The North Centre Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on May 13th, 2024, at the Township Building.

Attendance

Supervisors	**Present**
Ronald E. LeVan Jr.	Yes
Steven D. Hess	Yes
Krunal Thakore	Yes
Secretary / Treasurer	
Mary Smith	Yes
Zoning Officer	
Jackie Hart	Yes
Police Officers	
Cole Shaffer	Yes
Guests- Participants: Harry Hartzel Jr., Richard Davenport, Carl Fedako, and Lenny Treat	

Call Meeting to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence
The meeting was called to order by Supervisor LeVan at 7:00 PM.

Payment of Bills, Treasurer's report, and Minutes from the April 2024 Meeting
Supervisor Hess motioned to approve minutes for the April 2024 meeting, to accept the payment of checks #6773 - #6817, Fire checks # 1079, #1080, and #1081, the Treasurer's report, and the electronic payments made from April 8th, 2024 to May 13th, 2024. Supervisor Thakore seconded the motion, it passed 3/0.

Chairman Announcements
No Announcements

Recognition of Guests
Richard Davenport brought up a check issued to Hartzell Disposal Service for our Dumpster that is unable to be deposited due to Journey Bank's Poisitve Pay issues. Mary will call the bank on Tuesday to address the issue, then reach out to Hartzell Disposal.

The Meeting was suspended to conduct a hearing for the Floodplain Ordinance # 2024-01

Police Report
Officer Shaffer reported there were 47 calls answered, 35 incidents investigated, 1 magistrate hearing attended, 2 traffic accidents investigated, 15 traffic citations issued, 9 traffic warnings issued, and 4 criminal arrests.

Zoning Report
The Zoning Report was given by Jackie Hart. She issued 7 zoning permits and 3 building permits.

Committee Reports
Cemetery Committee- Meetings are Tuesdays at 9:00 AM at the Twp building. Lenny Treat and Carl Fedako are working on the steps at Old Ebenezer.
Park Committee- A meeting is needed.
Historical Society- Meetings are the first Tuesday of every month, Supervisors Thakore and LeVan attended the last meeting.
Volunteer Committee- Meeting Thursday May 16th @ 11am.

Roadmaster Report
Paving Project MS-944 bid award was announced at 7:30pm. Listed below are the companies and their bids.

HRI Inc. – $ 97,037.50
Sokol Inc. - $ 104,450.00
Lehigh Asphalt Paving & Construction Inc. - $ 114,925.00
Glen Hawbaker – $ 121,760.00
Don E. Bower – $ 127,782.00
Kobalt Construction Inc. - $ 169,000.00

Supervisor Hess motioned to award HRI Inc. the project, seconded by Supervisor Thakore. It passed 3/0.

The following work activities were completed in April.

- Cleaned Ditches
- Worked on Trucks and Equipment
- Worked up specifications on the backhoe, tractor, and mowers and received estimates
- Cut brush
- Picked up lumber for park bridge
- Cleaned up from storms
- Cleaned pipe inlets and outlets
- Took off remaining cinder spreaders
- Pipe work
- Patched potholes
- Berming

May's time will be spent cutting brush, trimming trees, patching roads, mowing, and berming.

Sewage Report
No report

Planning Commission
Next meeting is May 16th, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Old Business
The engineer inspection was completed on the Hidlay Church buildings by ZForce Engineering. In conclusion, the overall structure of each of the buildings appears to remain in fair to good condition. Given the age of the original structures, they remain in sound, functioning condition. ZFORCE does recommend the following:

1. Repair the loose and missing stone of the original foundation of the Accessory building.
2. Replace interior crawlspace post with pressure treated post. Protect the base of post from moisture and decay with stand-off post base. Provide a post base on the adjacent post as well.
3. Removal of the two large pine trees in closest proximity to the church building.
4. Ensure the church roof, specifically the steeple area, is properly sealed and weather tight.
5. Provide adequate ventilation within the church attic space to avoid high humidity and/or moisture.

Supervisor LeVan stated between the Township, the Hidlay Church organization, and the attorney's they believe to have found a way to facilitate the transfer of the Hidlay Church and cemetery property and buildings. It looks more like the transfer will occur. Knowing the financial situation of the church before this transaction needs to occur, Supervisor LeVan proposed that the church take care of the recommendations provided by ZFORCE. Some transfer of funds will be coming to the township for maintenance and future maintenance of the church and cemetery, but they will still be having money left that could be used to complete the recommendations. Supervisors LeVan and Thakore spoke with the historical society at their May 7th meeting and if this transaction is executed the historical society will then move into that building. Historical society requested if the parish house could be used to help with fund raisers, such as meals, rentals etc.

The supervisors stated these actions could take place. If this transaction occurs there will be language written into an agreement, that will state if the historical society or cemetery association defaults or disbands the ownership of the property and buildings will default back to the Township. The donation clothing bin outside the building is expected to stay there, which does generate a small income.
The North Centre Township cemetery association is going to have to be reformed as a 501C13. The historical society will need to find paperwork documenting their 501C3 status. This will allow the funds to be transferred to the property/buildings.

Mary discussed issues with the Positive Pay Service provided by Journey Bank that the township is currently doing a 3-month trial in. Some issues are as follows,

- Secretary was told by representatives that check reports could be uploaded so that it would be time efficient, and not need completed manually. After conducting meetings with Trevor and his supervisor it was concluded that they were unable to import a check report from QuickBooks, meaning all checks issued would need to be manually put in by the secretary.
- Numerous issued items were then not being cleared and showing up as a check exception needing attention.
- The Secretary's personal phone number was added to the account without her approval.
- The Township is not notified when there is an issue with a check. The exceptions tabs are checked daily M-F, numerous vendors contact up to a month after the check has been issued stating they did not receive/unable to cash the check. Using Journey Bank bill pay, the item shows "paid". This is causing a major pay delay for services and causing unhappy vendors used by the township.

Supervisor LeVan motioned to void the agreement discontinuing the positive pay service, also to remove the secretary's personal number from the account. Seconded by Supervisor Thakore, it passed 3/0.

New Business

Mowing and Trimming bid award was announced. Listed below are the companies and their bids.

J's Lawncare & Tree service LLC - $ 5,350.00
Unger's Lawncare - $ 5,380.00
Sokol Lawncare & Landscaping - $ 10,395.00

Supervisor Hess motioned to award J's Lawncare & Tree service LLC, seconded by Supervisor Thakore. It passed 3/0.

Supervisor Hess motioned to support road closure of Hidlay Church Road for the Back the blue event held by Three Dogs Vino on September 14th from 12 PM – 6PM. Supervisor Thakore seconded the motion, it passed 3/0.

Supervisor Thakore motioned to donate $500 to Columbia County Traveling Library for their new generator per their request, seconded by Supervisor Hess. It passed 3/0.

Discussion was held regarding upgrading the portable toilette at the Natural Park. The Supervisors do not feel it is needed at this time and will continue with the one already placed.

Correspondence and Long-Term Open Items List

The Correspondence list and the Long-term open list were reviewed.

Meeting Follow-Up Items

The items were set for action.

Adjourn

Supervisor Hess motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Thakore. It passed 3/0.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Smith NCT Secretary & Treasurer