

CHERRY TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

April 4, 2023

The regular meeting of the Cherry Township Supervisors was held on April 4, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Municipal Building. Those present were Mr. Frank Fritz, Mr. David Mishler, Mr. William Smith, and Mrs. Carolyn Yeager. One resident was in attendance.

Mr. Fritz called the meeting to order. The minutes of the March, 2023 meeting were reviewed. There were no additions or corrections. Mr. Fritz made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried.

The financial report as of April 4 was reviewed. Mr. Fritz made a motion to accept the financial report. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried.

Mr. Smith gave the Road Master's Report. One day was spent doing winter maintenance. We had drifts, and skid was put down Township wide. A driveway culvert was installed on Chambers Road for a resident. Cold Patching was done on Coaltown by Marino's. Gravel patching was done Township wide. We still need to finish up some patching on Roenigk. We had trees down and brush everywhere after the high winds and storms. Three days were spent on clean-up. One tree on Redbrush and one tree on Roenigk could not be cleaned up because they were on power lines. After the power company took them down, we had to go back and clean up what they left behind, getting the pieces out of the ditches.

Mr. Smith met with Cory Shaffer from PennDot and roads were measured for potential tar and chip projects. Cory gave us an estimated cost for the roads we were considering. After a discussion about the condition of roads and the cost involved, it was decided to advertise for bids for the following: Atwell Road, Apron on Windy Road at Branchton, Ferguson Road, North Grubb Road, Hungarian Road, one section of Beaverdam Road, Pry Road, and Tinker Road. Mr. Mishler made a motion to place an advertisement for bids for this plan. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried. Mrs. Yeager will place the ad, and will list each road as a separate item, in case prices come in too high and we need to cut something out. The estimate is somewhere around \$108,000. Bids will be opened on May 2, 2023.

Mr. Mishler commented on a situation on the top of Coaltown hill, coming in from Kiester Road. The ditches are full of leaves. The culverts look like they are sitting really high, and there is just a lot of build-up there, preventing the water from entering the culverts. Mr. Smith stated that he needs to cut the ditches deeper and he can get the backhoe or the grader over there and clean out all the leaves. We may be able to start grading by the end of the month if this

nice weather continues. Mr. Mishler made a motion to approve the Road Master's Report. Mr. Fritz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Smith gave the Equipment and Maintenance Report. The transmission cooler lines on the Volvo were replaced. In the Allison engine, the coolant goes through the transmission, and two lines were rotted off. After the repair was made, we found a place that makes stainless lines. But they will be much more expensive. It is an option, though, if the lines rot out again. The starter was repaired on the One-Ton truck, and a serpentine belt on the backhoe was replaced. Some lights were replaced on the GMC. We are going to be replacing the bristles on the broom in the next day or two. We are also going to pull the spreaders and boxes from the trucks.

The new truck is in and we have been using it. We still need to put side boards on the bed. It is a nice truck, and we will be putting it to good use.

A discussion followed about what to do with the old GMC dump truck. Mr. Smith stated that we need to try to sell it. He feels we should be able to get somewhere around \$5000.00 for it. He also stated that the One-Ton is going downhill fast. We need to sell it, also. We may be able to get around \$3000.00 for it. Clay Township has a One-Ton for sale for around \$20,000. It has 80,000 miles on it, but is in much better condition than ours is. Mr. Mishler suggested that Mr. Smith call and get a firm price on the truck and take it for a test drive. Also see if they can hold it for us until we get our two trucks sold. Mr. Mishler made a motion to tentatively authorize spending \$21,000 for the truck from Clay Township. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried. Mr. Fritz made a motion to accept the Equipment and Maintenance Report. Mr. Mishler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Yeager stated that she spoke with Jim Wendelschafer at Iron Mountain. He is willing to meet with the fire companies and show them the entire layout of the solar project going in on their property along 308 at Atwell and Kyle Roads. He can either come to one of the Township meetings, or the fire companies can meet at the Iron Mountain Visitor Center to go over all the plans. The Board directed Mrs. Yeager to make arrangements with the fire companies to meet at the Iron Mountain Visitor Center, as it is really not necessary for the Township to become involved with that process.

A discussion took place regarding the development of an Ambulance Service in Marion Township. Robert Hairhoger had asked for a commitment from Cherry Township to help fund the start-up of this project. It was decided that the goals set by Marion Township have not been completely thought out at this point, and that Cherry Township cannot commit to providing money at this time.

Mrs. Yeager has been in contact with Michael Gallagher regarding the shooting issues at the Toomey residence on Branchton Road. At the Board's request, Attorney Gallagher has contacted Mr. Toomey's attorney, Patrick Casey, and Mr. Casey has indicated he will ask Mr. Toomey and Ms. Straughn if they are still willing to sign the agreement proposed last fall. The agreement would limit Mr. Toomey to two days of shooting per week, and also on Saturday. No shooting would take place on Sundays. Mr. Mishler made a motion that, if Mr. Toomey is willing to sign the agreement, Cherry Township will sign as well. This is the only option we have to give any relief to the neighbors at all. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried. Mrs. Yeager will wait to see what Attorney Gallagher finds out and will report at the May meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Yeager received, just prior to tonight's meeting, a packet requesting a building permit for Moniteau High School. The school is proposing installation of solar panels on the roof of the high school. Mrs. Yeager stated that we really should check into storm water runoff and that she will call Jonathan Garczewski at Gateway to get advice on that issue. Mr. Mishler stated that we should also look into some type of escrow for covering expenses of repairs and upkeep of the solar panels and also get clarification about who is responsible for the cleanup of the panels when they are no longer usable. Mrs. Yeager stated that we also need to be sure if there are batteries involved, and where they will be stored. Mrs. Yeager will attempt to get some answers before sending the building permit package off to MDIA for review.

Mr. Fritz made a motion to adjourn the meeting and to sign checks to pay all bills. Mr. Mishler seconded the motion. All three supervisors voted yes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.