

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

September 23, 2008

Jim Brownlow, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisors Present: Karen Bedics, Jim Brownlow, Barbara Lindtner, Volker Oakey and Rob Zisko.

Also present: Sandy Everitt, Secretary/Treasurer; Mark Laudenslager, Chief of Police; Terry Clemons, Solicitor; and Rich Schilling, Township Manager.

The Board held two executive meetings, one on September 16 to discuss personnel issues and one prior to this meeting to discuss property and legal issues.

Approval of Minutes

Jim Brownlow **moved** to accept the August 12, 2008, minutes as corrected. Volker Oakey **seconded**; Voting **Yes**: Jim Brownlow, Barbara Lindtner, Volker Oakey and Rob Zisko. **Abstaining**: Karen Bedics. The motion **passed**.

Barbara Lindtner **moved** to accept the September 9, 2008, minutes as presented. Volker Oakey **seconded**. Voting **Yes**: Karen Bedics, Barbara Lindtner and Volker Oakey. **Abstaining**: Jim Brownlow and Rob Zisko.

Bills for Approval

Barbara Lindtner commented that the Lombardo Associates bill (\$9,125.73) is for the consultant hired by the township to rewrite the Act 537 plan. Karen Bedics **moved** to approve the bills for \$36,084.52 from September 10 – 23, 2008. Jim Brownlow **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Sandy Everitt, Treasurer, requested permission to pay bills related to paving the Allison Road cul-de-sac center of the Penn Meadows Subdivision from the Highway Capital Improvement Fund rather than from the Liquid Fuels Fund as was previously approved by the Board. There may be a shortage in Liquid fuels due to the anticipated higher cost of the asphalt bid work done this summer on township roads. Barbara Lindtner **moved** to approve payment not to exceed \$2,500 from the Highway Capital Improvement Fund to cover the cost of removal of plantings and paving of the Allison Road cul-de-sac center area. Rob Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Jim Brownlow requested a forecast of income for the remaining months of 2008, in order to be better prepared for budget discussions which will begin shortly. The treasurer will prepare a 5-year projection and review of income for the months of September through December. Rob Zisko pointed out that 2008 income to date is 64.6% of the budget and expenses are 62.8% of the budget. He noted we are within the budget even with the litigation expense, mainly because we budgeted for hiring two extra police officers early in the year, who have not yet been hired. Rich Schilling added that the Board approved a number of police expenses related to the new officers and the new vehicles to be purchased from last year's budget. Because invoices came in 2008 for a number of the items, they were paid from this year's budget.

Public Comment – None

Public Hearing

1. Ordinance 150: 30-mph Speed Limit on Cherry Road – Terry Clemons, township solicitor, stated that the Board approved a 30-mph speed limit on Cherry Road. This approval was based on the applicant, W.C. Land Acquisition/Weiss Subdivision, paying the cost of preparation and advertising of the ordinance as well as other costs associated with posting Cherry Lane with the 30-mph speed limit. This Ordinance was advertised and posted with the Bucks County Law Reporter. The speed limit will become effective upon posting of the signs. There being no public comment, Jim Brownlow closed the public hearing. Rob Zisko **moved** to adopt Ordinance 150 establishing a 30-mph speed limit on Cherry Road in Springfield Township which includes payment details related to institution of this ordinance. Volker Oakey **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Planning Matters

1. The Ridings Subdivision – Dedication & Acceptance Request – This subdivision is located on Lehnenberg Road and Route 412. Bob Wynn, township engineer, referred to correspondence dated September 9, 2008, from Reshetar Realty Inc., requesting acceptance of dedication of improvements for The Ridings subdivision. He also referred to a September 17, 2008, file memo he wrote which identified one outstanding item that has since been satisfactorily addressed. Bob Wynn recommended acceptance of completion of improvements and commencement of the 18-month maintenance period subject to:

- 1) Maintenance of financial security in the amount of \$89,424.57 (15% of cost of improvements) to guarantee satisfactory completion of the 18-month maintenance period.
- 2) Hawk Road needs to be accepted by Resolution for addition to the township's PennDOT fuel mapping.
- 3) All engineering, legal and township fees incurred must be paid by the developer.

