

December 9, 1996

The Mount Joy Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Township Municipal Building located at 902 Hoffman Home Road, Gettysburg, PA. All members were present.

The minutes of the last regular monthly meeting, November 11, 1996, were approved by motion of Dayhoff, 2nd by Long, carried.

The Treasurer's Report and Bills to be Paid Report, consisting of \$1,658.11 to be paid to be paid out of the Payroll Account, checks numbered 1590 through 1600 and \$5,316.84 to be paid out of the General Account, checks numbered 7581 through 7597, were approved by motion of Dayhoff, 2nd by Long, carried.

Chairman Beebe recognized Marcia Brown, Chairman of Twp. Auditors, who had requested time on the agenda. Ms. Brown stated that a paragraph in the June minutes is incorrect. She read the paragraph from the minute book as well as the letter (petition) calling for an outside audit. She wants someone to show where the Audit Report was changed; it was not changed. The Treasurer's Report reflected the changes made. Auditors must audit, adjust and settle the accounts of the Township. The audit covers only the fiscal year immediately preceding. The Township copy of the audit indicates the opening balance was not the same. The decision of the auditors was that if it was not challenged in the appeal period, it is conclusive and can't be changed. She feels that elected officials have a responsibility to citizens and should find common ground and reach a compromise if possible. They should act like adults. They said that an outside audit wasn't a reflection on anyone and then said Twp. auditors made a change. Supervisors are advised to get the facts straight, ask questions and get help if needed. Citizens have the responsibility to let supervisors know if their behavior is not acceptable. She further stated that the Township wasted money by having an outside audit, the secretary is overworked and the bookkeeping needs updated. The Board (of Supervisors) now has a new make-up and they should straighten up their act.

Ivan Lufriu asked if there had been questions since the newspaper article. Ms. Brown answered no.

Dayhoff said Brown indicated he had something to do with the article. He said he tried to explain to the other supervisors that there wasn't an extra account, just something between accounts.

Long asked about what up-dated system and Brown referred him to the last issue of Township News. Brown then explained that there were two accounts, General and Money-Market. Most of the money is in the Money Market because it is interest-bearing. One account had about \$18,000+ and the other account had about \$18,000 less. The balance couldn't be correct because the interest wasn't showing up on the report.

Beebe said the honesty, character, and abilities of anyone were never impugned. He made this clear. He feels it was a good idea to audit the books and will wait for the auditors' (Rager, Lehman, Myers, Houck) report and recommendations.

Rebecca Dobos, one of the signers of the petition, stated that she did not know Ms. Brown and based on the comment from Mr. Moul about discrepancy, didn't feel anything was wrong, but that there was a snafu in the bookkeeping that needed straightened out.

Chairman Beebe recognized Randy Lawson, present for Gary Shaffer, who had requested time on the agenda. The ordinance has a nine-month time limit.. A special exception for a Bed and Breakfast was granted just over nine months ago. They are now ready to get a permit.

Beebe noted that the ordinance doesn't specify a procedure for extension; doesn't have a legal opinion. Long asked about legalities and making it contingent on the approval of the attorney. Bower said that he had called Cathy Gault; normally the second paragraph of the ordinance outlines the procedure for extension, ours does not. The feeling is that the supervisors would be all right in granting an extension. Motion by Long to grant an extension through tomorrow (12/10/96) mid-night. 2nd by Dayhoff, carried. Long asked if the supervisors would pursue putting a procedure (for extensions) in place. Beebe says this wouldn't be a bad

idea. Long asked if someone else had a model of the working they could follow. Beebe asked if Cathy or Henry should do and let them figure it out.

Subdivisions:

John Kresky - Motion by Dayhoff to approve, 2nd by Long, carried.

Road Report:

There has been a request for a four-way "STOP" at the intersection of Solomon, Patterson, and White Church Roads. Dayhoff says several residents have asked about this. When crops are in the fields, it's hard to see. IT is also hard to see up the road around the house and barn. Holmes, Kresky, and Koontz made comments in agreement with this. Long asked what if people don't want the signs put up and how big a deal was it money-wise. Beebe said a warning sign should be put up. Snyder said that a red flashing light should be put up for thirty days and a "Stop Ahead" sign for thirty days. Motion by Dayhoff to proceed with a four-way stop, 2nd by Beebe, carried.

There was also a request for street lights at intersections on PA 135. A call was received from a resident on the corner of Barlow -Two Taverns and Rt. 134, expressing that if there are lights on PA 97 then there should be lights on PA 134. The intersections involved would be PA 134 and Barlow Two Taverns Road, Schwartz Road, Yingling Road, Spangler Schoolhouse and Mason-Dixon Roads. Sometimes it is difficult to see. Long said that some electric company is giving a free light for a year; asked if the others both felt lights were necessary. Beebe feels that with increased traffic, anything to add to safety would be good. Long says if one light is put up, everyone will want one. Beebe said he would vote against everything except for Rts. 97 and 134. The traffic on the other roads don't warrant it. Four lights would be needed; Benner/Schwartz, Mason Dixon/Spangler School, Yingling and Barlow-Two Taverns. Motion by Long for four lights with help from Adams Electric Co., 2nd by Dayhoff, carried.

