

PINE CREEK TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2023

The Pine Creek Township Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on October 4, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., with Supervisors John M. Reese, Dean L. Edwards, Jr., and Dave Winkleman, Jr., present.

Also present: Pam Smith, Joy K. Packard, Kenneth J. Packard, Kevin Ferrara, Greg Love, Jim Hess, Dustin Council, Travis Overdorf, Keith Miller, Matt Stover, Ben Sweeney, Rhonda Davis Sweeney, Rick Macklem and Police Chief Dave Winkleman

Chairman Edwards requested that individuals video recording the meeting identify themselves, and Kevin Ferrara acknowledged recording the meeting for himself.

Meeting Minutes

Chairman Edwards asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes from the September 6, 2023, monthly meeting; Supervisor Winkleman noted a correction be made to the names of the Supervisors in attendance at the September meeting.

Supervisor Winkleman then made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by Supervisor Reese, MCU.

Financial Report & Invoices

Supervisor Reese made a motion to approve the financial reports and invoices as presented seconded by Chairman Edwards, MCU.

Public Participation

Kenneth J. Packard

Resident Kenneth J. Packard pointed out that Supervisor Dave Winkleman must resign from the Zoning Hearing Board now that he is an elected official.

Resident Packard questioned why the financial reports and meeting minutes being approved are not available to residents at the meeting to review and was advised that this has been the practice followed by the Board since July.

Packard then pointed out that check numbers 12402, 12403, 12404 and 12407 were not listed on prior financial reports and questioned if \$8,000 is being paid to Sgt. Dennis Gill in lieu of insurance and Chairman Edwards indicated that \$6,000 is the amount being paid to Gill.

Resident Joy K. Packard questioned if the health insurance stipend is being processed through payroll and if payroll taxes are being deducted. A discussion was held and it was noted that the payment is being processed through payroll.

Joy K. Packard also questioned whether the mini excavator purchased by the township for \$35,000 was placed out for bid. Supervisor Reese explained the mini excavator was purchased through Sourcewell, under State contract, and the township was not required to advertise for bids.

Mrs. Packard also asked for the estimated cost of the tasers being purchased by the police department, which was approved during the September meeting, and whether Chief Winkleman obtained quotes for the purchase of those tasers.

Chief Winkleman estimated the cost for the tasers at \$12,000.00 and explained he did not obtain quotes as there is only one company who manufactures them. However, he said he received a written quote from the manufacturer for the tasers.

Old Business:

There was no old business presented for discussion.

New Business:

Budget Work Session

Chairman Edwards made a motion to schedule a budget work session for Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 1:00 pm; seconded by Supervisor Winkleman, MCU.

Hours for Halloween

Supervisor Reese made a motion to approve the Recreation Committee scheduling Halloween in the Park for October 28th at the Woolrich Park and Trick or Treat Hours on Halloween between 6:00 and 8:00 pm; seconded by Supervisor Winkleman, MCU.

Fall Clean-up

Supervisor Reese made a motion to schedule the annual Fall Clean-up to collect leaves from October 30th through November 22, 2023; seconded by Chairman Edwards, MCU.

Custer Subdivision

The Supervisors reviewed a subdivision prepared by Rob Ohl, PLS, for property owned by Richard and Shirley Custer. Mr. and Mrs. Custer are subdividing 13.208 acres from their property that will be a lot addition to the property owned by their son, David W. Custer. David Custer's property will be replotted as one parcel after the lot addition/consolidation, creating a 14.218 parcel.

Supervisor Reese made a motion to approve the subdivision as presented, seconded by Supervisor Winkleman, MCU.

Driver Subdivision

The Supervisors reviewed a subdivision prepared by Rob Ohl, PLS, for property owned by Joyce Driver subdividing two acres from the Driver property. The two acres will be added to property owned by Terry Freeman, creating a three-acre parcel, and the residual parcel containing 18.055 acres.

Supervisor Reese made a motion to approve the subdivision as presented; seconded by Chairman Edwards, MCU.

Approve Duties for Supervisor Edwards as a Township Employee

Supervisor Reese explained that the duties for Supervisor Edwards, who was hired at the September meeting to work as a township employee on an as-needed basis, need to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. He suggested that the duties for Supervisor Edwards be the same as those listed in the Pine Creek Township Semi-Skilled Laborer/CDL Driver Job Description. He stated that this matter went before the Auditors and they set his hourly rate.

Resident Joy K. Packard asked what hourly rate was approved for Supervisor Edwards and Supervisor Reese stated the rate set by the Auditors was \$29.05 per hour.

Residents Joy K. Packard and Kenneth J. Packard expressed their disapproval for the hourly rate set for Supervisor Edwards stating it was too much to pay for a part-time employee comparing the wage to that paid for a part-time employee in Gallagher Township of \$15.00 per hour.

Supervisor Winkleman made a motion to approve the duties as described in the Township's Semi-Skilled Laborer/CDL Driver Job Description, based on hiring him on an as-needed basis to work for the township in September; seconded by Supervisor Reese, the motion passed with both Supervisors Winkleman and Reese voting in favor of the motion and Supervisor Edwards abstaining from voting.

Right-To-Know Officer Report

Supervisor Winkleman stated that he requested Right-To-Know Officer Darlene Macklem to provide a monthly report on Right-To-Know Requests received and the amount of time it takes to respond to those requests. He said there are concerns as to how the Township is spending money, certainly one of the things the Supervisors should be looking at is the cost to the township for these requests.

Supervisor Winkleman stated he has no issue with Right-To-Know requests and they are a great way to stay in touch with the public but when we have the same people submitting multiple requests for a lot of information consistently, I think the public deserves to know that.

Right-To-Know Officer Macklem provided the following report for September:

1. Three RTK requests and nine emails from Resident Joy K. Packard – 2 hrs.
2. RTK Request from National Lien Search, LLC – 30 minutes.
3. RTK Request & Office of Open Records Appeal from Bryan K. Poorman – 30 minutes.

Roadmaster's Report

Roadmaster John Reese presented the Roadmaster's Report for September 2023, as follows:

Road Maintenance:

1. Checked drains and cleaned up trees from storm damage
2. Filled in along shoulders of various roads
3. Cold patching on various roads

4. Painted yellow traffic lines on township roads

Vehicle Maintenance:

1. Vehicle repairs to Vehicle #2 & Vehicle #3
2. State Inspections to Vehicle #3 and #4
3. Cleaned out paint machine

Intermunicipal Work:

1. Installation of rip-rap and scratch paving for Dunnstable Township

Building Maintenance:

1. Started preparing for the installation of generators including running the lines

Zoning

Zoning Officer Dave Winkleman requested the Supervisors consider adopting an ordinance regulating solicitations in the township. He explained there have been a lot of companies in the area going door to door and one of the issues is that the Township isn't aware that they are in the area soliciting until someone complains and there has been at least one confrontation between one of the solicitors and a resident.

Officer Winkleman believes it would be beneficial to township residents and there should be a requirement that a permit is needed to solicit in Pine Creek Township to identify these individuals before they start going around township neighborhoods.

It was the consensus of the Board that Solicitor Rosamilia prepare a draft of an ordinance regulating solicitations in the township.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Edwards adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene S. Macklem

Darlene S. Macklem, Secretary