

North Centre Township Supervisors Meeting
Monday, June 12, 2023

The North Centre Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on June 12, 2023 at the Township Building with Supervisors Ronald E. LeVan Jr, Steven D. Hess Sr, and Krunal Thakore present. Guests included Harry L. Hartzel Jr, Richard Davenport, Tom Clymer, and Carl Fedako. The Briar Creek Police Department was represented by Officer Clint Libby and Jackie Hart and Rebecca Knorr represented the North Centre Township staff.

Payment of Bills and Treasurer’s Report

As the meeting opened, Supervisor Hess made a motion to accept the minutes from the May meeting, the payment of the checks from #6339 to 6375, the Treasurer’s Report with one small correction, and the electronic payments made from May 8, 2023 to June 12, 2023. Supervisor Thakore seconded the motion and it passed 3/0.

Chairman Announcements

Supervisor LeVan thanked those responsible for making the North Centre Township 100th Anniversary Celebration a success, especially the members of the Historical Society who planned the event. It was an enjoyable time with about 75 residents attending.

Supervisor LeVan announced that the Township Office will be closed in observance of Independence Day from July 3-5, 2023.

Recognition of Guests

The only guest asking to speak during this portion of the meeting was Tom Clymer who explained to the group how the secretary/treasurer was originally paid a percentage of the budget. Mr. Clymer put an end to that practice when he was the secretary/treasurer and chose an hourly rate, a practice that would be more economical for the township taxpayers.

Police Report

Officer Clint Libby gave the Briar Creek Township Police Report. He reported there were 35 calls answered this month, 27 incidents investigated, 1 magistrate hearing attended, 3 traffic accidents investigated, 13 traffic citations issued, and 9 traffic warnings issued. Carl Fedako commented that he has seen the police cars on Fowlersville Road and would like them to keep it up.

Zoning Report

The Zoning Report was given by Jackie Hart. She issued 3 permits this month and pursued a number of issues related to property maintenance.

Supervisor LeVan noted that the updated fee schedules from the Tri County COG and NEIC have been received, but tabled the action on choosing between the Tri County COG or Northeast Inspection Consultants until the supervisors had some time to review them.

Committee Reports

Cemetery Committee—Carl Fedako reported that the Cemetery Committee is working on the Old Ebenezer handrail. The lumber will be here this week and work will begin.

Park Committee—Tom Clymer reported he is still working on the frame of the sign so the sign can be seen better from the road. He said that as he has been working in the park he has met a number of residents that are using the park on a regular basis. Also, the scouts that camped out in the park recently planted the blue rug juniper bushes that were donated to the park.

Historical Society—The Historical Society was pleased with how well the 100th Anniversary Celebration went. They estimated that there were 70-75 people in attendance.

Volunteer Committee—Supervisor Hess reported that at the Volunteer Committee Meeting held May 18, 2023, the menu was set, the caterer was chosen, the picnic will be held in the garage, and the date was set for Sunday, September 10, 2023, gathering at 3:00pm and serving dinner at 4:00pm. The Volunteer of the Year was also chosen.

Roadmaster Report

Supervisor Hess gave the Roadmaster Report. He reported that during the month of May, 2023, these tasks were worked on:

- Pipe work
- Patching pot holes
- Cleaning out inlets and ditches with the leaf vac
- Maintenance on trucks and equipment
- Removed downed trees
- Berming roads in NCC COG townships
- Mowing along roadways

June's time will be spent mowing, patching, berming, and getting ready for tar and chip. The target date for tar and chip in our township is July 10, 2023.

Sewage Report

None

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission will be meeting on June 15, 2023 at 7:00pm at the Township Building. The focus of the meeting will be to review the Short Term Rental Ordinance, to discuss the possibility of adopting the 2015 Property Maintenance Code, and the Naugle and Zech Subdivisions.

Old Business

Supervisor Thakore was the first supervisor to give his report on the PSATS Conference. Unfortunately, Supervisor Thakore got sick while attending the conference and ended up in the hospital, but while he was at the conference, he was able to attend a grant writing session and a cost of road maintenance session. He did enjoy the conversations he had with experienced township managers and looks forward to going again next year.

Supervisor Hess had a very busy week at the PSATS conference. On Monday he watched a video message from the governor, attended an awards ceremony, attended the roundtable session for 2nd class townships, attended an emergency preparedness session, mediated a Quick Books roundtable session, and attended a session on methods for acquiring money.

On Tuesday he attended the business meeting where state officials spoke and then the committee reports were given. He also attended an EMS session and a session entitled 20 Secrets of the 2nd Township Code. But he said the secrets were not really secrets.

On Wednesday morning he attended the business meeting. At this session PSATS hosted a number of state agency officials for a question-and-answer period, followed by a motivational speaker. As noted earlier, due to his duties as a township supervisor and a PSATS' officer, Supervisor Hess said his average day was from 7:00am to 10:00pm, but he feels the time was well worth it.

Jackie Hart stated that this is the first year she has attended the PSATS Conference. She thought it was much better than the borough conferences she has attended and her one regret was that there was not enough time to take all the classes she would have liked to take. Her favorite class of the conference was a mock conditional use hearing. She said it was very interesting and she thanked the residents of the township for sending her.

Besides attending the business meetings each day, Supervisor LeVan listed the many classes he attended at the conference. On Monday he attended the Population Round Table Session. He said the hot topics in that session were solar issues and electric vehicles. Other sessions he attended that day were a land use session, Rehabbing Zoning Practices, and the ABC's of Sewage Modules.

On Tuesday he attended the Mock Conditional Use Session. He felt it was the most interesting and most expensive session he had attended at the conference because there were 13 attorneys involved in it. The supervisors of a township become the judge and jury in a Conditional Use Hearing and they make determinations like who will be allowed as expert witnesses. He felt he learned a lot in that session. He also attended a session on Short-term Rental where he found out that real estate investors are buying up properties as investments, allowing them to be used as Short-term rentals, and then not taking care of the properties. Another session he attended was Bedrooms and Barns Rule Risk Assessment where the risk assessment process was discussed and the importance of having a plan in place to deal with the unexpected. Supervisor LeVan finished with the statement that he always comes back from the conference with some special nuggets of knowledge and does his best to put them to good use for the township.

New Business

Supervisor Hess showed the meeting attendees the citations give to the township commemorating the 100th Anniversary from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Senate.

Correspondence

The Correspondence List was reviewed.

Long Term Open Items List

The Long Term Open Items List was reviewed and updated.

Meeting Follow Up Items

The items were set for action.

Adjourn

Supervisor Thakore made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Supervisor Hess. The motion passed 3/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Knorr
Secretary/Treasurer
North Centre Township