

**Perry Township Supervisors
September 10, 2019**

The September 10, 2019 meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chairman, Ronald Howard, followed by the pledge to the Flag. Board members present were Frank Basile and Mickey Lemley with Christine Jarrell, Secretary.

Public in attendance: Solicitor Kim Pratt, Dreama Frazier, John Frazier, Chief Zach Sams, Betty Nicholson, Elizabeth Wolfe, Josh Huffman, Marcy Raddish, Pamela Eddy, Sami Smith, Ashlee Fox, Mike Belding, Rob Haines, Jenny Nicholson, Andy Fox and Brenda Dickson.

An announcement was made that John Frazier is recording the meeting.

Old Business: None

Public Comment: Dreama Frazier requested to address the board prior to the meeting. Mrs. Frazier first wanted to ask that in light of the recent tragedies in our community everyone please take a moment to pray for peace and healing. Mrs. Frazier has a list of questions after reading the minutes of previous months. Solicitor Kim Pratt interjected that she had instructed the board to ask Mrs. Frazier to submit her list of questions so that they may research the answers. Mrs. Frazier read through her list starting with the meetings being held at 3:00. She left work to attend as have others and she inquired as to the possibility of changing the monthly meeting to 6:00 pm and moving the location to the Community Center. Ron Howard did report there are 3 meetings at 6. Marcy Raddish stated she used to attend the meetings regularly and was here when they tried to change more to 6:00 – no one attended.

In reference to the Act 13 money, Mrs. Frazier would like to know the expenditures and receipts for that account such as what was the new truck purchased for this year that was paid from this account. Frank Basile stated it is a new winter plow truck to replace an aging one. He stated that they have not been using it yet as it is already prepared for snow plowing. Mrs. Frazier asked if the yearly Act 13 money has been received and Secretary Chris Jarrell stated it has. Solicitor Kim Pratt instructed Mrs. Frazier to complete a Right To Know form for information related to the Act 13 money so that we have a paper trail.

Mrs. Frazier inquired what the hours the Supervisors work and do they use a time clock or spreadsheet? Ron Howard stated they work 40 hrs per week and are on the summer schedule right now which is 4-10's. The employees complete a spreadsheet for biweekly payroll. She would like information on the pension plan. Information is not spelled out in the minutes and she feels it is a good idea to have an outside person be the administrator. She would also like copies of the budget for 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019. Again Ms. Pratt instructed that to be on her RTK. Mrs. Frazier asked if she could view the documents instead of paying for copies and Ms. Pratt informed her that if the information is in electronic format, it could be emailed to Mrs. Frazier. Mrs. Frazier asked the cost of the audit. Secretary Chris Jarrell stated she believed the audit is included in the yearly \$5000 fee for Rae Ann Tronetti, CPA. Also included in the employee information, Mrs. Frazier would like details of employee vacation, time off schedules and benefits.

Mrs. Frazier asked what the payments to J&A Landscaping are for. Is there a contract or estimate for his services? Frank Basile stated there is an estimate that was agreed to for mowing services.

Mrs. Frazier asked is there is a fixed asset inventory – can old or unused items be sold? She also inquired if the trucks are allowed to be used for personal use? If a citizen would ask to use a truck, is that permitted?

Mrs. Frazier questioned the \$2500 yearly income for the Supervisors. Secretary Chris Jarrell stated that it is \$1875 per year and Mickey Lemley explained that is the yearly Supervisor pay for meeting attendance in a 2nd Class Township. That is per code as when the Supervisors attend the monthly meeting, they are not on payroll. Mrs. Frazier inquired if she could get information on the Employees such as who is bonded. That is to be included in her Right to Know request. Mr. & Mrs. Frazier both thanked the board for listening.

Marcy Raddish addressed the board regarding an incident on 9-3-2019 at 10:20 am where she and her husband witnessed a Greene Co. Regional Police officer not stop at the stop sign coming off I-79. Chief Zach Sams replied to her that he would check the schedule to see who was on patrol that day and time and speak with the officer. He did inform her that there are rules for officers that perhaps he was responding to an incident and they

are permitted to turn off lights/sirens to not alert anyone. Mrs. Raddish also inquired about why the solicitor was in attendance? She wondered why the Township would pay for her to attend every meeting. Ron Howard stated that the Supervisors had asked Ms. Pratt to advise them on a separate situation with a drainage issue in town and met with her prior to the meeting. They felt she should stay since she had not been at a meeting in a very long time. Mrs. Raddish asked her fee and Solicitor Pratt stated her fee is \$100/hour but that she has not attended many meetings. The previous Solicitor Linda Chambers came to almost every meeting.

John Frazier inquired about the large tree stump at the corner of Ellsworth and Locust Avenue. It blocks your vision pulling from the intersection. Ron Howard explained the Supervisors have worked with Dr. Onishi previously to move his sign which also blocked vision. Mr. Frazier contacted PennDot who advised it's the Township's issue.

Sami Smith addressed Chief Sams regarding patrolman Casey Perrotta. Ms. Smith stated that she was the victim of theft from the Legion field where movie night was held. She reported the theft of 2 strings of lights and nothing was done. There was another theft of a backpack at the legion and security footage was posted on facebook. Ms. Smith posted a comment regarding her theft and the next day (3 weeks later) patrolman Perrotta came to her place of employment. She felt his demeanor was rude and condescending. She inquired how citizens should feel safe and protected when she felt the patrolman did not even pay her respect. She gave an example of coupons falling down in his car and he read them to her in the middle of their conversation. Chief Sams advised he would speak with patrolman Perrotta involving this incident.

