

CHOCONUT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING –April 4, 2022

Supervisor William A. Dovin – Phone 570-553-2469, Supervisor Roger L. Doolittle, Phone 570-553-2146
Supervisor Michael Mordovancey. Phone 607-201-5968

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held at the township meeting room, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Sup. Dovin called the meeting to order and led in the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. The roll was called and all three supervisors were present.

Attendees at the Meeting –Les Martens, Gary Wilcox, Russ and Joan Kipp, John Meehan, Allen and Katie Oswald, Ron Kolenz, Sue Knowles, Steve Pratt, John Brownlow, Wendy Zapolski, Cathy Hawley, John Ramsay.

Presentation of minutes and treasurer’s report – A motion was made by Sup. Dovin, second by Sup. Mordovancey and unanimously carried by the board to approve the minutes and treasurer’s report.

Citizens Input on the Agenda – John Brownlow mentioned that a couple of individuals arrived at his house in that morning, asking questions. John asked the supervisors what they might know about the visit; he said that it concerned a matter of drug enforcement. The supervisors responded that they did not know anything about the visit. Ron Kolenz asked about the process of getting items added to the agenda. The supervisors clarified what the agenda was, and the procedure to add items to it. They also explained how to access the supervisors by email and telephone.

Reports of the board, commissions and committees

Susquehanna Co. Council of Governments, C.O.G. Sewage and Codes Committees – the meeting was not held, due to the lack of a quorum. Immediate paperwork was handled, checks signed and there was a plan of the disposal of equipment that was no longer needed. Regarding sewage, everything in Choconut Township was in compliance.

Report of Susquehanna Co. Planning Committee Meeting. John Ramsay reported that the meeting was cancelled.

Report of Supervisors on Current Roadwork – Sup. Doolittle reported that repairs to roads were made, cinders and salt have been applied to roads due to snow and ice and many, many tree limbs have been removed from the roads. Complaints were made about potholes on Pamela Drive and Sup. Doolittle explained the procedure of filling holes created by the ever-changing temperatures. It was further clarified that Pamela Drive is not an asphalt-topped road, but a dirt and gravel road to which a chip and oil coating has been applied. Sup. Doolittle was asked by a resident if he could come to the township building and pick up stone to fill a pothole on his road and Sup. Doolittle granted permission to do so. There were discussions about infrastructure funds to repair roads, how to handle the dead trees that have resulted due to storms and the invasion into our area by various insects which have killed and are killing many of the trees.

OLD BUSINESS

Carmalt Road Bridge – blacktop will be put down in April or May when the weather is warmer.

Junkyard Ordinance – The latest update on responses received by owners, as a result of a certified letter that was sent out by the secretary. The supervisors will make some phone calls to non-responsive property owners and they will pursue discussing the matter with the township solicitor.

Choconut Township Website

The secretary-treasurer said that she is pursuing the creation of the website, giving those in attendance at the meeting a report of the paperwork that she has been handling which will enable the township to save hundreds of dollars and also to enable the township to potentially receive thousands of dollars in free grant money.

Sewage Problem on Property owned by Dennis W Hayes

A letter written to Dennis W. Hayes by Ken Laurie in 2021 was read by the secretary along with a letter that was written to the supervisors in 2021 following his personal visit with Dennis W. Hayes. John Brownlow once again brought up his concerns about sewage contamination of the well water that he uses. John Brownlow stated that he had not had his water tested. Sup. Dovin stated that it was up to John Brownlow to bring in a copy of a water testing report which indicated contamination. Until or unless such a report of contamination is received by the supervisors, the Board of Supervisors will consider the matter closed due to the fact that the sewage enforcement officer, Ken Laurie, said that the nearby sewage system did not present a problem.

NEW BUSINESS**Report of the Elected Board of Auditors on the Audit That They Conducted on the Choconut Township Accounting Records for 2021**

A detailed report was read by John J. Meehan, Chairman of the Board of Auditors on the audit that the board conducted on March 5, 2022. At the end of the report on the audit which was conducted by Chairman Meehan, Secretary of the Board Wendy Zapolski, and Steven Pratt, Auditor, the Board of Auditors thanked the (township) secretary and the supervisors for their hard work and dedication to this community.

Request From Township Resident for Permission to Operate a Limited Food Business

An email was received from a township resident who wanted to operate an on-line business selling herbal tea that she produces at her home. The supervisors reviewed the matter and concluded that there wasn't any problem with setting up the business, acknowledging that she had to receive permission from the State of Pennsylvania to conduct the operation.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – It was requested that at the May business meeting the supervisors put on the agenda the discussion of a plan to repair the township roads.


APPROVAL OF BILL LIST 2022-03, CURRENT BILLS AND PAYROLL

A motion was made by Sup. Doolittle, seconded by Sup. Mordevancy and unanimously carried by the board to approve the bill list, current bills and payroll.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Sup. Doolittle seconded by Sup. Mordovancey and unanimously carried by the board to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda A. Gittoes, Choconut Township Secretary-Treasurer
Contact by phone: 570-553-2678