Correspondence:

A letter was received from HRG regarding prevailing wage. This is probably a moot point, as only one bid was received. Snyder says PA Dot municipal official will say 3"; get the 1996 Township News and look at this. Dayhoff says it was put in the bid for prevailing wage; feels the engineer misled the Township.

Announcements:

The budget for 1997 is ready for review.

Old Business:

Codification - There is no formal resolution to adopt. Motion by Dayhoff to adopt the code, 2nd by Beebe, carried.

New Business:

Reorganization meeting - Must be held the first Monday in January; 1/6/97, 7:30 p.m.

Chairs for Meeting Room - It has been suggested that more chairs be bought. Dayhoff to get these. Motion by Long to purchase 24, 2nd by Beebe, carried.

Computer - Long had an unhappy experience at the budget meeting; accounting work is in boxes. A computer would help the secretary. With the punch of a button, a computer would tell what comes in and what goes out. \$2,000 for a computer is bare bones, \$4,000 would be more realistic and this doesn't cover programs and training. Dayhoff said a computer would also enhance the Zoning Officer's work. He (Ron Bower) is currently using his own. A computer would be tied into the County's system. Long said a word-processor would make letters easier and would be time saving. If tying into the plotter, this would cost a lot more. Bower said that to die into mapping, modems and software would be needed. The big cost would be in training (time lost) but in a year or two will save money. Beebe says he is sure the CPA's will recommend a computer. He personally doesn't know much about them, but believes they are the coming thing, in fact, already here. Feels the Township should look into one, but doesn't know if mapping is needed. Dayhoff noted that the budget hadn't been approved yet.

Shrubbery - Long asked when these shrubs could be dug out. They look lousy.

Budget - Long said that the possibility of capital reserve funds had been discussed. In the event things wear out, for example, the 504 Cummings V6 engine, capital improvement allows money to be put away yearly.

Public Comments:

Lee Ramsburg - The Planning Commission was approached by WRRMA about the possibility of a workshop meeting, which was held on November 11, 1996. There was discussion about what zones should become part of the service area of their plant. A study was done in 1990, which Mount Joy Township cost-shared, which showed three alternatives of getting public sewer west of Rt. 15. (illustrated on map) The study needs to be done again and could be instrumental in determining which alternative they use. WRRMA is asking that Mount Joy Township again share the cost of updating the study, which would be about \$2,000. They alluded that SFR-1 will be difficult to include in the sewer service area. The Planning Commission recommends going ahead with this, as there is a lot hinging on it. There are faulty systems along Highland Avenue Road which need to be picked up by public sewer.

Long asked what advantages there are to the Township if the sewer plant is expanded. Ramsburg said that the EC and PC zoning districts can't expand until the plant is extended. Long then asked what happens if the Township doesn't help pay for it. Ramsburg said they will probably do it anyway.

Henry Reaver asked if they had ever walked along Highland Avenue Road? How could it ever be drained? In the middle of summer, boots are needed.

Beebe says he knows that the Township contributed to a study some years ago.

Eileen Holmes asked if the Chinese Restaurant is in the sewer system; feels we would benefit as much as the developer.

Dayhoff said that from a planning point of view, one thing is repeated and that is that the Township should work with the sewer authority and developers to enhance the type of development in the Township. Quality development enhances the Township and increases revenue.

Long says he has a problem with the idea that with additional development comes additional funds. Taxes go up to support development and he doesn't want to cause county or school taxes to go up.

Dayhoff says development is going to happen sooner or later; can't stop it.

Beebe asked if a consultant had been hired. Ramsburg answered Gannett Fleming.

Long wants to sit on this and get more input.

Dayhoff says that from a planning point, "ducks" should be in a row before development.

Bob Gitt said it should be remembered that Mount Joy Township has two school districts. Littlestown is getting the short end of the stick as far as development goes.

Beebe would like the Planning Commission to put their recommendations into a letter.

Jim Waybright says he has no problem with \$2,000 to be prepared when developers come.

Ivan Lufriu says that the strip along Rt. 15 and Highland Avenue Road would be prime estate if it had sewer.

Beebe says his opinion at this time is that he likes to be prepared and that if a couple of thousand helps it might be money well spent. He asked if the \$2,000 would be all the Township would have to spend. Ramsburg said it was made clear that the authority wouldn't pick up the tab for the lines.

Long commented that there was a letter saying that the plan for Spangler School Road is inadequate. Wonders what will happen if there is another 100-year flood and the current improvements don't work.

Eileen Holmes also questioned if someone was going to pick up the junk on Solomon Road.

Beebe said we can't burn that kind of stuff here anymore.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Bonnie L. Koontz, secretary.