

February 6, 2012

Chairman Dennis Macheska called the regular meeting of the Ransom Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7 PM on February 6, 2012 on Hickory Lane. Also present were Dave Bird, William Brown, and Atty. Edmund Scacchitti. Fifteen individuals signed the roster.

The minutes of the past meetings were reviewed. William Brown made a motion to accept the minutes as reviewed and Dave Bird seconded the motion. Vote count was 3 yes and 0 no.

Dennis Macheska reported the township received a check in the amount of \$226,961.22 for the host fee balance payment for the 4th quarter of 2011 in addition to the 4th quarter groundwater monitoring report from Alliance Landfill.

From DEP the township received notification of approval of a minor permit modification in addition to a copy of an inspection done on 12/22/11 which noted no violations.

Storb Environmental Inc. forwarded to the township the annual downstream notification for Ace-Robbins, Inc. involving a detailed inventory of the type and quantity of regulated substances stored above ground at this facility.

From Lackawanna County Highway Safety Program the township received information about an open forum on drugs/alcohol which is an awareness program for parents and teens and it will be posted at the front door. Copies are available tonight.

A thank you card for a sympathy card that was sent to the LaRue family was received.

Dave Bird made a motion to pay the bills as presented and William Brown seconded the motion. No discussion followed and vote count was 3 yes and 0 no.

Dennis Macheska announced a decision has been made on the appointment of a zoning officer who will be Robert Lukasiewicz at the rate of \$35 per visit and mileage. Dave Bird made the motion to appoint Robert Lukasiewicz as zoning officer and William Brown seconded the motion. On the question, William Brown discussed the zoning officer doing the zoning permits and building permits. The zoning officer does only the zoning permits. Bob Lukasiewicz spoke concerning his position.

The audits have been completed for the real estate tax collector and the earned income tax collector and copies are available tonight.

Officer Tony Percival of SAPD presented the police report noting 145 hours of coverage last month with two reportable incidents. Dennis Macheska warned the audience two guys have been selling meat and fish from the back of a Toyota pickup with NY tags around town.

Treasury report was \$2,144,177.91 with revenue of \$258,089.51.

Recycling totaled 11,160 lbs. for January and 2/16 & 2/17 are this month's dates.

The road report was presented by Dave Bird, Roadmaster. He noted progress is being made towards bidding on road work for the upcoming year. Trees are being trimmed to open up the roads. The pipe problem on Evergreen Drive has been fixed. We have been blessed by Mother Nature so far this year.

Dennis Macheska announced the next regular meeting will be Monday, March 5, 2012 at 7 PM.

Under public comment, Eric Moeller of 3019 Main Street in Ransom Village congratulated William Brown on his appointment and questioned the posts placed on his property. Dave Bird reported they were from the bridge replacement project PennDot is planning on doing on Main Street. Eric Moeller had a speech prepared which he read concerning propane cannons which result in constant noise from 6:30 am till 7:30 pm. from mid June to Labor Day and he feels he has the right to a peaceful existence at his home. Eric had a DVD available for review of the issue. The cannons are located on his neighbor's property which is farmed by Keith Eckel. He is asking the township to intervene over the noise. Dennis Macheska reported the Department of Agriculture rules over the township when farming is the issue. The zoning officer will examine the zoning ordinance and Atty. Scacchitti will research the situation. William Auriemma of Red Oak Drive and Hank Rowinski of Skyline Drive questioned the landfill status in relation to what is currently being accepted and if the tonnage was going into Ransom Township. Bud Stann of Dark Region Road questioned the possibility of closing Dark Region Road which was mentioned after the fatal accident last year. Bud Stann will donate property to facilitate a turn-around being created if the road can be gated and key locked. Atty. Scacchitti will consult with the supervisors over this issue. William Brown wants a petition from the residents of Dark Region Road in favor of the closing prior to the closing of the road. Discussion followed with Bill Auriemma of Red Oak Drive, Rion Stann of Dark Region Road, and Helen Doty of Creek Road speaking concerning this issue. Jeff LaCoe representing the NRVFC was present and reported 4 fire calls and 4 EMS calls were in Ransom Township last month. They are also seeking reimbursement from PEMA/FEMA for the flooding which occurred in September. He reported the new tanker should arrive in two weeks.

There being no further public comment, Dave Bird made a motion to adjourn and William Brown seconded the motion. Vote count was 3 yes and 0 no.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Zielinski
Kathy Zielinski
Secretary/Treasurer