

**LITTLE BRITAIN TOWNSHIP
MARCH 8, 2022**

The Little Britain Township Board of Supervisors held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 8th, at the Municipal Building, 323 Green Lane, Quarryville, Pennsylvania. Prior notice of the meeting was given.

Chairman, Jerry Emling, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A moment of silence and reflection was followed by the salute to the Flag.

PRESENT: Jerry Emling	Brendan Filliaux
Clark Coates	Allison Fisher
Richard Brenneman	Les Johnson
David Martin	George Osborn
Pat Wood	Marcella Peyre-Ferry
Christine Jackson	David Stoltzfus
Margaret DeCarolis	Jen Stoltzfus
	Dan Risk

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mr. Emling advised an executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss a legal matter with the solicitor.

MINUTES: Motion made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Brenneman and carried to adopt the minutes of the February 8th Board of Supervisors meeting as printed.

SANITATION: It was reported that Mr. Stoner collected \$75.00 in Sanitation fees and \$100.00 in well permit fees during the month of February.

ZONING: Zoning Officer, Christine Jackson reported issuing 12 zoning, 17 occupancy, 1 driveway and 7 demolition permits during February along with the acceptance of 1 Zoning Hearing Application. Ms. Jackson also advised the Board of the following:

- Zoning Hearing Application of Ephraim Esh of Balance Meeting Road requesting a special exception of section 503.1 of the zoning ordinance for the expansion of a non-conforming use. He is proposing to remove 2 sections of his barn measuring 40' x 50' x 39' and 40' x 14' x 17' and replace it with a section measuring 40' x 64' x 38'. The first floor of the structure would be used for produce cleaning, packing and cold storage and the second floor would be used for tobacco storage. Following a review of the application, the Board noted it without comment.
- Information received from Lancaster Farmland Trust advising of all preserved farms located within the Township. They are now requested this information not be posted or publicized as some farmers prefer to keep their preserved status private.
- Annual Memorandum of Understanding agreement for the Lancaster County Conversation District. Ms. Jackson explained the purpose of the document and the Townships responsibility to comply with regulations covered by this document. Following this discussion, Mr. Coates motioned the Memorandum of Understanding be signed and returned. Ms. Wood seconded the motion, which carried.

- Request received from Vernon Fox regarding the possibility of allowing Marlin Sensenig to move into the ECHO unit approved for Jeremiah and Vera Sensenig in July 2019. Jeremiah Sensenig has passed away and the health of Vera is not good per Mr. Fox. He noted that Marlin will soon require nursing care and was hoping that Marlin and a nurse could reside in the ECHO unit upon it no longer being occupied by Vera. Ms. Wood noted her concern over the Board straying from the original approval granted and the risk the township ran of losing its ability to offer this housing option to residents when they are truly needed. Mr. Brenneman indicated that Marlin is getting older and no longer able to care for himself but believes a new hearing should be requested so that a formal review of the request can be made. Mr. Coates concurred that a new hearing should be required prior to any decisions being made on this matter. Mr. Emling stated his belief that the Board should authorize this request to prevent Marlin from being relocated during the turnaround time. Ms. Jackson noted that Marlin currently resides in the main home on the property, therefore he would not be forced to relocate unless approval was granted for him to reside in the ECHO unit. Ms. Jackson further noted that she would advise Mr. Fox of the Board's view that an additional hearing would be required to allow Marlin to reside in the ECHO unit.

TAXES: It was reported that the Tax Collector, Agnes Reeder had no collections during the month of February but has sent out 1515 tax statements for the year. It was further advised that Ms. Reeder consolidated approximately 200 tax statements this year which she utilized the municipal postage meter for to conserve postage costs.

ROADS: Roadmaster, Dan Risk reported on the following February road crew activities.

- Cleaned up and greased equipment.
- Mixed snow removal materials.
- Performed routine equipment maintenance.
- Loaded trucks and treated roads.
- Hauled ½" stone and placed on dirt roads.
- Regraded dirt roads.
- Cleaned up down branches following windstorm.
- Cleaned off inlet boxes.
- Hauled ½" stone for stock piling.
- Treated roads for ice.
- Cleaned up trees and branches following ice storm.

