 6:30pm @South Leb Twp**

As an informational item the next CLSD Regional Comp Plan Committee meeting is Thursday, April 7th @ 6:30 pm at the South Lebanon Twp Municipal Building.

2. Pre-emption Device – Rte 72/Long Lane

Also as an informational item is the update on the pre-emption device which has now been installed and activated as of Wednesday, 3-30-11. Chuck Trapp of PADOT has checked and verified the device is operating properly in all 4 directions. An invoice for payment to Herr Signal was included with the bill listing. The Twp will proceed with the required paperwork to the County for the liquid fuels funding pertaining to this project.

In keeping with this same topic Weavertown has indicated they would like the Rte 422/15th Ave intersection to have a pre-emption device. Mgr Grumbine stated she will begin the work on this pre-emption device project. The funding from County Liquid Fuels included a portion of funding toward this intersection also.

3. Update on Information RE: Avon Bridge Drainage Project from the 1940's

Following the last meeting when the Sahonics requested information on the water issues in their neighborhood, Mgr Grumbine emailed PADOT District 8-0 regarding this area.

Avon Bridge Drainage Project from the 1940's (con't)

Roadmaster Brensinger, and Mgr Grumbine met with Mike Martin – Lebanon County Maintenance Manager and Stevan Dietz –Acting Maintenance Services Manager-Harrisburg to discuss the Avon drainage project that took place in the 40's. They had provided Mgr Grumbine with a mapping of the project that showed the stormwater design that had been installed at that time. The project revised a lot of the drainage that had been located on the south side of Rte 422, starting in the area of White's Harley Davidson, and relocated the drainage system to the North side of Rte 422 running parallel to Rte 422. The design continued along 15th Ave and down E Lehman St, along the old canal bed and directed it back out to Rte 422. The design for NLT stops around 11th Avenue and continues into the City of Lebanon near the Home Depot area.

Discussion followed pertaining to the meeting which had been held and the actual water flow design for this area. Suv Brensinger said that unfortunately this information does not answer the Sahonic's problems. PADOT has stated they do not have drains in the area that the Sahonics reside. Suv Brensinger said it would be his best guess that the drains are located on land belonging to the Railroad Company. He continued on to say the PADOT reps did not seem to want anything to do with contacting the Railroad Co to get permission for access on the railroad right-of-way. Mgr Grumbine and Suv Brensinger reminded the Board that the Sahonics had mentioned that the hillside at the bridge on the south side had not been cut and trimmed for many years. They had mentioned weeds and snakes because of the growth. The PADOT reps did agree to look into this issue and see if the banks could be trimmed and cut back. PADOT also agreed to check the pipe running under Rte 422.

Another issue brought to their attention by PADOT was the issue of who is responsible for the piping and stormwater that runs parallel to Rte 422 in the area of Whites and the intersection at 15th Avenue. The reps informed Mgr Grumbine and Roadmaster Brensinger that the right-of-way is now the responsibility of the Twp. Mgr Grumbine told the Board she intends to speak to Senator Mike Folmer on this issue. She said it does not seem right to drop that responsibility on the Twp when it had been PADOT's project.

4. Rural Security Parade – April 16th to be Rescheduled

The Rural Security Fire Co has informed the Twp it will postpone their planned community parade until a later date.

5. Lenni Lenape Park Plan

Mgr Grumbine explained to the Board that the final step in getting the Land Development Plan recorded is posting a bond to insure improvements are completed. She told the Board she would like to use existing CDs as bonding for the park plan. When she was asked Mgr Grumbine replied she did not know an exact amount but it is in the estimated area of \$300,000. After some discussion Suv Miller questioned if a motion is needed.

MOTION was made and seconded to authorize Mgr Grumbine to post bonding as required for the recording of the Lenni Lenape Land Development plans. Motion unanimously carried.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**A.) NLT Police Policy Manual**

Suv Miller indicated he has not had time to read through the entire manual. Suv Artz agreed and asked the Board if they felt this issue should be tabled until the May meeting. The Supervisors were in agreement to table the Police Policy Manual until May 16th when they can discuss the Manual with Chf Easter.

B.) Suv Dick Miller

Suv Miller mentioned the PSATS conference they will be attending in Hershey in a few weeks. He had requested that Lt Wengert and Chris Miller provide the presentation tonight due to the fact that some of the sessions at Hershey Conference may be related to these issues. The Supervisors will also have the opportunity to discuss such topics with PA legislators at the upcoming conference. His other thought is to review what Ordinances are available that will assist these gentlemen in making their job somewhat easier. The Board could review and adopt sample Ordinances to accomplish this task for NL Twp.

Chm Artz informed the Public that following the meeting an executive session will be held to discuss personnel & litigation matters.

With no more business to conduct, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa L. George
Recording Secretary