There are two other items that Reshetar Realty indicated they will take care of. First, Reshetar will notify the postal service and the school district that Hawk Road is now a public street, thus enabling mail delivery to the homes instead of at the end of Hawk Road and school buses to pick up students at their homes rather than at the entrance to the development. Bob Wynn clarified that school buses will have room to turn around at the loop road at the end of Hawk Road. Second, Reshetar Realty will work with our solicitor to ensure that the financial security is in a form acceptable to the township.

Karen Bedics **moved** to adopt Resolution 2008-09 accepting Hawk Road as a public road and outlining all the required items outlined in Bob Wynn's letter of September 19, 2008. Rob Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Robin Reshetar asked who would be responsible for plowing snow on Hawk Road this winter, noting that the school district will not enter Hawk Road unless the township is plowing the road. Bob Wynn will review the original Developer's Agreement and advise the township and the developer in writing.

2. Spear Land Development – Acceptance of Completion – In a letter dated August 26, 2008, Bob Wynn indicated that all work required pursuant to the plan has been completed for this industrial building located on Springfield Street near Route 309. Bob recommended that the Board accept completion of improvements and commence the 18-month maintenance period. The township must retain 15% of the original escrow funds held in deposit by Wachovia Bank for a period of 18-months from the date of acceptance by the Board. The developer must reimburse the township for all costs incurred during the course of development activity, including engineering, legal, and township administrative costs from the cash escrow funds on deposit with the Township.

Rob Zisko **moved** to accept completion of improvements and commencement of the 18-month maintenance period subject to the conditions outlined in Bob Wynn's August 26, 2008, review letter. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Old Business

1. Update on Tire Recycling – Rich Schilling stated the tire-recycling event is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on September 27 on the Public Works yard of the township property. The township will provide a power washer and a loader with a Road Department worker to operate them. Mud and water must be removed from inside tires. There will be a machine available to remove tires from rims. Although physical signage is too small, Rich Schilling stated that the event was advertised in the Township Newsletter, in the Penny Power, on the township web page, and ultimately word-of-mouth will be the most effective advertising. Karen Bedics will make lunch for the workers and Rich will work out with Karen where there the lunch area will be.

2. Mahl Appeal: Challenge to a Zoning Hearing Board Decision – Terry Clemons indicated he filed an Entry of Appearance and a Declaration of Position concerning the appeal filed by Mr. Mahl to the August 15, 2008, Zoning Hearing Board decision regarding Mr. Mahl's removing trees without a permit. Rob Zisko asked whether the Zoning Hearing Board solicitor should be in charge of the township's appeal. Terry indicated that the township solicitor handles litigation issues. Terry feels that on the issue of whether a permit was required to remove the trees, the township has a chance of winning. Ultimately, PPL may have been entitled to a permit as a public utility; however, they were required to apply for and obtain a permit, which they did not do. Rob Zisko asked whether all landowners affected by the proposed new PPL power lines will be required to obtain township permits prior to PPL cutting trees

on their properties if PPL obtains permission to run their new lines through the township. Terry felt that PPL would make one application for all the properties involved, should that occur. Rob then questioned why Mr. Mahl, an individual landowner, is responsible for obtaining the permit for PPL to cut trees on his property. Terry clarified that if the landowner permits PPL to go through their property without a permit, they are responsible. On the other issue of the PPL lines going through the entire township, part of the process for the PUC is to establish ground rules concerning how actual construction would take place. There will undoubtedly be a requirement that PPL must comply with local ordinances. There are cases stating that public utilities are entitled to a permit; however, they must still apply for it. Rob Zisko feels that the appellate court will overturn the Zoning Hearing Board's decision, because this has happened in other areas in the township. He referred to the property on Reed Land owned by HRH Properties, where PPL cut down trees to put up electric lines without the landowner obtaining a permit. Bob Wynn said that was different because most of the felled trees were in the road right-of-way, not on the developer's property. It was the consensus of the Board that the same regulation (need for a permit before tree cutting) should be applied unilaterally across the township.

