

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CAMBRIDGE**  
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**REGULAR MEETING**

**JUNE 5, 2023 AT 7:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER, MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Chairman Cole called the June 5, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 PM, in the Municipal Building, 22530 Electric Drive, Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania, followed by a moment of silence and the salute to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:** Supervisors in attendance were Kevin Cole, Charlie Bauer, and Bernie Blystone. Also present was Secretary/Treasurer/Zoning Officer, Debra E. Merritt; Roadmaster, Dan Klapthor; Road Crew Employee, Keith Snow; Residents, Dave and Mary Ann Birchard, Larry Johns, and Steve Simcheck; and Visitor, Carl Troutman.

**IDENTIFICATION OF RECORDING DEVICES:** There were no recording devices identified.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** There were no comments from the public at this time.

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:** There were no comments from the Supervisors at this time.

**PUBLIC REQUESTS BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT:** Dave Birchard of Ridge Road was in attendance to address the Board on the need for dust control, noting that the dusty conditions were causing poor air quality, as well as safety concerns. Mr. Cole stated the Board understands the residents' concerns and that the Township continues to look into financially viable options that are permissible for use. Mr. Birchard stated that while he understands that the Township's hands are somewhat tied, it has been a month since the last meeting, and it would seem that a solution has not yet been found. Mr. Simcheck added that there are residents on oxygen, have health issues, and he himself on dialysis, and that the current air quality created by the dust is adversely affecting people's health. Mr. Birchard added that other townships are putting down some sort of dust suppression, and questioned what other townships are using. It was also suggested that water could be applied in an attempt to provide some relief. Mr. Cole stated that regrettably, the Township could only continue to explore options for dust control for the dirt roads.

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

**CAJA** – Minutes from the April 4, 2023 meeting were received from CAJA.

**ZONING/PLANNING –**

- **Planning Commission:** There were no minutes received from the Planning Commission.
- **Zoning Hearing Board:** Minutes from September 8, 2022 Calvin Martin Hearing were received from the Zoning Hearing Board.
- **Zoning Officer:** A written report was submitted by the Zoning Officer.

**FRENCH CREEK COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS** – The next regular meeting of the French Creek Council of Governments is scheduled for Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 11:30 AM.

**TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE** – The next meeting of the Crawford County Tax Collection Committee is scheduled for Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 6:00 PM in the West Mead Township Building, if there is business to address.

**SEWAGE** – A written report was received from Michael Rinkevich, Sewage Enforcement Officer.

#### **PROJECTS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Discussion – Cable Franchise Agreement.** It was noted that the Township was waiting for Armstrong’s response to the proposed revisions to the Cable Franchise Agreement.

**Discussion – Repairs/Maintenance Needs at the Municipal Building.** Mr. Cole suggested that the Board discuss this matter at the July meeting so that a plan of action could be determined.

**Discussion – Nuisance Ordinance.** The final draft of the proposed Nuisance Ordinance, Ordinance No. 01 of 2023, has been provided to the Board for their review and consideration.

Motion by Mr. Bauer to authorize the publication of Cambridge Township Ordinance No. 01 of 2023, an Ordinance Regulating the Accumulation, Storage, Collection and Disposal of Garbage, Rubbish, and Waste; Prohibiting the Drainage of Waters Which Create Nuisances; Prohibiting Acts Interfering with Proper Road Maintenance; Prohibiting the Establishment and Maintenance of Nuisances within the Township; Providing Remedies for Violations, including Penalties and Proceedings for Abatement of Nuisances and Providing for the Administration and Enforcement of the Ordinance, and to include the provision regarding glare, for consideration at the July 10, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Second by Mr. Blystone.

Further Discussion: Mr. Snow questioned who would be administering the Ordinance on the Township’s behalf. Mr. Cole stated that the Zoning Officer would be tasked with administration, with the Board’s support.

Cole: Yes

Bauer: Yes

Blystone: Yes

**County’s Broadband Expansion Initiative.** Ms. Merritt stated that the Township received an email, together with an updated map, from the County Planning Office, highlighting the County’s proposed broadband expansion projects. The County is seeking grant monies through the Pennsylvania Capital Projects Fund to assist with the expansion, and at this time are requesting support letters and match commitments from municipalities. Ms. Merritt also noted that the County was requesting commitments by July 10, 2023. Upon review of the updated map, it appeared that much of the focus area was located along Miller Station Road and included much of the State Game Land property. Mr. Cole stated that he did not feel that a match commitment was warranted based upon the County’s proposed expansion area. Mr. Bauer and Mr. Blystone agreed.