Mr. Risk advised that he purchased a GPS-based distance measurer for the Ford F-550 truck to ensure the accurate tracking of road miles and assistance in preparing for road work and/or grant applications. Mr. Risk also presented estimates on 4 road projects he would like to complete during the year totaling \$355,000.00. He reviewed the proposed projects that include paving a section on Sleep Hollow Road from Little Britain Road to Kirks Mill Road, paving Brown Road from Kirks Mill Road to the bridge, installing a gutter on Brown Road from Box 246 on Brown Road to Griest Road and paving King Pen Road from Brown Road to Kirks Mill Road. Ms. Wood questioned if Mr. Risk was proposing the use of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding for these projects. Mr. Risk stated the funding received through the liquid fuels funding would be inadequate to complete these projects. If depending on those funds alone, he may get one of the

proposed projects done. Mr. Emling stated that while he agrees these projects are needed that all funding should be directed to the corrections needed at the intersection of Black and Little Britain Roads until that project is complete.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Ms. Wood questioned the bill from Peach Bottom Door LLC for \$2,519.00 and was advised that the billing was for mowing services from August to October 2021 and the opening/closing of the park from August 2021 to the present along with the purchase and programming of 3 garage door remotes. Ms. Wood advised Mr. Filliaux, who was present at the meeting that if he wished to receive payment for services going forward that he needs to provide billing in a timelier manner. Motion was then made by Mr. Brenneman, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried authorizing the payment of General Fund checks 12516 through 12552 in the amount of \$36,536.18.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Resident, Les Johnson questioned if the work proposed at the intersection of Black and Little Britain Roads would be paid for by the State. He was advised that due to Black Road being a township road that the State refuses to accept any financial responsibility for the project. At the current time, the projected cost of the improvements at this intersection are approximately \$340,000.00. Mr. Johnson indicated his dissatisfaction with such a large portion of the ARP funding possibly being spent on 1 intersection when there are several intersections in the township that have poor sight visibility. He further indicated his belief that Brown Road should be a top priority for improvements. It was noted that the township is applying for grant funding to cover the expense of the improvements at the Black and Little Britain Roads intersection, but there is no guarantee they will be received. Mr. Emling again stated his strong belief that this project is a priority regardless if grant funding is received or not. Mr. Johnson indicated he could understand the township providing a portion of the funding for that project but not all of them when there are so many other road projects that require time and funding. He then questioned if residents will be allowed to provide input on the manner in which the ARP funds are spent. He was advised that no definitive decisions for the use of ARP had been made as the Board was awaiting final regulations on its use, which were just recently released. It was further noted that the Board has always appreciated and accepted residential feedback on township matters, however with a population of over 4,100 residents chances are good that residents from every road within the township could provide an argument on why their road should be improved/paved/widened/etc. The Board noted they had until December 2026 to utilize the funding received and were looking to use the funding in a way that would benefit the most residents of the township in a financially responsible manner.

TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION: Motion made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Brenneman and carried adopting the minutes of the February 22nd Township Planning Commission meetings as printed.

Robert Sensenig: Ms. Jackson advised that the stormwater plan for Mr. Sensenig is for the expansion of his turkey houses. Based on a plan review, numerous corrections were necessary and have not yet been submitted so she requested the plan be tabled until a later date.

LEGAL NOTICES: Jen Stoltzfus, owner and publisher of the Lancaster Patriot introduced herself and her husband David Stoltzfus. She expressed her gratitude to the Board for their

willingness to advertise with her paper and apologized for the bullying and retaliatory consequences they have endured due to the actions of the LNP Media Group. She presented a letter from her attorney outlining his belief that the Lancaster Patriot meets the guidelines of the Sunshine Act as a newspaper of general circulation. Her attorney has indicated his willingness to meet with the Board or its Solicitor to discuss any concerns they may have regarding this controversy. Ms. Stoltzfus went on to clearly state that Norman “Trey” Garrison, who the LNP Media Group claims to be a white nationalist and encourages violence against women and journalists, is not now, nor has he ever been employed by her publication, certainly not as a former editor as claimed by the LNP Media Group. She noted that based on the advertising costs incurred by the township in 2021 which totaled \$5,509.00, advertising in the Lancaster Patriot could have saved the township \$2,335.00 (42%) in taxpayer dollars. Board members indicated they have read the publication and found it to be a nice, non-biased paper. Mr. Coates questioned if subscription numbers for this publication within our township were known and was advised that they were not at this time; however, they could be obtained. It was also noted that new subscribers were continually being received and of Ms. Stoltzfus’ belief that with the continued advertising of this publication that subscription numbers will continue to rise. She noted she would welcome the opportunity to work with Little Britain and believes a judge would support her position that the Lancaster Patriot meets the advertising guidelines as established by the 2nd Class Township Code, unfortunately, no case law on this matter exists. Mr. Emling noted his concern over the failure of the LNP Media Group to notify the municipality when they were unable to publish its legal notice previously when they encountered a breach of their systems. The negligence of that action alone could have created tremendous legal ramifications for the township had it not caught the error and scrambled to reschedule a zoning hearing. Following a lengthy discussion, Mr. Emling reluctantly motioned that the township reverts to advertising their legal notices in the LNP Media Group papers until further research and solicitor advise could be obtained on this matter. Ms. Wood reluctantly seconded the motion, which carried.