3. McArdle Conservation Easement: Letter from Bedminster Land Conservancy – Terry Clemons referred to prior Board discussion regarding having a conservancy be a co-grantee on the McArdle Conservation Easement (TMP 42-20-27) in order to monitor the easement. Terry contacted Bedminster Land Conservancy to give a price quote to provide perpetual monitoring. In a letter dated July 15, 2008, Bedminster stated their fee would be a one-time payment of \$9,400 to their Easement Stewardship Fund. The Board received a copy of the proposed Bedminster agreement that will need to be executed if the township agrees to working with them.

The proposed McArdle appeal settlement permits the property to be subdivided to create no more than 4 lots and requires the conservation easement. This settlement was signed by Mr. McArdle and discussed with the Board, but has not yet been executed by the township. The settlement agreement does not commit the applicant to paying for the endowment contribution of \$9,400, but does commit the McArdles to a \$9,000 contribution to the Highway Capital Improvement Fund. In addition, there is a \$5,000 cap on fees related to finalizing the subdivision. The township will need to pay the endowment contribution, probably from either the Open Space Fund or the Highway Capital Improvement Fund. Rob Zisko thinks the \$9,400 should come from the Highway Capital Improvement Fund. Rich Schilling noted that road equipment can be purchased from the Highway Capital Improvement Fund. Although Rich Pursell had \$35,000 earmarked for a used dump truck, Rich Schilling had to curtail the truck purchase in 2008 because of the unanticipated expenses for PPL litigation and the reduced income because of the economy. For that reason, it would be helpful if the Highway Capital Improvement Fund could be kept for road repair and road equipment needs. Barbara Lindtner feels this expenditure should come from Open Space Funds, since the Open Space Committee will likely be overseeing this and future conservation easements. Rob Zisko stated that in the future, he would like the Cooks Creek Conservancy to co-hold township easements instead of outside agencies, thus putting township funds into a local organization. Rich Schilling pointed out that the Board tasked Open Space Committee to work on easement monitoring. He thinks they are close to making a recommendation to the Board. Rich feels that whoever monitors easements must be fully equipped to do so—from monitoring to enforcement—ultimately using their own legal counsel should it become necessary. Terry Clemons stated that in Solebury and Bedminster Townships, Bedminster Conservancy takes enforcement to a certain level, but then if legal enforcement is required, they request the township solicitor to become involved, because Bedminster's fees are not sufficient to cover litigation expenses. Rich stated that, although Heritage Conservancy's fees are somewhat higher, they assume also assume responsibility for legal action if it becomes necessary. Terry stated that the conservancy should be listed as a co-grantee on the Developer Conservation Easements. Secondly, a determination must be made about whether conservancy fees will be funded from the Open Space or the Highway Capital Improvement Fund. Volker Oakey asked if it would be possible for the developer to pay the conservancy charges. Terry said when a developer is giving a conservation easement as part of the subdivision process, it is negotiable as to whether the developer would also pay for the conservancy's fee. Terry feels that in other cases, where the township is anxious to get a conservation in smaller situations and the applicant resists paying the conservancy fee, the township may want to assume that fee in order to obtain the conservation easement.

It was the consensus of the Board that payments for conservancy contributions should come from the Open Space Fund. This will reserve the Highway Capital Improvement Fund for roadwork and equipment purchasing.

