LITTLE BRITAIN TOWNSHIP

APRIL 12, 2016

The Little Britain Township Board of Supervisors held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 12th, at the Municipal Building, 323 Green Lane, Quarryville, Pennsylvania. Prior notice of the meeting was given.

Chairman, Jerry Emling called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. A moment of silence was followed by the salute to the Flag.

**PRESENT:** Jerry Emling Bart Bower Dwayne May

Richard Brenneman Carol Bower Rueben Miller

Clark Coates Jim Bullitt Kerry O’Malley

Pat Wood Sue Bullitt George Osborn

Christine Jackson Peg Donahoe Marcella Peyre-Ferry

Margaret DeCarolis Jeffrey Flower Dan Risk

**MINUTES:** Motion made by Mr. Brenneman, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried to adopt the minutes of the March 9th meeting and the March 29th public hearing as printed.

**SANITATION:** It was reported that Sewage Enforcement Officer, Mr. Stoner had no collections for sanitation or well permit fees for the month of March. Zoning Officer, Ms. Jackson did advise the Board that while Mr. Stoner may not generate income on a monthly basis that he is working in responding to calls, checking on violations, etc.

**ZONING:** Ms. Jackson, Zoning Officer reported issuing 16 zoning, 13 occupancy, 3 driveway, 1 demolition and 3 extension permits during March along with the acceptance of 1 Zoning Hearing Application. Ms. Jackson also advised of the following:

* Stormwater Management plan on the Ben and Rachel King project. The project consists of the construction of a large barn for the breeding and breaking of horses. She indicated that the Township Engineer, Ed Fisher and she have reviewed the plan twice and all deficiencies have been resolved. She is currently waiting on the operation and maintenance agreement, a cost estimate and a letter of adequacy from DEP. She requested authorization to sign the plan upon receipt of the items noted above. Following a review of the plan, Mr. Coates motioned that Ms. Jackson be authorized to sign to the plan as requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brenneman and carried.
* Of proposed legislation to exempt high tunnels from stormwater management regulations as well as revising the definition of a high tunnel expanding their proposed uses and construction materials. She advised these structures were previously granted a tax exempt status and of her concern over the tremendous amount of soil erosion that will occur if these structures are also exempted from the stormwater management plan. Ms. Jackson advised she had spoken with the Township Engineer regarding this matter and that he was unaware and concerned about this possibility as well. He stated that he would draft a letter from his firm opposing this exemption. Ms. Jackson questioned if the Board desires for her to draft a letter of opposition as well to Representative Cutler. Following a discussion on this matter, a motion was made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Brenneman and carried authorizing Ms. Jackson to draft and submit a letter to Rep. Cutler pertaining to this matter.
* Advised that the Township no longer has a back-up Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) if Mr. Stoner is unavailable and questioned if the Board desired to appoint an alternative SEO. She recently ran into a situation that required a response from a SEO while Mr. Stoner was on vacation. Mark Deimler of Solanco Engineering Associates generously answered several questions for Ms. Jackson and provided assistance in resolving her situation. It was noted that Mr. Stoner did recommend Mr. Deimler as an alternate should the Board wish to have one. Ms. Wood questioned if Mr. Deimler would agree to the same payment structure as Mr. Stoner. Ms. Jackson said she would contact him to discuss that matter. Mr. Emling suggested that inquiries be made to confirm if anyone else would be interested in serving in this role.

**TAXES:**  It was reported that Tax Collector, Agnes Reeder collected $13,812.78 in Real Estate taxes during the month of March. The Board was also advised that problems remain unresolved with the new collection program implemented by the County.

**ROADS:** Roadmaster, Dan Risk reported on the following March road crew activities:

* Cleaned up from storm damage.
* Replaced rip-rap around various pipes.
* Worked on side gutters on Kinseyville Road.
* Repaired flood damage on dirt roads.
* Treated roads for ice.
* Removed salt from trucks and cleaned equipment.
* Swept roads.
* Cleaned shop.
* Cleaned storm grates and filled in side gutters from storm damage.
* Filled in potholes.
* Helped clean up at fire hall with skid loader.
* Hung bulletin board and racks in hallway,
* Took Peterbilt into Bud’s Spring and Suspension for work. Picked up when complete.
* Cleaned pipes out of sediment build up.
* Rolled and compacted Reath Road.
* Worked on section of Schoolhouse Road, placed pipe and rip-rap.
* Reviewed driveway permit sites.
* Worked on road gutter on Friends Road.
* Repaired erosion on bridge at Camp and Pine Grove Roads.
* Replaced stop sign on Reath Road.
* Swept intersections of Spring Hill and Ashville Roads.
* Installed inlet box and pipe at corner of Springhill and Ashville Roads.

