

**Douglass Township – Berks County
Board of Supervisors Meeting March 12, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

The March 12, 2018 meeting of the Douglass Township, Berks County Board of Supervisors, held at the Douglass Township Municipal Building, was called to order at 7:05 PM by Chairman Doug Rhoads. Present were Supervisors Doug Rhoads, Grant Yergey and John Bauman. Also, in attendance were

Joseph McGrory, Solicitor; Thomas Unger, Engineer; Toni Hemerka, Township Manager; Police Chief John Dzurek; and eight members of the public.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Rhoads announced that an executive session was held on February 23, 2018 regarding a personnel matter.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Doug Rhoads, seconded by Grant Yergey approving the minutes of the February 12, 2018 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

The monthly report was presented to the Board.

A motion was made by Doug Rhoads, seconded by John Bauman to adopt Resolution 2018-09 entering into an agreement with PennDOT authorizing the township to be paid \$13,269.62 over the next three years to mow grass twice per year along the PennDOT Right of ways. The motion carried unanimously.

POLICE REPORT

The Chief's report for the month of February was distributed to the Board.

A motion was made by Doug Rhoads, seconded by Grant Yergey to hire Ryan Foltz as a full-time police officer pending the outcome of the psychological exam. The motion carried unanimously.

The Chief informed the Board that the department will participate in another Aggressive Drive campaign March 19- April 29. The department received a positive outcome from an audit conducted by the Pa State Police of the Jnet program participation.

A motion was made by Doug Rhoads, seconded by John Bauman approving a payment of \$500 to the Berks Fraternal Order of Police to commemorate the previous K-9's Akimbo and Dagger on their memorial. The motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. McGrory stated that has spoken with individual Board members who agreed that they wanted to re-open the discussion regarding the potential weed ordinance. The Board discussed and agreed that it would be too difficult to enforce in such a rural township. A motion was made by Doug Rhoads, seconded by Grant Yergey to rescind the motion to advertise the weed ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

At this time resident Rosemarie Bauman questioned the Board on what had prompted the weed ordinance in the first place which was a matter between two neighbors. She believed this is a civil matter and was concerned how it got to this point. Mrs. Bauman then questioned resident Eden Richard as to why he didn't comply with cutting his weeds and the fact that he let it go this far. Mr. Richard stated that he is just defending himself against his neighbor's allegations. There was a back and forth exchange and Mrs. Bauman encouraged Mr. Richard to work this out with his neighbor.

ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Unger presented the written report to the Board for the month of February for zoning and engineering.

A discussion was held regarding road work for this year. A motion was made by Doug Rhoads, seconded by Grant Yergey authorizing Systems Design Engineering to advertise for bids for the 2018 street paving project, Contract A for paving and Contract B for Bituminous Seal Coating. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Toni Hemerka presented the Treasurer's report to the Board for the period ending February 28, 2018.

A motion was made by Doug Rhoads, seconded by Grant Yergey, to approve the financial report as presented and to authorize payment of the accompanying list of bills and to file the same for audit. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS - none

PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank Madonna of Constitution Avenue stated that the Quarry just did some extensive clearing which removed the buffer at the end of Constitution Avenue giving a clear view of all quarry activity and creating he believes a dust issue for residents. The Board agreed to look into this.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Doug Rhoads, Chairman

Toni Hemerka, Township Manager