The McArdle settlement agreement at needs to be executed tonight, but no immediate decision is required about who the conservation easement grantee will be. Barbara Lindtner asked if there could be a policy established, when Conservation Easements are being negotiated as part of subdivisions or land developments, that monitoring costs related to the easement would be at the expense of the developer. Rob Zisko thinks that Cooks Creek Conservancy should monitoring easements when they are properly organized to do so. Terry Clemons highlighted several problems relating to Cooks Creek Conservancy monitoring easements. The monitoring agency must have enough critical mass as well as professionals who can undertake the monitoring process. If a resident gets audited for a charitable contribution, it isn't enough that there be a perpetual easement, it must be monitored by a grantee who has the ability to do it; otherwise, the tax deduction will be disallowed. Both Bedminster and Heritage are obtaining peer reviews and obtaining certification as land conservancies. It would be important for Cooks Creek Conservancy to move in this direction. If they do not, there is not only the risk of whether they will be around to do the monitoring, there is also the risk of whether people who donated these easements are going to be in tax trouble. Terry's conservation easements contain a clause that if the designated conservancy ceases to exist, the co-grantee (the township) has the right to assume all responsibility for monitoring the easement or to appoint another conservancy. Jim pointed out that if this happened, the township would have to pay another conservancy a second "full fee" to perform services. Volker pointed out that there is no true *perpetual* organization. Jim realizes this, but he pointed out that is why it is important to pick a stable organization to begin with. Karen asked whether the Open Space Committee should be consulted about where they want the funds to come from to pay for monitoring conservation easements. Barbara Lindtner responded that the Board is ultimately responsible for financial decisions, and therefore, the Board should decide which fund payments should come from. She feels it is a policy decision the Board needs to make and then the Open Space Committee should be informed of the policy. Further, Barbara feels that in the future, the developer should always be asked to pay this monitoring fee. However, if they do not, anything related to land preservation should be paid from Open Space Funds.

Jim summarized his understanding of the consensus of the Board following this discussion:

1. A second quote will be obtained from Heritage Conservancy by Rich Schilling which Terry Clemons will review to ensure it covers both monitoring and legal fees in perpetuity.
2. The Open Space Committee will recommend a Conservancy to be used for future monitoring.
3. When the township has to pay for monitoring an easement, the funds will be taken from the Open Space Fund.

In a side discussion, Jim Brownlow asked whether the payments for PPL litigation could come from the township's reserve funds. Rich Schilling said we cannot amend our budget to pay expenses above what were placed in the budget. Terry Clemons read from Section 1508 of the Second Class Township Code:

Section 1508. Capital Reserve Fund.-(a) The board of supervisors may create and maintain a separate capital reserve fund for any anticipated capital expenses, which fund shall be designated for a specific purpose or purposes when created. The moneys in the fund shall be used for no other purpose unless the board of supervisors declares that conditions in the township make other expenses more urgent than those for which the fund was created.

Terry feels this section would give the supervisors ability to move funds should it be required. Rich feels we should make every attempt to cover these expenses within the approved budget by cutting all unnecessary expenses. The staff have all been cutting expenses wherever possible—turning off lights, turning air conditioning up, etc. He does not want to wipe out our reserve funds without trying to manage within the confines of the budget. Although Jim feels the same way, he also wants to know the reserve is available should it be needed.

New Business

1. Fire Department: Update on Activities – Willard Helm, Fire Chief, presented a written report to the Board. :

1) Fund Raising/Community Events, 2) Grants. 3) Fire Calls and Training, 4) Other Accomplishments
He also presented an income/expense/savings to date, which showed a balance of \$54,597.73 and savings of \$49,239.97. He noted that in June 2007 they received \$23,000 for rescue equipment from a PA Assistance to Fire Fighters grant. They submitted a federal Fire Fighter grant, a grant to the Pain Foundation for \$15,000 for fire truck

computers, neither of which have been awarded yet. They received \$800 from DCNR (which they must match with \$800) to be used for forestry gear.

They have responded to 79 emergencies to date. Each member trains twice a month for an average of 8 hours per month. They began an in-house driver training and certification program. Four new drivers have completed the training, which consists of from 60 to 80 hours of training above normal fire company events. All members have completed 8 hours of specialized training on the use of new rescue tools obtained from grant money. With the help of Springfield Township and the community, they were able to buy and equip a new 75' Quint Ladder Truck, which they put into service in spring 2008.

