

The regular monthly meeting of the Fox Township Board of Supervisors was held August 2, 2023, at 6:00 PM. Those present: Dave Mattiuz, Matt Pontzer, and Randy Gradizzi, supervisors, Kathy Dowie, secretary-treasurer, John Thomas, township solicitor, Robin Singer, Amy Cherry, newspaper reporter, Phil and Mary Day, Joyce Mosier, Jay and Chrissy Dippold, Mike Shannon, Shannon Shannon and Jim Nissel.

Chairman Mattiuz called the meeting to order and began by acknowledging the visitors.

Mary Day asked the Board what their plan was for addressing the noise issue with Forestview Kennel on Shelvey Summit Road. She asked if the kennel had ever submitted their plan for noise control, as required in the Township's zoning ordinance. The owner of the kennel, Shannon Shannon, was present. Chairman Mattiuz asked if she had a plan for noise control. Shannon replied that she plans to plant arborvitae along the back property line but "not until the neighbors quit harassing her." She stated that the neighbors shout obscenities at her and someone has been throwing firecrackers towards the facility. She also wanted to know who made the comment that a dog had escaped the kennel, as no dog had ever escaped. No one admitted to the statement. As the topic continued, Dave Mattiuz commented that Rob Singer has been going to the site with a decibel reader to check the volume of the noise being emitted from the kennel. He has gone many times at different times during the day and the noise level has never been above the 65-decibel minimum to indicate a noise problem. Phil Day asked who set the 65-decibel threshold. Mattiuz explained that that is the volume of a human voice. Mary Day asked if they could borrow the decibel meter for use on their property, to which the Board replied, no. Randy Gradizzi asked the neighborhood residents if the problem has gotten any better since they first approached the Township. Joyce Mosier responded that it has been better, but with the hot weather, the dogs are not outside as much. John Thomas commented that the kennel is in compliance of the Township ordinances, as they are not louder than the 65-decibel minimum and they are planting arborvitae as a means to reduce the noise. Mary Day asked what will be done if the arborvitae does not work? Dave Mattiuz responded that they will address that at the time.

With no other visitor comments, chairman Mattiuz continued the meeting.

A motion was made by Matt Pontzer, seconded by Dave Mattiuz to approve the minutes from the meeting of July 5, 2023. Motion carried.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Randy Gradizzi stated that a business was in the planning stages to construct along the Million Dollar highway in Fox Township, near Burkes Ace. They will need to discharge their stormwater into the PennDOT drainage ditches, but to do so, PennDOT requires the Township to accept responsibility for the Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP). E&M Engineers will be designing the stormwater plan and applying for the HOP. Randy explained that this has been a requirement for anyone wanting an HOP from PennDOT. Historically, the Township has not agreed to accept responsibility, but since an engineer is doing the design, he feels comfortable putting the Township name on the HOP. This particular project really has no other options. With that, a motion was made by Randy Gradizzi, seconded by Matt Pontzer to authorize E&M Engineers to apply for a Highway Occupancy Permit in the name of the Fox Township for this project. Motion carried. Randy continued by making a motion that, for all future projects requiring a Highway Occupancy Permit from PennDOT for drainage into the PennDOT system, as long as the project is designed and applied for by an engineer, the Roadmaster be authorized to accept the project in the name of the Township without needing approval at a Township meeting. The motion was seconded by Matt Pontzer. Motion carried.

A request was submitted to have streetlights installed on Hickory Street. Randy Gradizzi stated that streetlights were planned for in the subdivision, but never installed. Matt Pontzer commented that since the entire development has underground electric, the cost to install a single streetlight could be as high as \$10,000. A motion was made by Dave Mattiuz, seconded by Matt Pontzer, to deny this request due to the cost. Motion carried.

A quote was received from Summit Overhead Doors to replace the bottom panels on 4 of the garage doors at the Municipal Building at a cost of \$3,662.48. A motion was made by Matt Pontzer, seconded by Dave Mattiuz to accept this quote. Motion carried.

Elk County Catholic submitted a use of facilities form to use the soccer fields for the fall season. A motion was made by Dave Mattiuz, seconded Matt Pontzer, to approve this request. Motion carried.

The Fox Township Planning Commission reviewed the following subdivision and recommended it for approval:

The Estate of Raymond and Rosalie Bellotti is subdividing a 7.02-acre parcel from the property located along Brandy Camp Road. This parcel contains an existing home served by on lot sewage and public water.

A motion was made by Matt Pontzer, seconded by Randy Gradizzi to approve this subdivision as presented. Motion carried.

The following bills were submitted for approval for payment:

From the General Fund, check #29450 thru check #29493 in the amount of \$37,828.54

From the Landfill Fund, check #2193 thru check#2199 in the amount of \$5,686.50

From the Toby Water account, check #1504 thru check #1510 in the amount of \$5,190.71

For a TOTAL of \$48,705.75

A motion was made by Matt Pontzer, seconded by Dave Mattiuz to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried with Pontzer and Mattiuz in favor. Randy Gradizzi was in favor of the motion but abstained from check #29486 to St. Marys Water, as he sits on the Board.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Congratulations to this year's Greentree Landfill /Fox Township scholarship winners: Zachary Mosier, Josh Wildfire, Caleb Mattiuz, Katie Krull and Luke Jansen.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Randy Gradizzi, seconded by Dave Mattiuz, to adjourn this meeting at 6:29 PM. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held September 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building.