

Typed: March 29th, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Cass Township was held on Wednesday, February 23rd, 2022 at 6:30pm at the Township's Municipal Building, Duncott, PA.

Present at the meeting were: Joyce Cutler, Mike Sorokach, Mary Lou Bergan, Michael Kulpcavage, John Kalovcak, Frank Angelo, Tina Skibiel, Chris Ternowchek, David M. Schultz Jr., Alicia Tobin, Michael Machita, Mike Ondisco, Kelsie Fiscus, Mike Panak, JoAnn Panak, and Barb Pielacha.

Chairperson Helt calls the meeting to order.

All recited the Pledge of the Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call of Officers:

Brenda M. Helt – present.

Elvin E. Brennan Jr. – present.

Other attendance/attendees:

Evelyn J. Bergan, Secretary – present.

Sean Logsdon, Solicitor – present.

Gerard E. Daley, Chief – CTPD – present.

Chairperson Helt states that the minutes from the January 2022 BOS meeting have been placed at each seat. Helt calls for a motion to accept the minutes if there are no corrections or omissions. Brennan makes the motion. Helt seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Helt opens the meeting for public comment.

Mike Sorokach, Owl Road – Inquires about the status of the property sales in the Tweedsville area – because he was talking to some of the residents who live there and they were wondering. Helt explains that Brinkash did a survey of the properties. Attorney Logsdon states that he will follow up with Attorney Karpowich regarding this matter. Helt again explains the intentions of the BOS to sell the properties to the adjacent property owners.

Joyce Cutler, Oak Lane – addresses Supervisor Brennan with complaints of Oak Lane being a mess – crumbling and potholes – and also an area where Minersville Water Authority installed a waterline and it is now sinking. This discussion continued. Elvin states that he will check into it tomorrow morning.

Mike Panak, Tulip Lane – Addresses the Board with complaints relating to a depression in the roadway that collects water and freezes. Brenda asks if this is related to the recent waterline installation done by Minersville Water Authority. Mike replies yes. Helt states that Elvin will get in contact with Minersville Water Authority tomorrow and check into it.

Barb Pielacha, Forest Lane – Thanks the Township and the contractor that cleaned up the property on Tunnel Road; she states he worked hard and did a great job. She then asks the status of the property as it relates to being sold. Attorney Logsdon explains the process of addressing the court and the hearing that will be held. Barb states that her and her husband have a personal interest in the property and will keep updated on the status as the process moves along.

Frank Angelo, High Road – States that Foster Township is enacting an ordinance addressing short-term rentals – relating to people buying properties to rent them on weekends to the people that come here to ride their 4-wheelers. Foster Township is putting specific guidelines in place for that type of rental. Helt explains that we addressed that last year and already have an ordinance in place because we don't want any of that going on here either. Attorney Logsdon added that it is a major concern, as well as, a major zoning issue – because when you are living in a residential neighborhood, you expect long-term rentals (6-12 months); they are fine– but they are not transient – you're not living next to a hotel – and residential neighborhoods are not zoned that way (for 24-48 hour stays).

Joyce Cutler, Oak Lane – Had additional complaints about a property on Schaeffer's Hill that is a mess. She states nothing is getting cleaned-up. Helt replies that she believes that Shannon Darker (Code Enforcement Officer) is taking care of the issues. Chief Daley explains the very long and timely process of addressing code enforcement issues. Brennan states that it took the Township over (2) years to get the issues on the Tunnel Road property addressed. Helt then refers to the burnt house on High Road (next to Antoinette Purcell) that took so long to get cleaned up. Attorney Logsdon also explains the costly and time-consuming legal process municipalities go through to try to get property owners to clean-up their properties (to cut their grass, shovel sidewalks, clean-up garbage, etc.). Chairperson Helt states that we have citations for another property waiting at the Magistrate's Office for over a year. This discussion continued.

Tina Skibiell, Pine Knot – States that she sees that a resignation was received from Dave Califf – and she knows there has been letters of interest submitted to fill the position. Helt states that it's on the agenda to address tonight – but her and Elvin cannot agree - so it will go to a Judge to decide.

Mike Machita – asks Chairperson Helt if there are any road projects scheduled for this year. Helt explains that repairing Woodside Road was discussed at last month’s meeting – but it’s going to be very expensive because of it being in such bad shape. Joyce Cutler asks if the Township can get grant funding. Attorney Logsdon states that his office could start looking for grant opportunities. Helt explains that the Township currently has ARRO Consulting, Inc. and they don’t have a grant writer so we are missing out on a lot of funding opportunities. Joyce asks why we don’t go back to Benesch because we used to get a lot of grants. Attorney Logsdon adds that there are also grant consultants that can be utilized instead of an engineering company. This discussion continued. Helt states that the Board will work on getting something in place to look into getting more grant funding for the Township.

Hearing no further comments, Brenda closes the public discussion and moves on to the agenda items.

Amending the Fee Schedule – Helt states that the Board members need some additional time to review and discuss changes to the current fee schedule – she makes a motion to table it again this month. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Berkheimer – AMT Collections – Helt states that as was discussed at last month’s meeting, the Board wishes to return Amusement Tax collections back to Berkheimer; however, Attorney Logsdon needs to do some research and review relating to the scope of service prior to the Supervisors signing the agreement documents with Berkheimer. Helt makes a motion to table this item. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Maintenance Agreement – Oak Lane Properties – Helt states these are the properties on Oak Lane that the Board had earlier decided to lease for maintenance purposes, however, it has since been decided that we no longer wish to do that due to the very lengthy process and the costs that the Township has already incurred. Helt makes a motion to cancel the Oak Lane property leases. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Supervisor Vacancy – Helt states that she and Supervisor Brennan cannot agree on a decision so Attorney Logsdon will explain what will happen next. Attorney Logsdon explains the process and timeline of filling the Supervisor vacancy. Helt makes a motion to table this item. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Treasurer’s Reports – There is a public summary and a list of transactions for the month of January 2022 at each seat. Helt makes a motion to accept both reports – and to pay all outstanding bills that can be paid at this time. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.

Planning Commission/Engineer's Report – *The Planning Commission met on February 10th, 2022 – at their meeting, they approved the Honnage-Donmoyer Plan. Helt makes a motion to accept this report. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

Police Report – *Chief Gerard Daley read the report. Helt makes a motion to accept the report as read. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

Road Foreman's Report – *Helt states that there is a copy of the report at each seat. She makes a motion to accept it as it is printed. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

Correspondence – *None.*

Old/New Business – *Helt states that an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting.*

Motion to Adjourn: *With no further business, Helt makes a motion to adjourn. Brennan seconds. Motion passed. Roll Call: Unanimous Favorable Vote.*

Meeting Adjourned.

ATTEST: Brenda M. Helt, Chairperson

TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:08pm.

ATTEST: Elvin E. Brennan Jr., Vice-Chairperson

TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:08pm.