Ms. Smith wanted to know why the Greene Co Regional Police facebook page posts pictures of people who have been arrested. Chief Sams reported they use the facebook page like a newspaper – to report activity. Ms. Smith felt that this could be considered a form of bashing and is not compassionate to post these when a person is obviously at a low point in their life. Chief Sams stated they basically use this as a tool as well to let people know what they are doing – calls have increased dramatically. Elizabeth Wolfe helped to explain that taking the picture at the time of arrest and sometimes showing their home is belittling. Chief Sams says they are not labelling people, just stating facts.

Ms. Smith asked Solicitor Pratt if she could give a definitive answer on the Rec Board funds. Will the money roll over to next year? Ms. Pratt instructed yes any money would not be forfeited. Mickey Lemley stated he stated that at a Rec Board meeting that the money will roll over and any new funds budgeted will be added. Betty Nicholson asked when the budget is completed. Secretary Chris Jarrell stated she started working with the Accountant in October and presents a preliminary version to the Supervisors in November so that any updates can be made a final version presented in December so that the budget may be adopted at the annual reorganization meeting. Pam Eddy clarified that the December meeting is when the budget should be completed? Marcy Raddish asked for clarification if the Rec Board can have a fundraiser? Solicitor Pratt advised fundraisers will be considered at a later date. The Rec Board is new and there has not been an active board in over 7 years. Ms. Pratt instructs that the board take things slowly and work together. Andy Fox asked why the Rec Board is part of the Township and Ms. Pratt explained that is required under Second Class Township code.

Ashlee Fox inquired if the Rec Board could become a non-profit organization. Solicitor Pratt advised that yes they have that ability but they will not be under Township and the Township would no longer oversee them. They would have to get approval to use the facilities as they do now.

Pam Eddy asked how many hours we have the police force in town. Mickey Lemley stated we are at 25/hours per week. Last year we had 24/per week but Mrs. Eddy felt she saw them more last year.

Jenny Nicholson addressed the board on how to reach the police for a non-emergency issue Her parents are elderly and last week someone was playing loud music late at night and they needed a little help. Frank Basile stated the non-emergency number is 724/852-2911 but it still answers as 911.

Pam Eddy stated she had heard rumors that they Supervisors were going to disband the Rec Board today. Ron Howard stated exactly that – rumors. Mickey Lemley stated they are cautious to see how it goes. He stated there was an issue at the last Rec Board meeting, things got out of hand, and that is why they asked Chief Sams to attend today's meeting. Sami Smith reported he needed to be at the Rec Board meeting. John Frazier agreed that at the last meeting, there was a lack of mutual respect and some childish behavior was exhibited. He felt that everyone needs to understand that at the Township meeting, the Supervisors are in charge and should be respected as well as the Rec Board meetings, Sami Smith is in charge and she should be respected as well.

Jenny Nicholson asked how to find out when the meetings are. Frank Basile stated it is in the local newspaper and Chris Jarrell informed the County is redoing their website and each township has their own page. She is learning to update the page. The meeting dates are listed there as well. She also asked about Clean up day and if there could be 2. Ron Howard advised they used to have 2 but the second was no one came to and its too cost prohibitive to pay employees, rent the dumpster and pay the hauling fees when its not well attended. It was suggested to add that to the website too.

Pam Eddy addressed the board since the town no longer has an ambulance, why wasn't the money budgeted for the ambulance given to the fire department? Frank Basile stated we still had to carry insurance on the ambulance until it was sold. She inquired where the money will be budgeted this year. She stated she knows Frank Basile is fireman and Mickey Lemley has applied to join so she asked Ron Howard if he has a grudge against the fire department. Mr. Howard stated that any votes involve all 3 supervisors. He does not decide the budget alone.

New Business: A motion is needed to approve the minutes of board meeting August 13, 2019. Motion by Frank Basile Seconded by Mickey Lemley. Vote: All in favor .

Treasurers Report: A motion is need to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay bills.

General Fund Expense Summary \$ 24,589.18 Payroll funds: \$22,721.12
Motion by Mickey Lemley Seconded by Frank Basile. Vote: All in favor.

A motion is needed to approve the Heavy Hauling agreement received from EQT for the Haines Well pad bonding Blacks Run, Hackelbender and Wilson Road. Motion by Frank Basile seconded by Mickey Lemley

A motion is needed to approve Trick or Treat on Saturday October 26 from 6:00-8:00. Any resident wishing to participate should leave their porch light on. Motion by Mickey Lemley seconded by Motion carried.

Perry Twp Recreation board would like to hold a Trunk or Treat in conjunction with Light the Night. A motion is needed to approve \$600.00 to be used for gift cards as prizes and supplies. Motion by Mickey Lemley seconded by Frank Basile to approve the \$600.00. Motion carried.

The Recreation board would like to plan a blood drive. Tentative dates are October 31 or November 11. The Rec board is contacting the local Red Cross and the Pittsburgh Blood Bank to inquire about holding the blood drive. Betty Nicholson reported she has contacted them and they are busy until after the first of the year so the blood drive is postponed

Rate increase notice was received from Highmark Blue Cross. Current monthly cost is \$7052.92. 2020 monthly cost is estimated at \$8127.73 A motion is needed to continue with the same insurance product for the 2020 year or research other plans. Motion by Frank Basile seconded by Mickey Lemley. Motion carried.

A motion is needed to donate to the Greene County Humane Society. A motion was made by Frank Basile seconded by Mickey Lemley to donate \$100.00. Vote: All in favor.

A motion to adjourn was made by Frank Basile and seconded by Mickey Lemley at 3:45 P.M. Vote: all in favor

Respectfully submitted by,

Attest:

Ronald N. Howard, Chair

Christine Jarrell, Secretary