

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

7407 Lamor Road

Mercer PA 16137

Telephone: 724 662-3310 · Fax: 724 662-0313

Email: hjeffersontowns@neo.rr.com

John Burkett · Richard H. McCullough · Anthony Settle
Supervisors

The monthly meeting of the Jefferson Township Board of Supervisors was called to order on May 10, 2021, at 7:00PM at the Jefferson Township Building, 7407 Lamor Road, Mercer PA.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Roll call was taken. In attendance were Supervisors John Burkett, Richard McCullough, and Anthony Settle. Additional public attendees are on file.

A motion was made by Richard McCullough to approve the minutes from April 12, 2021, was seconded by Anthony Settle and approved unanimously.

Anthony Settle made a motion to pay the payroll and payables in the following amounts:

General fund: \$38,688.59

Sewer: \$4306.27

Parks: \$0

State Liquid Fuels: \$501.60

The motion was seconded by Richard McCullough and passed unanimously.

The April 2021 Reconciliations were reviewed, motion made to accept by Anthony Settle, seconded by Richard McCullough and unanimously approved.

Public Comment Period

Barb Williams reminded everyone that the upcoming Tuesday would be election day and asked for permission to come in on Monday and setup for voting.

Mary K. Anderson of 172 Reno Road asked that her road be paved and was concerned with the condition of the road.

Ralph Rhodes of 39 Charleston Road requested repairs be made to the berms of Charleston Road.

Sharon Ketterer of Fredonia Road stated that her siding was stained from dust and would like to see her road be tar and chipped to resolve the dust issues.

Ryan Gassner represented numerous residents of the township with their concerns regarding a proposed solar panel project in an area between Clay Furnace Road and Reno Road. Many concerns were brought up to include the size of the project, impacts to environment, impacts to property values, water quality concerns, loss of greenspace, further strain on local government resources with no net gain of local jobs.

Erica Gassner also spoke about concerns regarding the solar project. Her concerns were much the same as Ryan's listed about but included health concerns and climate concerns namely increases in air temperature local to the proposed site due to the removal of trees and referenced research she had done that indicated an increased temperature of 8 % near solar farms.

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Public Comment Period cont'd

Jim Starkey of 59 Reno Road also spoke of his concerns regarding wildlife, owl nesting, light reflection, noise, and heat concerns.

Terry Bain of Clay Furnace Road spoke regarding the solar project and had concerns regarding the solar panels containing toxic chemicals, long term waste concerns.

Mary Anderson stated that the project would be behind her house, she says she moved to Jefferson Township to be in the open space that the township has to offer.

Brian Werner of Reno Road spoke of his concerns related to the further degradation of his road due to construction traffic for a large-scale solar project and strain on local services such as fire and rescue.

Makayla Anderson of Charleston Road spoke of her concerns regarding the removal of trees for construction of the solar project. Her concerns included trees being crucial to clean air, prevention of soil erosion, particulate removal from the air and carbon sequestration. She wanted to know why already bare unusable land could not be used for this type of project.

Administrative Actions

The bids for the Daley Road Project came in as follows.

Russell Standard \$66,760.20

Youngblood at \$87,516

Martuccio at \$93,225.60

Suit-Kote at \$114,660

Russell Standard was awarded the bid and "Option A" was approved which will complete the entirety of Daley Road (SR 258 – Lamor Road).

The Board had been discussing the addition of 2 personal days and 2 additional holidays (Good Friday and Veterans Day). The change will apply to both full and part time employees. A motion was made by Anthony Settle and seconded by Richard McCullough and was passed by a unanimous vote.

Staff reports were read and are on file.

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Unfinished Business

The salt shed progress was discussed. Multiple options are currently being reviewed and discussed. Current hang-ups are primarily cost concerned. Rich is in contact with a couple of companies and is hoping to have a quote from a costars approved supplier soon that will fit into our budget constraints.

Hilcorp Road bond status: John will reach out to Tom Havranek to discuss repairs on Seidle Road, and shared costs on Charleston Road repairs.

Penn Power - Claim invoice PP200963. This is related to Penn Power's claim that the township damaged their facilities during the removal of a tree on Line and Fredonia Roads. We are arguing that their claim is false and have had a hard time getting ahold of a representative to hear our side of the case.


New Business

Solar Panels – The Township office was in receipt of a rough proposal and request for project/permit requirements for a project described to be located between Clay Furnace Road and Reno Road. John Burkett made a motion; Anthony Settle seconded the motion that a response be made to Regional Planning (Lisa Holm) indicating that the Solar Company's planned project is incompatible with the established growth plan and zoning that exists for the township. The motion passed with Richard McCullough and Anthony Settle voting Yes and John Burkett abstaining.

Per Capita Tax – School District invoicing. Robin Snyder is coordinating with the Mercer School District business manager to provide what is needed to have the school print the tax invoices for the Per capita tax billing.

Adjournment

Motion by John Burkett to adjourn at 7:50 PM, seconded by Richard McCullough.

Approved By:  Date 8-16-2021
John Burkett, Chairman