

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CAMBRIDGE
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REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 13, 2023, AT 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER, MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG: Chairman Cole called the March 13, 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 and Charlie Bauer, with Bernie Blystone participating remotely. Also present was Secretary/Treasurer/Zoning Officer, Debra E. Merritt; Roadmaster, Dan Klapthor; Solicitor, Alan Shaddinger; Residents, Ruth Dunton, Nancy and Dave Wescott, Pat Hermann, Dave and Mary Ann Birchard, and Dale Gevin; and Visitors, Adam Alexander, Lisa Mellon & Ronnie Long of Armstrong Cable.

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.

PUBLIC REQUESTS BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT: Adam Alexander the General Manager of Armstrong Cable was in attendance to address the Board regarding their counter proposal to the Cable Franchise Agreement. Mr. Alexander also introduced Lisa Mellon and Ronnie Long, who accompanied him this evening. Mr. Alexander first addressed the Board's concern regarding the term of the Agreement, noting that the Township's preference of a 15-year term, which included the option to reconsider the agreement every 5 years, was agreeable to Armstrong. Mr. Cole stated that this is preferable as a lot of things can change over the course of 5 years, and the option to potentially reconsider the agreement would protect the Township's interests.

Mr. Alexander further addressed the removal of Section 10, the Assignment or Transfer Clause, noting that the language is adequately presented in Section 12(g) of their proposed agreement. He further stated that their proposed agreement adjusts the late payment percentage from 10% to 5%. He stated that they have historically submitted their quarterly payments on time to the Township, therefore believes the reduction in the percentage is of minimal exposure to the Township.

With regard to the definitions of gross revenues, on which the franchise fee is generated, he noted that these are federally regulated. He further stated that he did not believe that the larger list of gross revenues, contained in the Township's previous agreement, would generate any additional revenues than the smaller list of gross revenues contained in their proposed agreement. He stated that if the Township would prefer to keep the original gross revenue language, then Armstrong would be agreeable to that. The Board thanked Mr. Alexander and the representatives from Armstrong for attending the meeting and providing clarification on the proposed agreement.

Mr. Birchard stated that he was in attendance to address the Board about the conditions of Ridge Road, and to inquire whether the Township had a long-term plan for the road. Mr. Cole stated that he understood Mr. Birchard's frustration with having a dirt road, however noted that should the Township undertake hard surfacing it, it would only add to the annual costs of maintenance. He noted that while in previous years, the Township was able to operate a four-year seal coating cycle, a five-year cycle has been implemented due to the increased costs of seal coating. Mr. Birchard was also provided with a quote from Russell Standard showing that the minimal cost to hard surface Ridge Road would be approximately \$60,000.00. Mr. Birchard questioned whether a budget surplus or an appropriation of some of the American Rescue Plan funds could be utilized to hard surface the road. Mr. Bauer noted

that the ARP funding has been set aside to potentially address some much-needed structural repairs to the Municipal Building. Mr. Birchard also questioned whether the Township could cut some of the dead trees that are located on the Fire School's property at the corner of Ridge and Center Street Extension. Mr. Klapthor stated that the dead trees are located outside the of the Township's right-of-way, therefore did not have the authority to remove them. Mr. Cole stated that he would contact a Fire School representative to see about having them addressed.

Mr. Hermann noted that while he continues to request that the ditches along Ridge Road be cleaned, they have not. He further suggested that 1B stone be mixed into the gravel to provide a better driving surface, as the gravel that was placed a few years ago is very rigid.

Mr. Cole asked if there were any additional comments from the public. Dave Wescott of 24736 Route 408 stated that he was in attendance to make a complaint against his neighbor, Randy Kawinski. He provided the Board with pictures of his neighbor's property showing signs that stated that a gun range was being operated on the premises. He further presented photos and a video of Mr. Kawinski's security light that is directed onto his property and into his residence. He stated that he and his neighbor have had a tumultuous relationship, including physical altercations, and that any assistance in dealing with Mr. Kawinski would be greatly appreciated. Mr. Bauer questioned whether the neighbor was actually operating a gun range, and questioned how far away the neighbor's residence was from his. Mr. Wescott stated that he was not operating a public gun range, and that the residences were approximately 100 feet apart. Mr. Cole stated that the Township would look into whether there were any such regulations in place to address the Wescott's lighting concerns.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

CAJA – Minutes from the January 3, 2023 meeting were received from CAJA. Mr. Bauer reported that the new contractor has been undertaking some maintenance items that were neglected under the prior operator.