Rich Schilling pointed out that on August 19 the fire company had a training session and on August 20 they responded to a fire at the auto body repair shop on Route 212. The training they received just the night before permitted them to save all but one garage bay for the property owner. The Bucks County Fire Marshall said that the Springtown Fire Department made a fantastic stop at that fire scene.

Will Helm said the new rescue tools purchased included a new Hammatro Two Tool Pump as well as a larger spreader. The Quint truck now has a single pump and a small combi tool onboard, which is basically a cutter/spreader (jaws of life). They purchased a small ram, a device to push dashboards off trapped individuals or to lift heavy, ceilings or floors. They also purchased an "O" Cutter for cutting around metal objects such as posts within a car.

Will Helm said \$30,000 additional income was anticipated from the fund drive letters—last year they received \$26,300. Additional income from having a cell tower on Fire Department property does not look promising. Rental of the parking lot and Social Hall by C & C Catering for 42 weekends a year will bring in an additional \$10,000.

The Board thanked Will Helm for the informative presentation and for the fire company's service to the township.

2. Width of Funks Mill Road – Rich Schilling introduced Lana Horne, who submitted a letter dated June 28 expressing some concerns about Funks Mill Road. In July, Rich requested authorization to take Bob Wynn with him and Rich Pursell to review conditions on Funks Mill Road. They completed this review, which Bob Wynn followed up with a September 18 memo listing his findings.

Ms. Horne highlighted her concerns for the public and the Board. She stated that over the past five years, the gravel portion of Funks Mill Road has increased by about three feet. Her concern is the gravel building up by the base of the trees, some of which are 50' high. She has noticed the health of some of the trees declining over the past five years. She is also concerned because this road is right above Cooks Creek with some 70% slopes below the roadway. These trees are crucial to anchoring the slope, preventing erosion, and keeping sediment out of Cooks Creek. She feels that in the future this can be remedied by returning Funks Mill Road to its original width and shortening the pull-offs back to their original lengths. She also feels having gravel in the pull-offs between the trees right to the edge of slopes presents a safety hazard for vehicles.

Rich introduced Bob Wynn, noting that his degree in forestry equips him to answer these concerns. Bob Wynn reviewed the contents of his September 18 memo. He stated this gradual widening of Funks Mill Road has actually been going on for almost 20 years. He acknowledged there are trees with gravel right up against their base. Placing fill against a tree or underneath a tree is never a good thing to do. It changes the soil moisture, creates compaction of the soil and creates an environment for insects at the base of the tree. Additionally, many of the trees in that area were damaged by snowplows, grading machines or automobiles. Bob does not feel it would be beneficial to excavate the gravel from the tree bases at this point; it may do more damage by equipment operating close to the tree. However, he feels there should be a conscious effort not to keep widening the road when gravel is applied. He suggested the road department could pull the gravel back to the middle of the road and re-grade it, to save the aggregate rather than pushing it off the edge of the road. Bob Wynn suggested putting flexible delineators (with reflector strips) along the road to better define road edges.

Jim Brownlow suggested that Rich Schilling and Rich Pursell again review the road to see what can be done about the multiple pull offs on the road, after which they will coordinate a course of action with Bob Wynn. Barbara suggested they take photographs or else the supervisors drive the road to better understand the concerns. Jim Brownlow questioned whether making Funks Mill a one-way road would help the situation. Ms. Horne did not feel residents would object to that, as many consider this road a treasured walking path. Volker stated you would have to

drive 5 miles out of the way to get where you were going if the road was one way. The Board will await a recommendation from the township manager and township engineer before taking further action.

3. 2009 Minimum Municipal Obligation for Pension Plans –The 2009 MMO for the non-uniformed plan is \$49,570 and the MMO for the police pension plan is \$21,729. A large portion of the MMO comes from General Municipal System State Aid; the balance is payable from the general fund. The pension committee met with the pension consultants on September 18 for approximately 3 hours. The pension committee is looking at alternatives so the township can better control pension plans in light of the stock market. Rob Zisko **moved** to accept the 2009 MMO amounts of \$49,570 for the non-uniform pension plan and \$21,729 for the police pension plan. Volker Oakey **seconded**. Volker questioned the high administration costs for the plans listed on the MMO sheet. Rich will obtain a report of what is actually included in the administrative expense figures, which total \$29,500 for the two plans. Jim Brownlow called for the question. The motion **passed** unanimously.

