

ELK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
September 11^h, 2023

The Board of Supervisors' September 11th, 2023 meeting was brought to order by Alber Jezyk at 7:00 PM at the Elk Township Building. The following Supervisors were present: Chairman Albert Jezyk, Jr. Vice Chairman Estace Walters, and Member Milton Rudy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comment.

OARA Draft Budget and Increased Funding Request

Albert Jezyk read aloud the Draft Budget and Funding Increase Plans from the Oxford Area Rec Authority. Albert followed up by saying that, as he recalls, when OARA was formed, the cost was supposed to remain at \$1 per resident. The proposal plans to increase the number to \$1.50. Estace Walters agreed and added that OARA did not intend to keep requiring additional funding year after year. Estace Walters commented to the audience that he wonders if Elk Township residents are even using the property. Milton Rudy proposed considering responding to OARA that we will honor the \$1 but not the increases. Albert Jezyk asked Michael Corcoran to please extend an invite for OARA to appear at our next Township meeting to provide some additional information to the Board. Michael promised to follow up with OARA.

Sterling Update

Albert Jezyk announced the next court date for the Sterling Trial would be December 14th at 11 AM. Audience member Melanie Hess commented that she was recently at the laundromat and met a man named John who claimed to have recently moved into 1204 Old Forge Rd.

Union Fire Company No. 1 Liaison Committee Meeting

Albert Jezyk informed the Audience that Union Fire was holding a meeting at their Banquet Hall on November 9th for representatives of the municipalities that they service. Albert commented that he planned to attend.

Union Fire Company No. 1 & Ambulance Division 2024 Service Agreements

Albert Jezyk read aloud both new Service Agreements from the Fire Company and Ambulance Division. Albert remarked that the \$52,264 for Fire Service and \$35,194 for EMS seemed like a large increase from 2023, he asked the Treasurer, Michael Corcoran, what the prior year contract costs were. Michael replied that for EMS it was a 39% increase and for fire, it was 7%. Audience Member Mark Plauger asked how Union Fire determines its fees. Michael Corcoran explained that Union Fire uses a flat Millage fee which is the same for all participating municipalities. Michael explained that he recently spoke to the President of Union Fire to inquire if this was a fair method, taking into consideration that in Elk Township we have vast amounts of open space in comparison to the other participants but we are paying these costs strictly based on property value, while West Grove Fire and Medic 94 use a formula based of call volume, population, and millage so that each municipality pays a fair share.

Milton Rudy commented that in the face of all these increasing costs, there is a very real possibility that the Township may need to raise taxes. Estace Walters asked Michael Corcoran if he could find out more information about our Contracts and if they are negotiable. Michael

agreed to do more due diligence. Estace Walters made a motion to Sign Service Agreements with Union Fire Company No. 1. Albert Jezyk seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Camp Bonsall Bridge Update from PennDOT.

Mary Gruber spoke about the update packet that was recently provided to the Township about the Historic Burr Arch Truss bridge rebuild plans. Mary informed the Board of Supervisors that the packet gave extensive details on certain aspects of the bridge but provided no interior drawings and her concern was they would build a cobbled-together version of a Burr Arch Truss like what was used on the Hickory Hill Rd. Bridge rebuild. Per Section 106, feedback was welcomed, Mary said that she would work with Michael on a response from the Township and that a quality picture of the original bridge interior would be included along with a request for clarification on their plans for the interior structure.

Chester County VPP Grant Agreement – Multi Municipal Comprehensive Plan

Albert Jezyk explained that entering into this grant agreement would require the Township to provide \$5100 over a period of 3 years to fund the Oxford Region Comprehensive Plan Update. Albert explained to the audience and fellow Supervisors that the plan is revised every 10 years and that as a member of this Planning Committee, it is necessary and important. Milton Rudy expressed some concern that these revisions could place additional burdens on Elk Township. Audience member Melanie Hess commented that this planning allows for the spreading of accommodations of uses, which reduces burdens on all townships. Estace Walters made a motion to approve the grant agreement, Milton Rudy seconded, the vote was unanimous.

October BOS Meeting

Albert Jezyk stated that the next BOS meeting would be held on October 2nd at 7:00PM.

STAFF REPORTS Secretary's Report

On a motion made by Albert Jezyk, seconded by Milton Rudy, the September 11th, 2023, Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes were approved. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

Michael Corcoran reported the totals of the bills to be paid for the month of September. On a motion made by Albert Jezyk seconded by Milton Rudy, the bills to be paid, except Roadmaster, were approved. On a motion made by Albert Jezyk, seconded by Milt Rudy, the Roadmaster bill was approved. Estace Abstained.

Tax Collector

August 2023: Tax Collected \$178.05

Planning Commission

No Report.

Historic Commission

No Report

Open Space Committee

No Report

Trails Coordinator

Estate Walters said that he and Chris Weaver will be cutting back the Chrome Barrens trail.

Zoning Hearing Board

No action.

Zoning/Building Report

Albert Jezyk read the report for the month of August, noting that 15 different permits had been approved for various work going on around the township and one violation notice had been sent regarding a trailer on Reisler Rd.

Roadmaster

Estate Walters read his monthly report to the Audience. Estate added that, unfortunately, PennDOT did not agree to provide any additional warnings for drivers at the intersection of Barren Rd and Chrome Rd, they did agree however to cut back the trees to increase visibility. Estate remarked that this doesn't address the issue that drivers don't realize it is only a two-way stop. Audience member Melanie Hess asked if they could paint a warning onto the pavement. Milton Rudy asked if we could put up signs that opposing traffic does not stop. Estate Walters commented that signs might be a good idea. Changing topics, Audience member Lin Klide informed Estate that there is trash by Haynes Farm. Estate said he would check it out.

Emergency Management Coordinator

Milton Rudy relayed that the training session he scheduled with Jason Sheffield for the ReadyChesCo system was postponed due to the prisoner's escape from the Chester County Prison.

Oxford Area Recreation Authority (OARA)

No New Business

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Corcoran
Secretary/ Treasurer