Mr. Emling questioned how the new blower was working and was advised that per Roadcrew worker, Mr. Gore, it was doing well.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Motion made by Mr. Coates, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried authorizing the payment of General Fund checks 9984 through 10023 in the amount of $24,093.32. Motion made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Brenneman and carried authorizing the payment of State Fund checks 1968 through 1970 in the amount of $8,333.39.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Resident, Sue Bullitt presented the Board with a petition requesting to restrict Kirks Mill Road to “No Trucks, Local Delivery Only” and to erect signage to that effect along the road signed by 16 local residents. Mr. Emling advised that the Board has been considering such an action and is looking into the feasibility of doing so.

Resident, Kerry O’Malley referred to the minutes of the April 9th meeting pertaining to remarks made by Stuart Nelson regarding the Kirks Mill Road Bridge not being classified as a historical structure. He indicated his belief that the information stated by Mr. Nelson was incorrect due to section 106 of the 1966 National Historic Act. He further stated concern over the possibility of Mr. Nelson providing what he classifies as incorrect information to Representative Cutler. Mr. Emling advised that the Township has worked with Mr. Nelson from Representative Cutler’s office several times in the past and has always found him to be quite thorough in his research. He further stated that Mr. Nelson has contacted numerous sources regarding the bridge project and has been faithful in providing all information received to the Township. Mr. Emling went on to indicate that he sympathizes with and understands the concerns being expressed pertaining to the proposed bridge but that he has confirmed the project has been bid and awarded and doubts that any major revisions will be made to the plan at this point. Resident, Mr. Bullitt stated that the people who conducted the informational meeting on the project had not even bothered to visit the work site. Resident, Ms. Donahoe advised she presented the representatives of the company installing the bridge with photographs of the bridge which was constructed on Lees Bridge Road, which she believes would be more appropriate for Kirks Mill than what is currently being planned. Mr. O’Malley confirmed the concern over the representatives being unaware of the area or of the amount of Amish use the structure would receive. He further advised that he was aware of covered bridges in other municipalities and was advised they were less expensive to construct and last approximately twice as long as a standard bridge. Additionally he questioned if the state had to answer to the federal government on this project due to federal funding being received. Mr. Emling advised he was unaware of what requirements the state was responsible for and questioned if the covered bridges mentioned were owned by the State and was advised by Mr. O’Malley that he was not certain. Zoning Officer, Ms. Jackson advised all residents present that the Board of Supervisors had a private meeting with the representatives of the bridge company prior to the public meeting held for residence following several comments made indicating no Board members were present at their meeting. Ms. Wood noted that she attempted to discuss alternative options during the Boards meeting with the company but was unable to obtain a commitment to anything. Resident, Ms. Bowers questioned if the Board would be willing to submit a written statement opposing the proposed structure and was advised that the Board has already done so. Ms. Bullitt then advised that digging is already taking place on testing and Mr. Bullitt advised that PennDOT was out cleaning the current bridge the other day and sent stone into the creek. Mr. O’Malley reiterated his belief that if the Township allows the project to progress as planned that they are allowing the importance of the area and its historical nature to be removed.

Resident, James Skethway advised of shooting taking place on Fulton View Road at all hours of the day and night in a residential area, of loud music generated by a band playing and of vehicles using the roadway as a racetrack. He indicated he had contacted the State Police pertaining to the noise and shooting and was advised to contact the Game Commission and Township. He did contact the Game Commission who advised they did not handle matters such as these. Residents, Carl and Susan Auker also expressed serious concerns pertaining to the shooting taking place. Following a discussion of his concerns, Zoning Officer, Ms. Jackson advised she would send a copy of the shooting regulations to the residence where these matters are occurring along with a letter requesting that respect be shown by the band in the hours they practiced and the volume being used. Ms. Jackson also supplied a phone number to The Department of Environmental Protection for him to call regarding the burning of tires.

**PLANNING COMMISSION:** Ms. Jackson, Zoning Officer advised that a correction needs to be made under the section pertaining to the discussion of animal counts on small properties to include that all revisions being discussed apply only to lots of 5 acres or more. As of this time, no revisions are being suggested on lots of less than 5 acres. Motion was then made by Mr. Coates, seconded by Mr. Brenneman and carried adopting the minutes of the March 22nd Township Planning Commission meeting with the correction noted above..

**RESOLUTION #2-16:** Motion made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Coates and carried authoring the Secretary/Treasurer to advertise for material bids with a bid opening date of May 9th.

**RESOLUTION #3-16:** Motion made by Ms. Wood appointing the Secretary/Treasurer, Margaret DeCarolis as the designated agent for FEMA on the 2016 Blizzard Reimbursement. Mr. Brenneman seconded the motion, which carried.