4. Salt Bid Authorization – Rob Zisko **moved** to authorize the advertising and solicitation of salt bids. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

5. Resolution 2008-08 to Apply for 2009 Bucks County Community Development Program (CDBG) – The township has an opportunity to acquire grant funds to be used for handicapped accessibility, historic preservation, etc. Rich Schilling only learned of this grant opportunity last week, and the application must be completed along with all supporting documentation and on the CDBG desk by 3:00 p.m. this Friday, September 26. In order to obtain any CDBG money, the township must certify that the township building is handicapped accessible. Although the building is handicapped accessible to a certain degree, if our Zoning Officer was looking at this building from an inspection viewpoint, he would fail the building as far as completely meeting the handicapped regulations. Rich would like to obtain this funding to make the building entirely handicapped accessible. This would include different entrance doors to the meeting room and the police department, with some widening of the police department hall, and converting a bathroom in the police department to a unisex bathroom that would be fully accessible to wheelchairs. Dave Taylor and Rich have been working on this anticipating Board support and the entire amount being requested will be between \$35 and \$40,000. The matching fund will be approximately 10%, which Rich hopes to meet by using “in kind” work performed by township personnel gutting the existing two bathrooms, etc. For the bulk of the work, a bid for a contractor who specializes in this type of work would be needed. The maximum Rich anticipates using from the general fund would be \$3,000 or \$4,000, with “in kind” services being deducted from that figure. Rob Zisko **moved** to adopt Resolution 2008-08 to authorize the Township Manager to apply for a grant to make the building handicapped accessible. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously. Jim Brownlow read Resolution 2008-08 and three copies were executed by the Board.

Rob Zisko asked what the problem was with the salt building wall. Rich said that about 8 years ago, an employee almost went through the building with a bucket full of salt. Jeff Mease looked at the building and did not feel it could be repaired. Dave Taylor will also look at it to see if a repair can be made. Siding can be placed on it, but because of the bowed wall, the siding may pop off. Ultimately, some repair will be required.

Correspondence

Jim Brownlow noted that the Concerned Democrats of Springfield Township were requesting use of the large township meeting room for their monthly meetings, usually held two per quarter and scheduled for the third Monday of the month. It is their understanding that no other township meeting is scheduled on that date. Normally, when small, non-profit township groups request use of a room for a meeting, Rich tries to accommodate them by offering the small meeting room downstairs. The only other time a non-township group uses the large meeting room is for elections. The township building is an official polling site. There were concerns because township records are in the township meeting room as well as paper supplies, copy machine, etc. In addition, when there is a continuance of a Zoning Hearing the third Monday is scheduled for the Zoning Hearing Board. There was also concern about setting a precedent by permitting a non-township group to use the main meeting room. It was the consensus of the Board that use of the main meeting room should be limited to township commissions, committees or Boards appointed by the township. The small meeting room will continue to be available to non-profit community groups if it does not conflict with use by a township appointed group.

Public Comments

Steve Doncevic said the supervisors are doing a good job!

Supervisors Comments

Volker Oakey said that a number of speed limit signs on township roads are obstructed by vegetation, especially on Route 212. Rich Schilling will contact PennDOT regarding the signs on Route 212 and he will ask the Road Department to check on township roads.

Karen Bedics questioned the cone that is still alongside the pipe recently replaced at State Road and Richlandtown Pike. Rich Schilling said PennDOT still has more work to do at that area. Rich checked out the concern expressed by Willard Weierbach. After reviewing the site, Rich is not certain what he means, but will discuss this further with him.

