

CUMMINGS TOWNSHIP MEETING  
MARCH 12, 2024

The Cummings Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting on March 12, 2024, at 2:00 pm at the Cummings Township Municipal building, with Michael Yohe, Walter Braddock, and Charles Rogers present.

**Also in attendance:** Les Ritter, Rick and Donna Bierly, Dennis Buttorff EMC, Paul Heilman of Friends of Camp Kline, Karen Purvis, Carl Frech, Harry Cummings, Jr., Ray Smith, Paul Sattizahn, Reagan Markley, Lyrian VanArtsdalen, Wade Snyder, D. Raesner, Kevin Black, Larry Shaffer, Police Chief Nathan DeRemer of the Lycoming Regional Police Department and Marc Drier, Esquire

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Public Participation**

Resident Rick Bierly expressed his appreciation to the Board of Supervisors and the Secretary working with him over the years to get things done for the Township. He also thanked township residents for the opportunity to work for them over the years as a laborer, roadmaster and Township Supervisor.

Resident Donna Bierly, former member of the Recreation Committee, also expressed appreciation to the Board of Supervisors for their support over the years.

Chairman Yohe thanked both Rick and Donna on behalf of the Township for their many years of service to township residents and the community.

Paul Heilman spoke on behalf of the Friends of Camp Kline about displaying memorabilia from Camp Kline and the Pine Creek Valley at the museum being proposed for the township building.

Ray Smith spoke in support of Paule Heilman and suggested that until the museum is up and running there may be an opportunity for him to put up a temporary display of some of the artifacts during public events such as the Sawdust Festival.

Resident Lyrian VanArtsdalen of Lower Pine Bottom complained about the speed of trucks traveling south on Route 44 near her home and noise caused by jake brakes and requested the Supervisors consider the possibility of installing signage near the Mountain Top warning vehicles of the steep grade as well as signage limiting the use of jake brakes.

A discussion was held regarding the speed limit, use of the LRPD speed sign, and it was agreed that this is a safety concern and Chairman Yohe agreed to follow up on the matter with PennDOT.

Resident Paul Sattizahn stated he is having a problem with his neighbor target shooting and shooting between 50 and 75 rounds at a time. causing a lot of loud noise. He also questioned what the shooting distance would be.

A discussion was held regarding the difference in safety zone requirements for hunting and

for target shooting. Chief Nate DeRemer indicated the noise may be considered a private nuisance and suggested that Mr. Sattizahn contact the Lycoming Regional Police Department the next time his neighbor is target shooting and they will come up and speak to the neighbor to see if there is an amicable solution to the problem.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Yohe asked for questions or comments on the minutes from the February 13, 2024, monthly meeting; there being none, Supervisor Braddock made a motion the meeting minutes as presented; seconded by Supervisor Rogers, MCU.

### **Approval of Treasurer's Report**

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

### **Recreation Committee Report**

Karen Purvis of the Recreation Committee reported that Reagan Markley will be overseeing the park this year stating the park opens on April 1<sup>st</sup> adding that the CXT restroom at the park is open now. She also reported that the new pickleball court will be installed this Fall.

A discussion ensued regarding replacement of the current pickleball court with two regulation size courts and whether construction of the new court should begin in the Spring or Fall of this year.

### **Zoning Report**

There was nothing new to report for the month.

### **Lycoming Regional Police Report**

Chief DeRemer reported that officers responded to three incidents in Cummings Township during the month of February.

Chief DeRemer also provided an update on a scamming incident last fall and stated that federal charges were brought against those individuals involved.

Chief DeRemer stated that the Lycoming Regional Police Department was awarded a \$92,000.00 grant to purchase new body cameras for officers.

### **Waterville Fire Company Report**

Less Ritter of the Waterville Fire Company reported six calls for the month of February and trees falling on wires was the major issue and noted there was a fire yesterday after a tree fell on wires.

### **Roadmaster's Report:**

Chairman Yohe provided the Roadmaster's Report for the month:

- Equipment was serviced except for the backhoe
- The CXT Restroom at the park is open
- Reagan Markley, Park Monitor will begin taking care of the park and the roadcrew will assist with maintenance and upkeep of the park

### **Solicitor's Report:**

Solicitor Marc Drier reported that he is continuing to work with Zoning Officer Roger Hoy on the zoning violations at the Sweigart property. He provided background information on the matter stating a citation was issued for having junk on the property which is both a zoning violation and summary criminal offense under the International Property Maintenance Code.

Solicitor Marc Drier reported that he is reviewing sample ordinances and plans to have a draft ordinance regulating Commercial Solar and Wind Farms to the Township for review by the beginning of April.

### **Old Business:**

There was no old business presented for discussion.

### **New Business:**

#### **Ordinance 03-12-2024 – Park Rules**

Chairman Yohe explained that Ordinance 03-12-2024 is a revision of the Park Ordinance adopted approximately five years ago and dealt with posting rules for the use of the park. Revisions include adding a section covering pavilion rentals, adding provisions for renting the pavilion and rules for use of the pavilion.

Some of the provisions include: a six-hour time limit for pavilion rentals; a maximum of 40 people permitted at the pavilion; limited to one bus; and rental of the pavilion does not entitle the renter to exclusive use of the park or equipment. Rules were added for cleanup of the pavilion like a State campsite, "carry-in/carry-out".

There is a new rental application naming a responsible party so if the pavilion is not left in good order or if there is damage to the equipment, the township will reach out to that individual on the application.

The application fee for property owners and residents of Cummings Township to rent the pavilion is \$40.00 and the rental fee for non-residents is \$80.00. There is also a \$100.00 security deposit required as part of the rental that is refundable after Reagan verifies that there was no damage and that the pavilion was cleaned properly.

Supervisor Rogers made a motion to adopt Ordinance 03-12-2024 as presented; seconded by Supervisor Braddock, MCU.

### **Emergency Management Coordinator**

EMC Denny Buttorff reported that there have been changes to the Emergency Management Plan and the Homeland Security Agency has added to the list of identified hazards and risks.

EMC Buttorff provided a copy of the list to the Board and indicated that a percentage will be determined for items listed and this will become part of the Hazardous Mitigation Plan for Lycoming County.

### **Bank Signatories**

Supervisor Rogers made a motion to remove Richard Bierly as a signatory on all township bank accounts and add Charles Rogers as an authorized signer on all accounts; seconded by Supervisor Braddock, MCU.

### **Special Activities Agreement with DCNR**

Chairman Yohe explained that the property leased by the Township from DCNR/Bureau of Forestry will be utilized by the Fire Company for the Sawdust Festival scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>, and DCNR requires a Special Activities Agreement anytime the property is used for an event, it is necessary for the Township to sign a new agreement.

Supervisor Rogers made a motion to approve the Special Activities Agreement with DCNR/Bureau of Forestry for the Sawdust Festival; seconded by Supervisor Braddock, MCU.

### **Correspondence:**

Secretary Macklem reported that Karen Purvis reported to her minor repairs that are needed at the township building in the Women's Restroom including replacing ceiling tiles, installing a light bulb, and repairing the door handle.

Invitation to a Municipal Summit from Representative Joe Hamm scheduled for April 2, 2024, at Independent Hose Fire Company.

### **Invoices**

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

## **Adjournment**

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

Chairman Yohe adjourned the meeting at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene S. Macklem  
Secretary/Treasurer