**EMERALD ASH BORER:** Ms. Jackson, Zoning Officer advised that she received information from Patrick Fasano of Comprehensive Land Services advising of a growing problem with the loss of ash trees due to an invasion of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). It was noted that his company could perform an inspection on areas of concern and work with the Township on developing a plan to eradicate the EAB and prevent the destruction of trees. Ms. Wood indicated she did not believe this bug was new and was advised that they are supposedly moving further into the area. Mr. Emling indicated he did not know if there were Ash trees at the Park but that they were not present elsewhere within the Township. Mr. Coates advised that he did not believe enough of these trees were present within the Township to justify the expense of hiring a company for this service.

**INSPECTION ON KIRKS MILL BRIDGE:** Zoning Officer, Ms. Jackson advised the Board that she believes pictures of the bridge and arch located on Kirks Mill Road were obtained several years ago by the Township Engineer. She also questioned if the Board wished to have an inspection performed on this structure again now or wait until closer to the time of its replacement to have the inspection performed. A discussion pursued in which the Board agreed to have an inspection performed now and prior to the bridge’s replacement to ensure there is a sufficient paper trail of the structures condition prior to start of construction.

**TRAFFIC STUDY ON BALANCE MEETING ROAD:** The Board reviewed the traffic study conducted by Township Engineer, Ed Fisher in which a speed limit of 40 mph on Balance Meeting Road is suggested. It was noted that the 40 mph speed suggested is lower than the 85th percentile of vehicles traveling this road but that due to the narrowness of the road, lack of road shoulders and a private school being located on the roadway that this speed represents a reasonable and safe speed. Jeff Flowers, a resident of Balance Meeting Road advised he believed 35 mph would be a more suitable speed for this roadway and questioned how Friends Road was posted at a speed of 25 mph. The Board advised that speed limits are established based on speed studies conducted and the conditions of the road when the studies are conducted. Following this discussion, Ms. Wood motioned that Balance Meeting Road be posted as designated in the speed study report of March 26th at 40 mph. Mr. Brenneman seconded the motion, which carried. Mr. Emling advised Fulton Township should be consulted to confirm if they will post the section of this roadway within their Township at the same speed.

**TRAFFIC STUDY ON KIRKS MILL & SLEEPY HOLLOW ROADS:** A study conducted by Township Engineer, Ed Fisher pertaining to the installation of stop signs on Kirks Mill Road at the intersection of Sleepy Hollow Road was reviewed by the Board. Based on the sight distance issues observed during the traffic study, Mr. Fisher is suggesting the installation of two (2) new stop signs on Kirks Mill Road in order to create a 4-way stop at this intersection. Following this review, a motion was made by Mr. Coats, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried to install the signs as indicated in the traffic study dated April 6th.

**RELEASE OF ESCROW:** Following a review of Township Engineer comments pertaining to the releases of credit being held on Daniel king for stormwater features installed at 120 Little Britain Road, Ms. Jackson requested authorization for the release of funding upon receipt of a signed maintenance agreement. Motion was then made by Mr. Coates, seconded by Mr. Brenneman and carried authorizing the release of escrow upon receipt of the signed agreement.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mr. Emling called an executive session at 8:28 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 8:33 p.m. at which time he indicated the executive session was held to discuss a legal issue.

**RESIDENTIAL CONCERN:** Resident, Eric Guyll of Kirks Mill Road advised that during the widening of his road that a lot of dirt was removed from the end of his property which now causes his driveway to washout during storms. He indicated that he has been maintaining and cleaning the inlet boxes on his property and has established dirt berms to help direct the flow of water. Upon his return home today, the end of driveway had again been dug out. Ms. Jackson, Zoning Officer, advised that Comcast obtained a permit to install cable but was to advise all residents prior to beginning work. Mr. Guyll also stated that mowing portions of his property was difficult due to the guide rail that was installed on the bridge near his property. Mr. Emling advised the bridge was owned by the State along with the guide rail and that the Township is unable to remove or alter that. Mr. Guyll then indicated concern over water laying in grates and becoming breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Mr. Emling advised of the design of inlet boxes and how they allow the water to be dispelled. Mr. Guyll mentioned a broken telephone pole at the end of his lane, which Roadmaster, Mr. Risk said he would look at tomorrow. In closing, Mr. Guyll advised of his belief that the unnamed tributary over the creek near him should be named the Jesse Wood creek. The Board advised they would consider the request but would need to consult with the family to confirm if they would be interested in having that done.

**TRAINING/SEMINARS:** Upcoming training and seminars were reviewed. It was noted that the Roadmaster and Secretary/Treasurer would be attending a FEMA reimbursement seminar on April 15th.

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:54 p.m., being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Coates, seconded by Ms .Wood and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret D. DeCarolis

Secretary/Treasurer