

CUMMINGS TOWNSHIP MEETING
JUNE 13, 2023

The Cummings Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting on June 13, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the Cummings Township Municipal building, with Michael Yohe, Walter Braddock, and Richard Bierly present.

Also in attendance: Donna Bierly, Carl Frech, Jeff Freewald, Sgt. Michael Crawford of Lycoming Regional Police Department, Jason Young, Chief of the Waterville Fire Company, Joseph (Tom) Mussington, Jr., Jim and Connie Mitcheltree, and Zoning Liaison Jeff Markley

Pledge of Allegiance

Lord's Prayer

Bid Opening – 2023 Paving Project

The Board received three bids for the 2023 Paving Project, listed below:

Charles Construction Co., Inc.	\$59,753.00
HRI, Inc.	\$64,506.00
Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.	\$65,673.00

Chairman Yohe made a motion to accept the low bid from Charles Construction Co., Inc., in the amount of \$59,753.00; seconded by Supervisor Braddock, MCU.

Public Participation

Tom Mussington

Resident Tom Mussington requested that the Township install a Stop Sign at the end of Park Drive near the Watch Children sign due to vehicles not stopping and continuing around the curve creating a dangerous situation.

Donna Bierly commented that vehicles do not stop at the Stop Sign on Sawmill Drive either and suggested that an additional sign be installed.

It was the consensus of the Board to install a Stop Sign at the end of Park Drive and install an additional sign on Sawmill Drive.

Carl Frech

Resident Carl Frech said he played pickleball at the park with his family last weekend and his daughter pointed out that the court does not meet pickleball standards and is not wide enough.

Chairman Yohe stated that the Board is aware that the size of the pickleball court needs to be increased, adding that the pickleball court was built according to specifications provided to the Township. He said the Board is considering adding a second pickleball court and the Township will look into fixing the size of the court.

Jeff Freewald

Resident Jeff Freewald requested that signage restricting the use of jake brakes be installed along Little Pine Road.

Resident Carl Frech said there is also an issue with jake brake usage on Route 414.

The Board discussed signage and the use of jake brakes with Sgt. Crawford who suggested that residents provide details to the Lycoming Regional Police Department as to the location and time of occurrence so officers can set up patrols.

Resident Jim Mitcheltree said there is also a noise problem from motorcycles.

A discussion was held and Resident Carl Frech said it would be hard to issue citations for loud motorcycles since the Township does not have a decibel meter. Chairman Yohe agreed stating that the Township does not have the staffing and is unequipped to deal with the problem.

Mr. Mitcheltree said he agreed, stating his point is there is not much that can be done about noise.

Sgt. Crawford suggested that residents provide the LRPD with the name of the company listed on the trucks speeding or using jake brakes and resolving the issue may be as simple as the LRPD contacting the company to advise them of the complaints made about their drivers.

Chairman Yohe said the Township will follow up on installing jake brake signs on Little Pine Road and Sgt. Crawford will follow up with Chief DeRemer about the possibility of scheduling officers for 5:45 am enforcement in problem areas of the township.

Donna Bierly – Waterville Water Association

Donna Bierly reported on behalf of the Waterville Water Association that the location for the new well was cleared and test drilling is scheduled for next week.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chairman Yohe asked for questions or comments on the minutes from the May 9, 2023, monthly meeting, there being none, Supervisor Braddock 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 Braddock, MCU.

Recreation Committee Report

Chairman Yohe reported that the Supervisors are still considering putting in a second pickleball court in at the park and will fix the size of the existing pickleball court.

Chairman Yohe also reported on a couple of ongoing issues at the park which includes large groups coming into the park and monopolizing use of the park, not cleaning up the park before leaving and pavilion rentals.

Chairman Yohe indicate the Supervisors are going to look at revising the Park Ordinance and Rules of Use, increasing the rental cost for the pavilion and making improvements to the rental process.

Chairman Yohe said there is a misconception that the park is a public park and it is not, it is owned by Cummings Township and primarily the beneficiaries of the park are residents and property owners.

Resident Carl Frech suggested that the Township require a large deposit in addition to the rental fee which would help deter individuals from not cleaning up and not following the rules.

Zoning Report

Zoning Liaison Jeff Markley reported that he issued one new RV Permit.

Chairman Yohe reported that Zoning Officer Roger Hoy is still pursuing one outstanding violation through the IPMC.

Lycoming Regional Police Report

Sgt. Michael Crawford provided the monthly police report for the month of May, citing two calls for service and officers have patrolled the park a couple of times.

A discussion about speeding vehicles within the township was held and Sgt. Crawford suggested the Board consider painting lines on the road in Waterville for enforcement purposes and agreed to contact PennDOT to submit a work order to paint lines on the roadway. It was noted that there are two areas on Little Pine Road where speeding is an issue, near the area of Happy Acres, and near the end of Little Pine Road at the stop sign.

As to the use of jake brakes, he suggested that residents reach out to Chairman Yohe with information on trucks using jake brakes to compile a list during the next month and then forward it to Sgt. Crawford and the LRPD will contact truck companies to discuss the unnecessary use of jake brakes.

Waterville Fire Company Report

Jason Young, Chief of the Waterville Fire Company presented an overview of incidents for the Waterville Fire Company for the month of May stating there were 11 incidents for the month, four were in Cummings Township, two in Brown Township, one in Limestone Township, McHenry Township, Morris Township, Pine Township and Porter Township, two of those incidents were mutual aid. Total man hours for the Fire Company for the month was 154.03 hours.

Chief Young also stated reported that the Fire Company has added three new members during the last two months.

Chief Young also reminded the Supervisors that the Community Appreciation Picnic is scheduled for July 16th at the park.

Chairman Yohe indicated that the Township would waive the rental fee as a donation to the Fire Company.

Solicitor's Report:

Chairman Yohe reported Solicitor Drier is continuing to work on two pending enforcement actions and owners were given until June 23, 2023, to clean up their properties.

Chairman Yohe also reported that Solicitor Drier is continuing to work on revising the Solar Energy Ordinance and the Wind Energy Farm Ordinance.

Chairman Yohe said that Solicitor Drier made the Supervisors aware that very recently a solar farm energy company expressed interest in putting in a solar farm in Woodward Township.

Chairman Yohe also said PSATS is warning property owners that if approached by a solar or wind energy company to sign an agreement to explore the feasibility of a property, that if property owners sign an agreement, it is binding and is a de facto lease, exploratory does not mean they will renegotiate with the property owner if an agreement is in place.

Roadmaster's Report:

Supervisor Bierly provided the following Roadmaster's Report:

1. Spraying along Ramsey Drive
2. Replaced delineator marker on Ramsey Drive
3. Road work on West Drive
4. Mowing
5. Cleared area on Waterville Water Association property for the test well
6. Repaired fence at McConnell's

Old Business:

There was no old business presented for discussion.

New Business:

There was no new business presented for discussion.

Correspondence:

- (1) Notice of Intent from Beran Environmental Services of EQT ARO LLC's intent to apply for coverage under the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit for Earth Disturbance for a project that consists of the construction of a 400 ft. pipeline within a 40 ft. permanent right-of-way along with existing futures.

Invoices

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

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene S. Macklem

Darlene S. Macklem
Secretary/Treasurer