Rob Zisko asked Terry Clemons for an update on the township's appeal of the Palumbo Zoning Hearing Board decision. Terry will get an update and send an email out to the Board with his findings.

Barbara Lindtner asked what the status was of the rewrite of Ordinance 48, the nuisance ordinance. Terry said a draft went to Rich Schilling and Dave Taylor for their comments. They will send their comments back to Scott MacNair. The revised ordinance should be ready for the October 14 meeting.

She also asked about the Longacre lease for use of the township's property. Rich will give information Mr. Longacre provided to Scott MacNair to prepare the lease for approval at the October 14 meeting.

Karen Bedics brought up several items the EAC would like the Board to discuss.

1. Memorial Garden/Ceremonies – They would like to dedicate a stone with a memorial plaque imbedded in it to either a living or deceased resident and begin a memorial garden. Jim asked what criteria would be used to select the residents to be honored. Karen said it would probably be for service rendered to the community. . Terry suggested it would be safer to make a memorial without individual names, as it is very easy to omit a name worthy of honor. He suggested checking with Haycock Township, as they have a garden comparable in size to the garden at Springfield with a granite memorial plaque. Karen will contact Haycock Township.
2. Canopy Cover for Cardboard Recycling – Rich needs to discuss further with Dave Newman and DelGuerico how to move paper from smaller dumpsters into the large dumpster before we commit.
3. Grant Monies for Wastewater Brochures – There is a grant available for conservation projects and Karen is looking into submitting an application to obtain a grant to make up a nice Wastewater Brochure that Kristy Aller has designed. They would like to use the grant money to have a color brochure printed and mailed to residents.
4. Rain Garden/Evergreen Removal – The EAC discussed putting in a rain garden in the wet area near the curve on the township property. Hans Reimann recommended that all the evergreens by the road be cut down, as several are diseased. Rich Schilling pointed out the township is not exempt from ordinances such as stormwater management or disturbance around a stream. Karen will let the EAC know that the Board was not happy with removal of the evergreen trees and that there may be a problem with the location of the rain garden because of a stream on the property.

Karen gave an update on disaster preparedness and Volunteers Organized Against Disaster training. 25 people successfully completed the training, including Steve Doncevic, Rich Schilling, Barbara Lindtner and Karen. A data base has been established with their names, addresses, phones and emails. Karen plans to give Mike Guarino, the Emergency Management Coordinator, a list of the volunteers in case he ever needs people to assist in the event of an emergency. She would like to enlist more volunteers and schedule additional training sessions. She pointed out that anyone who is in the Red Cross data base that signed up to be a volunteer on call are eligible to receive free CPR and first aid training. Karen will try to schedule that for the first Saturday after New Year's in January 2009.

Karen contacted the Springfield Township Lions Club about purchasing a shelter box for our township that costs about \$1,000. It is a container weighing about 100 with provisions such as a tent, stove and provisions that can be used to house up to 8 people. The Lions Club will get back to Karen about whether they will purchase this for the township.

Karen spoke with Steve Hohenstein of the Springtown Fire Company about handing out information about disaster preparedness to the residents at the Springtown Fire Company Halloween Parade. She had a number of brochure

samples she obtained from the Red Cross that would assist in various ways before or after a disaster. She will get as many as possible for distribution at the parade. She would like to purchase 50 mini first aid kits at a cost between \$3 and \$8 each. She will prepare packages containing brochures and a first aid kit for distribution at the hot dog stand at the parade. She thinks the township should have a large, Rubbermaid disaster kit on hand. This could be used for public education at Community Day or whenever the township has any kind of gathering where people could see what is in a disaster kit and learn how to make one up for their homes. Regarding the first aid kits for distribution at the Halloween parade, Jim Brownlow noted that Rich Schilling can spend up to \$1,000. The Board is OK with the concept and Rich and Karen can make a decision on what kits to buy.

Adjournment

At 10:22 p.m. p.m., Jim Brownlow **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Rob Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Everitt
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting: October 14, 2008 – 7:30 p.m.

Approved: October 14, 2008