

CUMMINGS TOWNSHIP MEETING
MAY 12, 2020

The Cummings Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting on May 12, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. through the Zoom application in accordance with State and Federal regulations in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was duly advertised and the public was provided instructions on how to attend the meeting via telephone and using the internet. Supervisors Walter Braddock, Richard Bierly and Mike Yohe all participated remotely.

Public Attending Remotely: Ben Gamble, Michael Burger of the Bureau of Census and Denise Dieter, Esquire

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Chairman Braddock asked for questions or comments on the minutes from the April 14, 2020 monthly meeting, there being none, Supervisor Yohe made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Supervisor Bierly, MCU.

Approval of Treasurer's Report:

Supervisor Bierly made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted; seconded by Supervisor Yohe, MCU.

Public Participation:

Ben Gamble – Recreation Committee

A discussion was held about the possibility of renaming the Cummings Township Park and Chairman Braddock explained that during the April Township meeting Resident John Gasperine suggested renaming the Cummings Township Park in honor of Toner Hollick who was instrumental in obtaining the property for and working on the Park.

Ben Gamble of the Recreation Committee reported that the Recreation Committee discussed the suggestion and unanimously decided not to rename the park and stated that they would be happy to do something to commemorate Toner's work such as installing a small sign at the Park.

Supervisor Yohe said he believes that the Recreation Committee be given the opportunity to decide such matters and make their recommendation to the Township Supervisors who should respect the decision of the Recreation Committee due to their commitment and amount of time spent on the Park.

Supervisor Yohe also suggested that the Recreation Committee prepare a list of founding members of the Park and the possibility of the Township installing a plaque to acknowledge those individuals. He added that if someone wants to install a bench or tree at the Park, that decision would be up to the Recreation Committee as to whether an additional bench or tree would be appropriate and, if so, where it should be placed in the Park.

Zoning Report:

Zoning Liaison Will Wolfe reported that when he toured the Township he came across three campers, one in Ramsey and two in Waterville which he reported to Vic and was told that the camper in Ramsey and the camper on Church Street in Waterville had permits and the camper on Third Street in Waterville owned by David Michael does not have a permit.

He also reported to Vic that the chalet on Chalet Lane is getting a new roof and according to Vic that because the house is not in the flood plain a permit is not required for the roof.

Erika Morgan of Up The Crick contacted Will about the possibility of installing a sign for her business in Cummings Township and Will gave her Vic's contact information.

Supervisor Yohe said that Erika also contacted him via email last month and that she is in the process of getting clarification of the State right of way. He also suggested that she look at the Lycoming County Zoning Ordinance for sign restrictions and to go on the Cummings Township website to apply for a zoning permit online.

A discussion was held about the demolition project occurring on First Street and it was the consensus of the Board that Vic should send a Notice of Violation to the property owner.

Road Foreman's Report:

Roadmaster Bierly reported completion of the following work:

- Installed the "No Bus Parking" sign at the Park and "Bus Parking" sign behind the Waterville Fire Hall
- Cleaned headwalls, tail ditches and ditch line along Dam Run Road and placed 2A sub base over the bedrock on the road in preparation for the contractor to begin placing stone on the road tentatively scheduled for May 18 and the project is expected to take between 8 – 10 days to complete with the possibility of sections of the road being closed while the work is being done
- Cleaned up trees at the Park
- Preparing to paint lines on the basketball court and lines in the parking lots

Old Business:

There was no old business presented for discussion.

New Business:

Ordinance 05.12.2020 – Park Rules & Regulations/Penalties for Violations

Supervisor Bierly made a motion to adopt Ordinance 05.12.2020 adopting rules and regulations for the Cummings Township Park and penalties for violation of the rules and regulations; seconded by Chairman Braddock, MCU.

Continued Park Closure

The Board discussed continuing the closure of the Cummings Township Park due to the COVID-19 pandemic and it was the consensus of the Board that the park remain closed and reopened when Lycoming County's status is updated to green by the Governor.

Township Park and Cemetery Maintenance

The Board discussed the Township Employees taking over maintenance of the Township Park and Cemetery and Chairman Braddock explained that the Township purchased a Zero-Turn mower last year he felt it would be prudent for Township employees to take over mowing the playground and cemetery rather than continuing to outsource the mowing to Barry Barto who previously maintained the park and cemetery.

Supervisor Bierly made a motion to approve Township Employees mowing and weed trimming at the Cummings Township Park and cemetery in lieu of continuing to outsource the work; seconded by Chairman Braddock, MCU.

Michael Burger, Bureau of Census – 2020 Census

Michael Burger of the Bureau of Census spoke to the Board of Supervisors about the 2020 Census and provided suggestions and information on the 2020 Census for the Township's website in order to get residents engaged in the census process.

Mr. Burger stated that the Census has begun, mailings went out in March and the emphasis is to reply online or by telephone, landline or cell, and said there are nine questions to answer and the entire process takes about five minutes to complete.

The response rate in Lycoming County is currently on average of 61% and some areas are below the 50% threshold due to population or the rural nature of the communities. He said that currently the response rate for Cummings, Watson, Brown and McHenry Townships is at 27% and that may be due to the fact that the paper census was just recently mailed out.

SPCA Property

Township Solicitor Denise Dieter reported she is in the process of working on the release of the deed restrictions for the SPCA property.

Zoning Ordinance

The Zoning Ordinance was discussed and Solicitor Dieter suggested having another public meeting at the Waterville Fire Company to review the changes made to the ordinance after the last public meeting.

It was the consensus of the Board to schedule a public meeting the last week of May at the Waterville Fire Hall.

Correspondence

Notice from Range Resources – Appalachia, LLC for Laurel Hill 1H (Re-Permit) in Cummings Township

Notice from SWN Production Company of Intent for Well Drilling Permit in Cogan House Township

Invoices

Chairman Braddock Yohe made a motion to approve the invoices as presented; seconded by Supervisor Yohe, MCU.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Braddock made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Supervisor Yohe, MCU.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene S. Macklem
Secretary/Treasurer