RESIDENTIAL CONCERN: Residents Allison Fisher and Brendan Filliaux of Green Lane advised the Board of their concerns over the speeding taking place on Green Lane near the park. Ms. Fisher claims some cars are traveling between 70 and 100 miles per hour. It was noted that vehicles often use the road as a short cut to avoid the 4-way stop at Brown and Nottingham Roads. They requested the Board consider the installation of speed bumps on the road to slow traffic. Mr. Emling agreed traffic travels too fast for the road and suggested the Board consider rumble strips and/or speed bumps be installed in the parking lot of the park. Ms. Fisher also advised she was concerned over the drug use taking place at the park and indicated her belief that it was unsafe to allow children to utilize the park without adult supervision. She suggested the Board consider closing the park and selling the property. Mr. Emling advised that many families and children still utilize and enjoy the park facilities and foresees no reason to consider closing it. He further noted that misuse of the facilities generally runs in cycles and he would prefer to apprehend the culprits and seek justice through the courts if necessary to minimize problems encountered. Ms. Wood questioned if the State Police could be contacted to patrol the area and was advised by Mr. Filliaux that he often sees them entering and leaving the park area.

FLASHING SOLAR LIGHTS: Mr. Emling advised of an advertisement he had seen for flashing beacon lights that can be attached to road signs that he believes could be placed at the intersection of Black and Little Britain Roads to slow traffic and allow for safer traveling until

the road improvements are made. Due to the legality of such a device, the Board advised Mr. Risk, Roadmaster to contact the Township Engineer to discuss this option or other suggestions he may have.

2021 AUDIT REPORT: The Board was advised of the audit report for 2021 that was enclosed for their review.

RESOLUTION #4-22: Trick-or-Treat – The Board was advised that all municipalities within the Lancaster Inter-Municipal Council (LIMC) adopted a resolution in 1992 establishing that trick-or-treat would be observed on October 31st from 6 to 8 p.m. unless that date fell on a weekend, in which case trick-or-treat would take place on Friday before Halloween. Due to complaints and some confusion over that policy, the LIMC is now proposing that all municipalities within the County establish October 31st as the date for trick-or-treating, which will run from 6 to 8 p.m., rain or shine. A motion was made by Mr. Coates, seconded by Mr. Brenneman and carried to adopt Resolution # 4-22 agreeing to the have Little Britain Township abide by the recommendations of the LIMC pertaining to trick-or-treat.

RESOLUTION #5-22: Authority to apply for Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant – The Board was advised that a grant application requesting \$340,000.00 through the Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant was ready for submission upon the adoption of Resolution #5-22 and the approval of the \$100.00 grant submission fee. Mr. Risk questioned if the Board wished to submit a grant application for the road projects he discussed earlier under this same grant program. Following a discussion, the Board decided to submit only the funding request for the Black and Little Britain Roads project that has been prepared and to keep the other road projects for another round of funding under this program or through other grants that may become available. Motion was then made by Mr. Emling, seconded by Mr. Martin and carried adopting Resolution #5-22 and authorizing the payment of the \$100.00 grant submittal fee.

RESOLUTION #6-22: Material Bid Ad – Motion made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Coates and carried adopting Resolution #6-22 authorizing the bidding of road materials for the year.

SHREDDING EVENT: The Board was advised that the rate quoted by Iron Mountain of \$275.00 per hour for shredding services was increased to \$325.00 in their scope of work contract submitted. When notified of the error, they agreed to honor their original quote. Prior to receiving a new scope of work contract, they emailed advising that due to new policies established at their company that the hourly rate would increase to \$750.00 per hour. Numerous attempts to contact a supervisor/manager have gone unanswered. The Board agreed that based on the new pricing structure, they would not be holding the shredding event planned on April 30th to coincide with Spring Clean-Up.

COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE DONATION: The Board was advised of the annual donation request received from the Lancaster County Drug Task Force. The Board briefly discussed the work of the task force and instructed the Secretary/Treasurer to obtain a report of work performed by the task force within the township prior to determining what, if any, donation it will make.

RELEASE OF ESCROW: Zoning Officer, Ms. Jackson advised the Board that the Township Engineer had inspected the stormwater project for Joel Welch on King Pen Road and found the work to be in compliance with his submitted plan. He recommended the release of the escrow funding being held. Motion was then made by Mr. Coates, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried authorizing the release of escrow.

TRAINING/SEMINARS: Upcoming training and seminars were reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:53 p.m. being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Brenneman, seconded by Mr. Martin and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret D. DeCarolis
Secretary/Treasurer