

WOODCOCK TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS PUBLIC HEARING NOVEMBER 15, 2022 4:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting began at 5:26 p.m.

This public hearing was held after being duly advertised, to adopt Ordinance # 2022-1, to amend the Zoning Ordinance to provide for clarification of regulations relating to housing in various zoning districts.

Supervisors Randall Chess and Jason Crawford were present. Supervisor William Winters was absent.
Staff Present: Secretary Renee Hayes and Solicitor Alan Shaddinger.
Guests: David Shetler, Eli Shetler, Atlee Byler.

After calling to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, Vice Chairman Chess turned the hearing over to Township Solicitor Alan Shaddinger who reviewed and explained each section.

At approximately 5:15 p.m., the Board recessed to discuss possible revisions to Section 1005.2(a) to allow a 5 acre minimum instead of the proposed 10 acre minimum and to Section 902.5 to change the word "garage" to "structure".

After reconvening at approximately 5:25 p.m. the Board agreed to the lesser acreage and to change the wording from "garage" to "structure".

This hearing adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

The Regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors immediately convened at 5:26 p.m. Supervisors Chess & Crawford were present, as well as Secretary Hayes.
In addition to the above-named guests who remained, new guests arrived, Township Engineer Chad Yurisc, Tax Collector Sarah Medvec and resident Jim Cooper.

The minutes from the October 11, October 25 and November 1 meetings were approved by Motion from Crawford, seconded by Chess, after calling for and hearing no public comment, the motion was unanimously approved.

Payment of the bills: After review and asking for public comment and hearing none, Crawford moved to approve payment of the bills and Chess seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

CCCD granted time extensions as well as additional funding not to exceed 40% of the original cost, if needed, for the Fisher Rd. East & Stoltz Rd Dirt & Gravel Road Grant projects, that will take place in 2023.

The Supervisors & Code Enf. Officer went on a road & property maintenance tour on 10/25 at 3:00 p.m. to view property and road maintenance issues. Several property owners will be receiving letters of violation.

The Supervisors and Secretary attended an EMS meeting on 10/31 at E. Mead VFD.

IWorQ Systems- Software Services for Zoning, Building, property maintenance tracking. After much discussion, it was determined that at this time, the price of the software could not be justified based on the number of violations and permits issued per year.

Zoning Amendments- A Public hearing was held at 4:30 today to hear public comment on zoning ordinance amendments; Motion to adopt the zoning ordinance amendments with the following changes:

1. Change minimum acreage in Section 1005.2(a) to 5 acres and change Section 902.5 to say "structure" instead of "garage".

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2002-1 with the above changes was made by Crawford, seconded by Chess, calling for and hearing no public comment, roll call votes were: Chess Yes, Crawford Yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-8, to adopt Act 537 Plan Revision for R. Perrine, 21163 Fisher Rd. for installation of a SFTF, so moved by Chess, seconded by Crawford. Calling for and hearing no public comment, the motion was passed unanimously.

2023 Proposed Budget: The Proposed Budget for 2023 was reviewed and discussion was held on possible general purpose tax increases as well as potential adoption of a special tax for EMS. Calling for and hearing public comment from Jim Cooper who questioned why a tax increase was needed when the township has such a hefty surplus/carryover. The Supervisors felt the increase was needed in order to sustain the carryover in case of unexpected expenses with trucks or equipment needs and to pay off the debt incurred with the buildings/grounds updates. (1/2 mill = \$19,100).

Resolution 2022-9, to adopt the proposed budget with a ½ mill tax increase for EMS coverage. There was no tax increase for general purposes, it remains at 7.0 mills. Crawford moved to adopt the preliminary budget with the proposed ½ mill tax increase for EMS beginning in 2023, and have available for public inspection until it is formally adopted at the December 13 meeting, seconded by Chess. Calling for and hearing no other public comment, Crawford voted Yes, Chess voted Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Stormwater Grant: Township Engineer Chad Yurisc presented his cost estimates for providing storm sewers in Woodcock Village.

Alternative 1: Provide storm sewers for the entire development. This alternative has an estimated project cost of \$1,729,519 and would need to be submitted under the H2O PA grant program. This program requires a minimum match of 50%, so the Township's contribution would need to be \$864,759.

Alternative 2: A scaled down version of Alternative 1 to fall under the \$500,000 project threshold for the Small Water and Sewer grant program. Alternative 2 provides limited storm sewers to address the area with the largest problems first as a "Phase 1" approach. Future phases can extend the storm sewer to other areas as funds become available. The estimated project cost is \$487,991. This grant program only requires a 15% match, so the Township's contribution would be \$73,199.

Applications are due December 21; Construction years would be 2024 or 2025; if the bids come in higher, the township would be responsible for any overages if we chose to accept the grant money. Cooper wondered if the property owners could be assessed for the improvements or where is the money for this type of project coming from? He also questioned the engineer's fees that were not listed in the proposal and was told by Chad that inspection fees and other engineering fees, could be higher than what was presented.

Crawford moved to not proceed with the grant, seconded by Chess. Calling for and hearing no public comment, the motion carried by unanimous affirmative votes.

Authorize Secretary/Treasurer to open/close the following bank accounts:

- a). Peiffer Cemetery: Open CD to yield the highest dividends designated for the maintenance of Peiffer Cemetery with funds received from the escrow account. (The Township Supervisors were named the Directors due to the non-existence of a Board, due to deaths of elderly Board members).
- b). Close ARPA account as those funds have been spent on township buildings and grounds updates.
- c). Close Byler's Relish House escrow – project complete.

Chess moved to authorize the above, seconded by Crawford. Calling for and hearing no public comment, the motion carried by unanimous affirmative votes.

Department Reports

1. Road Foreman- Jason Crawford- Vac/Blew leaves; cleanup bldgs.; get trucks ready for winter; ditch; T-Star is back.
 2. Tax Collector- Sarah Medvec- 93% of real estate collected YTD; 62% per capita collected YTD.
 3. Zoning/Code- Renee Hayes- Several code violations will be mailed out; Permits: 3 were issued since last meeting totaling \$75,000.00.
- Public Comment Period- Mr. Shetler asked if smaller stone could be used on roads as the larger ones hurt the horses feet. He understood when told the larger ones help firm up the road better, but Jason will look into other options.
 - Next Meeting: Tuesday December 13, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.
 - Adjournment: Moved by Crawford & seconded by Chess, at 6:30 p.m.

Renee D. Hayes,
Secretary