**Crawford County Conservation District – Dirt and Gravel Road and Low Volume Road Applications.** It was noted that Mr. Klapthor and Ms. Merritt were finalizing the Grant Application for the Henry Road sluice pipe replacement for submission to the Crawford County Conservation District by the June 30, 2023 deadline.

**Dust Control.** Ms. Merritt stated that she had requested the DEP provide written verification that Seneca Mineral’s salt brine product was permitted to be applied to dirt roads for dust control purposes. Accordingly, Kimberly Yeakle of the DEP stated that while the DEP does not regulate products, improper application of dust control products can still cause pollution to water resources which can lead to violations of the DEP’s environmental laws and regulations. A copy of Ms. Merritt’s email, and Ms. Yeakle’s response has been provided to the Board for their review and consideration.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discussion – Ordinance Development to Address Airbnbs.** Ms. Merritt reported that with the recent inquiries being received concerning Airbnbs, she had obtained and prepared an ordinance addressing Short-Term Rentals for the Board’s review and consideration. She stated that if the Board were interested in enacting such an ordinance, she would forward it to the Solicitor so that he could begin his review. The Board determined it would be in the Township’s best interest to have such an ordinance in place and authorized Ms. Merritt to forward it to Solicitor Shaddinger.

**Discussion – Purchase of a Surveillance/Security System for the Municipal Building.** Mr. Cole stated that he felt that some sort of security system should be considered for the Municipal Building, noting the building was rather isolated, and held many valuable tools and equipment. Mr. Bauer agreed and noted that a system that records areas of the premises would be suitable. Mr. Blystone agreed. Accordingly, Ms. Merritt stated that she would contact some installation companies to get pricing on a basic system. It was suggested that ADT, as well as Canadohta Security be contacted to obtain pricing. Mr. Snow also suggested that the Board consider replacing the man door in the garage to protect the Municipal Building's contents more adequately.

**Discussion – Damage to a Vehicle's Tire Caused by a Broken Signpost as Reported by Carl Troutman.** Mr. Troutman reported that he and his father-in-law, James Beck, were turning onto Mt. Pleasant Road, coming from Arneman Road, when they drove over a broken off signpost just off the roadway which subsequently punctured the front passenger truck tire. He stated that he immediately reported the incident to Ms. Merritt, who relayed the information onto the Roadmaster. Mr. Troutman presented the Board with a quote received from Cambridge Tire in the amount of \$246.92 representing the cost of a new tire. He stated that was in attendance on his father-in-law's behalf to request compensation for the tire replacement. Mr. Bauer questioned how old the tire was. Mr. Troutman stated that they were a year old, however were basically new as his father-in-law rarely drove the truck.

Motion by Mr. Cole to authorize payment to James Beck, in the amount of \$225.00 representing the cost of a tire replacement. Second by Mr. Blystone.

Further Discussion: Mr. Troutman questioned why the Board was only willing to pay a portion of the actual cost of the replacement. Mr. Cole stated that he thought that was a fair offer since the tire was year old. Mr. Troutman disagreed and stated he found it unacceptable that the Township was not willing to cover the full cost of the replacement, since it was the Township's responsibility to keep the roads safe for travel. Mr. Bauer noted that the road was safe for travel, and that the incident occurred in the berm of the road.

Cole: Yes

Bauer: Abstain

Blystone: Yes

**ROADMASTER'S REPORT:** A written report has been submitted by the Roadmaster.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Motion by Mr. Cole to accept the Treasurer's Report and make Payment of the Bills as presented. Second by Mr. Bauer.

Cole: Yes

Bauer: Yes

Blystone: Yes

Motion by Mr. Bauer to accept the minutes of the May 15, 2023 Regular Meeting, as presented. Second by Mr. Blystone.

Cole: Yes

Bauer: Yes

Blystone: Yes

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** There were no additional comments from the public in attendance.

**FURTHER BUSINESS:** There was no further business for the Board to address.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Mr. Cole moved to adjourn, with a second by Mr. Bauer. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.



Debra E. Merritt, Secretary