

West Earl Township Board of Supervisors, 157 West Metzler Road, Brownstown, PA 17508

In Attendance:

Chairman:	Dale Wissler	Member:	Russell Ressler, Jr.
Vice Chairman:	John Ford	Member:	Harold Keppley, Jr.
Member:	Richard Stover	Manager/Secretary:	Kevin Tobias

Call to Order

Chairman Wissler called the March 10, 2014, regular meeting to order at

Public Comment/Guests

John Sheaffer, 35 Saw Mill Road – John Sheaffer, along with two other family members who also own property along Saw Mill Road, was at the meeting to discuss the large trucks that have been using Saw Mill Road. He said that the trucks end up getting stuck on the sharp curves of the Road and have damaged his fence on multiple occasions. Mr. Sheaffer is requesting that warning signs be installed along Saw Mill Road to prevent the trucks from using it and suggested either a weight or length restriction sign. Mr. Houser said that an advisement sign could be installed that would restrict the truck traffic to only local deliveries and also mentioned that the Township would have to get PennDot's blessing to install the sign. After a brief discussion the Board directed Mr. Houser to look into getting a warning sign installed on Saw Mill Road. Mr. Houser will contact the Municipal representative at LTAP for some guidance and will provide the Board with further information at the next meeting.

Dale Peachey, 136 Cornerstone Way – Mr. Peachey was at the meeting as a representative for the Township's Tax Collector, Teresa Peachey. Mr. Peachey would like some direction from the Board on how to handle overpayments of taxes. Member Keppley said that the Board should find out what can legally be done before a decision is made. Mr. Tobias will do some research and report back to the Board.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Keppley to approve the February 24, 2014, regular meeting minutes as presented. Wissler-yes, Stover-yes, Ressler-abstain. Motion passed with a 4 to 0 vote.

New Business

Bid Results

- **Mowing** – The low bid for mowing is from Muckle's Landscaping at \$1,080 per cut. Mr. Houser provided a cost breakdown of what the Township is currently spending for mowing. The cost for the Township to continue the mowing would be approximately \$1,149 per cut. Mr. Houser said that if the Board decides to approve the mowing bid then that would free-up some manpower to help with road work. Vice Chairman Ford feels that it's worth the experiment to go with the mowing contract. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Ressler to award the mowing contract to Muckle's Landscaping for \$1,080 per cut. Motion approved unanimously.

- **Road Materials**

Stone:

Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Keppley to award the State A, #8 washed, R-4 rip-rap and screenings stone materials bid to Independence Construction Materials. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Member Ressler, second by Member Stover to award the ¼", PennDot anti-skid and R-5 rip rap stone materials bid to Martin Limestone. Motion approved unanimously.

Blacktop:

Moved by Member Ressler, second by Vice Chairman Ford to award the blacktop bid to Highway Materials. Motion approved unanimously.

Road Oil:

Moved by Member Ressler, second by Chairman Wissler to award the road oil bid to AMS.
Motion approved unanimously.

Public Works Director's Report

In addition to his written report, Jim Houser reported the following:

- **PEMA** has made a disaster declaration for the two, recent heavy storms. The Township does not qualify for any assistance however.
- **Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance Program** –The Township has several low-volume roads that would qualify for the dirt and gravel road maintenance program. Mr. Houser will be taking a two-day, dirt and gravel road training course. The training course is mandatory in order to be eligible to qualify for the maintenance program.
- **Insurance claim** – Mr. Houser received a phone call from someone who claimed the paint on their car was chipped by anti-skid material that was being spread by a Township truck during one of the recent snow storms. Mr. Houser inspected the damage and contacted the Township's insurance company. The insurance company is handling the claim.
- **Earth Day River clean-up** – The Conestoga Valley High School Ecology class would like to do the annual Earth Day river clean-up in the Lions' Park on April 21, 2014. The Board approved of the clean-up.
- **RIO support package** – Two options are available. Neptune software support for \$1,500/year which includes software support only. The premium support package, which is \$4,500 per year, includes phone, PC, software and site visit support. It also includes repair return management and rental equipment. Member Keppley asked Mr. Houser if there was any money set aside to pay for this support. Mr. Houser said that there is no money set aside for this because he did not realize that the charge for a support package was coming due. He said the water department had been working through a large credit balance at RIO and it recently ran out. Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Ford to approve the \$1,500, Neptune software support package from RIO Supply. Wissler-yes, Stover-yes, Ressler-no. Motion passed with a 4 to 1 vote. Member Ressler said that he felt the premium support package would have been the better option.
- **Liquid Fuels funds** – The Township received \$23,000 more than was anticipated. Mr. Houser would like to use \$8,000 to order 4 additional loads of salt for the upcoming fall snow season, and use up to \$6,000 to do some additional skin patching of roads. The Board agreed to allow this.
- **Meeting with Pentair & Mid Atlantic Pump** – Mr. Houser and Mr. Tobias met with Pentair and Mid Atlantic Pump to discuss the issues with the sewer grinder pumps. Mr. Houser said that he is pushing hard to get an inspection on all the grinder tanks installed in the Oregon Pike – Brian Development area and will keep the Board informed on the situation.

Manager's Report

- **Sheetz renovations** – Mr. Tobias provided the Board members with copies of the sidewalk installation agreement drafted by the Township's Solicitor. A copy of the agreement was also forwarded the attorney

for Sheetz. Mr. Tobias did not have any further information to report to the Board.

- **Workshop to discuss trash contract** – Further items to discuss will be the proposed storm water management ordinance and the installation of sidewalk along S. State Street. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, March 12th at noon. The Planning Commission will also attend the workshop.
- **Mothers' Day Make-A-Wish convoy** – The convoy will be travelling the same route as previous years and will be held on Sunday, May 11th. Moved by Member Stover, second by Member Ressler to approve the use of Township roads for the Mothers' Day Make-A-Wish convoy on May 11th. Motion approved unanimously.

Payment of Bills

Moved by Member Keppley, second by Vice Chairman Ford to pay the bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Supervisors' Comments

Harold Keppley – Employee dental insurance – according to the information provided to the Board, 5 out of 12 employees' dentists accept the current dental insurance. Member Keppley asked what those numbers were under the old dental insurance. Mr. Tobias was unsure. Vice Chairman Ford asked if both dental insurances could be offered to the employees. Mr. Tobias will check into that and report back to the Board.

John Ford – Vice Chairman Ford attended the Fire Companies' meeting on February 25th. He reported that January was the 3rd busiest month for the Fire Companies in a decade and that morale was good. The Fire Companies would like to know when the N. Farmersville Road Bridge will be replaced. Mr. Houser will be meeting with Penn Dot and will ask them about the bridge.

Dale Wissler – Chairman Wissler asked if Short Road has been made a private road yet. Mr. Houser said that it has not – some work needs to be done on the road first. Chairman Wissler said that he has a copy of the Drug Task Force report if any of the Board members are interested in reading it.

Mr. Houser asked the Board to approve a Township Newsletter for Spring. Part of the MS4 requirements is educating Township residents on storm water issues. The Board approved a Spring newsletter.

Adjournment

Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Ressler to adjourn the March 10, 2014 regular meeting at 8:37 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.