ZONING/PLANNING –

- **Planning Commission:** There were no minutes received from the Planning Commission.
- **Zoning Hearing Board:** There were no minutes received from the Zoning Hearing Board.
- **Zoning Officer:** A written report was submitted by the Zoning Officer.

FRENCH CREEK COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS – A special meeting of the French Creek Council of Governments is scheduled for March 16, 2023 at 11:30 AM at West Mead Township for the purposes of hearing from representatives of the Crawford County Fire Commission. The next regular meeting of the French Creek Council of Governments is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2023, at 11:30 AM.

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

SEWAGE – There was no report received from Michael Rinkevich, Sewage Enforcement Officer.

PROJECTS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Discussion – Cable Franchise Agreement. Mr. Cole noted that this matter was addressed at the beginning of the meeting and that the Township would revise the proposed Agreement for resubmission to Armstrong for their consideration.

Discussion – Repairs/Maintenance Needs at the Municipal Building. Ms. Merritt reported that Engineer Porter has advised that he intends to present the report as to his findings to the Board at their April Regular Meeting.

Discussion – Nuisance Ordinance. Ms. Merritt noted that Solicitor Shaddinger has reviewed the proposed Nuisance Ordinance. Accordingly, the final draft of Ordinance No. 01 of 2023 is being provided to the Board for their review and consideration. Mr. Bauer stated that he had reviewed the Ordinance and would like to see a revision that would prohibit the accumulation of used tires. Ms. Merritt stated that she would amend the Ordinance with Solicitor Shaddinger’s assistance and resubmit it to the Board for consideration.

County’s Broadband Expansion Initiative. Ms. Merritt stated that the Township has received no additional information or update with regard to the County’s proposed broadband expansion, nor the Starlink pilot program.

EMS Contract with Meadville Ambulance Service. Ms. Merritt reported that the Township has received no further information or update regarding Meadville Ambulance Service’s request for financial support.

Joint Bidding for Seal Coating. It was noted that the Township’s seal coating work has been submitted for inclusion in the 2023 joint bid for seal coating, with bid advertisements to run on March 23rd and March 30th, and the subsequent bid opening on April 20th at 10:00 AM.

Crawford County Conservation District – Dirt and Gravel Road and Low Volume Road Applications. Mr. Klapthor stated that he would be meeting with Jennifer Kellogg of the Crawford County Conservation District to identify potential projects eligible for the Dirt and Gravel Road (DGR) and/or Low Volume Road (LVR) program for the 2024 construction season, within the next couple of weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cambridge Springs Recreation Area. Motion by Mr. Cole to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to release the Township’s 2023 donation in the amount of \$5,000.00, to the Cambridge Springs Recreation Fund. Second by Mr. Bauer.

Cole: Yes Bauer: Yes Blystone: Yes

Authorization for Requests for Quotes for Gravel.

Motion by Mr. Bauer to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to obtain Request for Quotes for 500 tons of 2A Aggregate, delivered to the Municipal Building, for consideration at the April 10, 2023 Regular Meeting. Second by Mr. Cole.

Cole: Yes Bauer: Yes Blystone: Yes

ROADMASTER’S REPORT: A written report has been submitted by the Roadmaster. It was also noted that the Special Meeting to hold the annual road inspection is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 8:00 AM. Mr. Hermann questioned whether this meeting was open to the public. Mr. Cole stated that it was, however, the public would not be able to ride along with the Board, as the Township did not have a vehicle that could accommodate that. Mr. Hermann thanked Mr. Klapthor for mowing the brush back along the roads, however reiterated the need to have the ditches cleaned. He further noted that there was a large pile of concrete debris located along Ridge Road in the right-of-way, which could be a potential safety concern. Mr. Hermann again suggested that 1B stone be mixed into the gravel to

provide a better driving surface. He reminded the Board that he had brought in samples of the gravel placed on the road, which were triangular in nature with sharp edges and which caused him to get a flat tire when driving on the roadway.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

Cole: Yes

Bauer: Yes

Blystone: Yes

Motion by Mr. Blystone to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Regular Meeting, as presented. Second by Mr. Bauer.

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 7:50 PM.



Debra E. Merritt, Secretary