

## **Brooklyn Township Meeting Highlights for Oct 17, 2019**

**Shout Out: This is a news report only. Not official anything**

**Monthly Township Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month at 7:00 PM**

**Next Township Meeting date: Special Meeting November 14, 2017 application review for supervisor position and budget planning. Next regular scheduled meeting November 21, 2019 at 7:00 PM**

12 Township residents attended and 2 supervisors Bill Brewer and Bryce Beeman

Minutes and Treasures report read and approved: 9/19/19 meeting minutes and October 17, 2019 Treasurer's report can be viewed on the Brooklyn Township website. An adjustment was noted on Treasurer's report of 246.47. Treasurer did not have time to reconcile and account for adjustment. Will provide information at next meeting.

Report from Joe Garvey who completed the township independent audit report of township books for January 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019 a 6 month period of time. All records are in good order and met compliance. Resident asked what the audit cost. The audit cost 2,500 dollars. Mr. Garvey also addressed issue of having money in low interest rate accounts. Suggested looking into different types of accounts that provide more interest. Cannot invest state funds. Resident asked is there a set amount or percentage a township can have in funds. Mr. Garvey stated no set amount as long, as the township has a plan for funds.

Open issues: No public comments

Acceptance of Graham Anthony's resignation as of September 19, 2019. Motion made to accept.

Progress on overlook of bridge up-date on Zick Hill- reported by historical society representative. The historical society has contacted 2 insurance agencies to review what liability is needed. No secured liability insurance policy has been obtained to date or document for legal usage of property. Supervisor asked if No Trespassing signs on property have been removed. No, they are still there by overlook need clarification from insurance company and attorney on what verbiage is needed for liability purposes.

Stahl drainage issue and possible lawsuit- no response from Stahl's attorney. Contacted our solicitor stated 90% of these issues go away on there own sit tight. Resident asked when a letter was sent to Stahl's attorney. Supervisors believe it was Aug or Sept. Resident asked, what is the harm in contacting Mr. Stahl to discuss the problem. Supervisors stated they have lawyers involved so let sleeping dogs lay. Resident asked, have you reviewed all correspondence between parties. Supervisors stated they have reviewed information from township attorney. Resident asked did the Stahl's send anything to the town prior to having attorney's involved. The Supervisor are not sure.

Discussion on new building plans moving forward. Looking over a lot of stuff. Have contracted the engineer to discuss plans. Back to square one on building. Will have public meeting on what the township wants and needs. Planning over the winter and build by spring. Old house needs to go and garage to this house is in the way for future building plans. Resident asked what the plan is for the current township building and will a cost estimate be obtained for repairs or is the historical society interested in restoring the building. Supervisor stated the roof is leaking at this time. Resident asked what percentage of this building is used. It is the garage and 2 rooms. Historical society representative

Pg 2 Brooklyn shout out Oct 17,2019

stated they have talked about using some items from current building in new building for historical reflection and that it makes no sense to attempt restoration do to cost

Norfolk Southern resolution. The railroad paid money to townships for real estate transfer fees and now suing for money back. Will need to give back about 27,000 dollars that is a 12% reduction in what was received. Motion made to pay this.

Equipment needs. Supervisor stated we have a lot of work on new township lot and dirt removal plus ditch cleaning. Looking to buy an excavator. The cost is about 117,000 from one company. Resident asked is it new or used. New equipment is being reviewed. Discussion on do we have employees who can operate this type of equipment and what type of service is provided. Resident stated we need more skilled operators for this type of equipment. Supervisor stated we have employees who can operate this type of equipment. Resident asked about plans to buy a skid steer. At this time this item can wait maybe in the future a skid steer will be purchased.

Historical society representative stated that in the future someone from the township should attend the Dennis Farm meeting to see what is planned for the farm and its historical value and development of land for educational purposes. Historical society representative stated they have a grant for development, however, are in need of additional funds and would Brooklyn Township provide funds to assist this project and could it be put in the budget. Supervisor stated at this time we need to wait and first build a building then see what the township needs are first and foremost. Historical society supports this project and has for some time.

Corbin pad survey. Survey for Corbin pad has been received. Supervisor questioned what they need to include and return. Resident stated that other township residents have received same survey to complete and return to requesting company. Resident stated that purchase easements are being sent out.

Bridge structure on Station Road and resolution of matter. Email for them on who is responsible for what.

Liquid fuel and turnback allocation for 2020. State notice that Brooklyn Township will receive 76, 000 or almost 77,000 dollars from state liquid fuel account and turnback allocation is 42,840 from state. Resident asked what did Brooklyn receive last year. Supervisor thinks dollar amount is around the same as last year but would have to look to see. Dollars based on population of 963 and mileage of 18.

Pa hardwood council concerns. Some Townships have ordinance restrictions on forestry.

Emergency Action plan for Susquehanna county. County sent information on emergency action plan for flood control project in our area.

Possible investment of Act 13 funds. Discuss options, PLGIT or private investment options. Funds currently at bank getting .1 or .25 in the bank. Talked to bank and they increased rate to .7 will have investment person who works with bank contact us to review information. The .7 has made a big difference. Supervisor's wife through work at Inter Faith has investments with company who will be contacting us with a quote. Supervisor did read supervisor news and found PLGIT a trust in Pennsylvania which handles investments. Resident asked because of the amount of money we have do we need a

Pg 3 Brooklyn Shout out Oct 17,2019

professional investment consultant. At this time we do not have one however the bank and company that inter faith uses are investment consultants. They are all in it to make money. Do not feel comfortable investing township money in stocks and bonds. Because anything can happen. Resident stated that some banks have CDs out there with 2 % or 2.2% for 12 to 18 months. Can get money if you would need it. Would be more then .7. Resident stated another bank can invest but you would need a checking account paying 2.1 %. Need to keep looking into investments. Would not invest whole amount and would need to be able to get money out in case of an issue.

Supervisor vacancy update. Supervisor reported as per solicitor they have 45 days to accept a resignation. Then we have a 30 days period to appoint someone. We are continuing to solicit applications for supervisor with a special meeting on Nov 14, 2019 because next meeting would be after 30 days. Would then go to vacancy chair to hold meeting to cast deciding vote. Have one person interested but want to make sure everyone has a chance at position who is interested, anyone who wants to try this . Will advertise in Mulligan for meeting and open supervisor position. Resident asked was it advertised any place. It was advertised on the Brooklyn Township nonofficial website. Prior open supervisor positions were not advertised they were selected from interested candidates.

If anyone is interest in the Supervisors position, please contact Bill Brewer or Bryce Beeman.