

**SURREY TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Russ Hamilton leading the Pledge to the Flag. Members present: Supervisor Russ Hamilton, Clerk Glenna Bradbury, Treasurer Stacy Delong, Trustee Ken Pitchford and Trustee Rod Williams. Also, in attendance: Fire Chief Dave Williams and Commissioner Samantha Pitchford. \*Note: Before the meeting began R Hamilton reviewed the time allowance for public comment and agenda business and suggested a group of people for the same issue to decide on one person to speak for the group. He requested names and addresses of people complaining about Liberty Mountain to forward to the Township attorney.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**Agenda**

The meeting agenda for September 13, 2022 was reviewed. Corrections were made: New Business item #1 is tabled till October meeting and add item #5 Transfer Facility cost sheet adjustments. R Williams made the motion to approve the agenda with corrections, seconded by K Pitchford. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Minutes**

The motion to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2022 Regular Meeting and Public Hearing was made by G Bradbury, supported by S Delong. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Bills**

•General Fund bills: (check #s 38161-38165, 38173-38177, 38201-38204, 38208-38213, 38236-38256) for a total of \$100,530.82 •the Fire Fund bills (check #s 15728-15738, 15761-15769) for a total of \$99,080.21 •and the Transfer Facility bills (check #s 1563-1568) a total of \$12,445.44. G Bradbury made the motion to pay the bills plus credit card, supported by S Delong. Roll Call Vote: G Bradbury-yes, S Delong-yes, R Williams-yes, K Pitchford-yes and R Hamilton-yes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

The report was presented by S Delong. K Pitchford asked about the interest issue, S Delong said the problem was the accounts were set up as small business. This has been corrected and all interest has been adjusted. The report will be kept on file.

**REPORTS**

**Fire Department Report**

D Williams reported: •New air paks were received and are in the trucks ready to go. •Requests to sell ten old air bottles and paks and re-coop approximately \$4,000. •He would like to give Lincoln Twp. 4 thermal masks that had been a grant from TC Energy. •Needs \$177.92 to buy one air bottle. •R Williams made the motion to approve selling the air bottles for \$4,000, seconded by S Delong. Roll call vote: R Williams-yes, S Delong-yes, R Hamilton-yes, K Pitchford-yes and G Bradbury-yes. Motion carried. G Bradbury made the motion to approve \$177.92 for an air bottle, seconded by K Pitchford. Roll call vote: G Bradbury-yes, K Pitchford-yes, R Hamilton-yes, S Delong-yes and R Williams-yes. Motion carried. •Fire Prevention week is October 10-14.

**Zoning Report:**

Rod Williams reported 27 zoning permits YTD.

**Planning Commission:**

Per R Williams: Quarterly meeting is Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 6 p.m.

**Commissioners Report:**

None

**OTHERS:**

- None

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- G Laffy from Gilmore Twp. (2 miles away). Complained about the all-night noise from Liberty Mountain. had a sound meter measure an average of 67 decibels with a high of 73 at 11:30 p.m. He spoke with someone else who lives in Gilmore Twp. (7 miles away) that also heard the noise. This is not the first time this has happened.
- R Williams said he reviewed several phone calls regarding this event. He made phone calls Tuesday, September 6, and alerted the Township attorney of the incident. There is action taken upon them.
- M Russo lives in Clare County; she knows people who lived 2 minutes from L.M. who had to leave their homes for the weekend because they couldn't handle the noise at a cost of \$450. Why didn't the Sheriff's Dept. respond? L.M. has no respect for their neighbors.
- D Harman lives on South Rd. and has been diagnosed with PTSD. Her horse was so upset by the noise, that it tore the barn door down.
- P Ghinelli lives on N Scott Dr., has some experience with these issues. Suggests large fines if the noise ord. is violated.
- R Williams will be speaking with the attorney and requested names of all that spoke tonight. He was told by someone at the meeting that they were hung up on twice by the Sheriff's dispatch and was told by a Clare County Sergeant that the State Police don't handle Township rules.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- P Ghinelli discussed the Lake 13 dredging project. He asked if the Improvement Board was appointed by the Surrey Township Board? R Williams said the Township approved the names suggested by the residents for the Lake 13 Improvement Board by a resolution in the 1980s. It was not approved a few years ago. No activity on the corner per the State due to contamination. Is the Township exempt from paying property taxes? Is the Township collecting property taxes for the Lake 13 easements? If no taxes are being collected, who owns them, the Township? There are no records of taxes ever being paid on these properties. Assessment problems need to be resolved. Wants a meeting to talk about dissolving the Improvement Board, to start over and do the project correctly. P Ghinelli wants Surrey Township to be involved. R Hamilton said he needed start with C Parks and set up a meeting. S Delong said Colleen, from the Drain Commission, is working on the assessment and S Delong gets that information from her. K Jankowski said she saw an announcement a couple of months ago, in the Clare County Review, referring to an assessment.
- Carlene Sysak wants to know who is morally and legally responsible for getting out the information to the public regarding the arsenic levels to the public? Children are playing in this water and people are fishing the lake. You can go to the EGLE website for this information, but not everyone knows this. Someone forwarded this info to R Williams. He will make copies
- Discussed Bear Lake assessment refunds Resolution #2022-16. R Hamilton read the Resol. #2022-16. The assessments for the tax years 2017-2021 were larger than necessary, so a refund is due to each of the owners of the 20 properties. S Delong reported an end balance of \$6,532 divided by 20. R Williams made the motion to approve Resol. #2022-16 and the \$326.60 to be refunded for each property, seconded by G Bradbury. Roll call vote: R Williams-yes, G Bradbury-yes, K Pitchford-yes, R Hamilton-yes and Stacy Delong-yes.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Consider Marijuana Ord. 2022-01 tabled for the October board meeting.
- Discussed Liberty Mountain's excessive noise issues of Sept. 2-4. This was addressed during public comment. R Williams will get with the Township attorney tomorrow, Sept. 14.

•Discussed replacing IT Right's services. It was discussed that since IT Right merged with VC3 Inc. they have failed to provide adequate service. Anavon Tech. Group has been reviewed and seems skilled in all areas that we would need service. R Williams made the motion to use Anavon and approve \$2,583.94 one-time set up costs and \$301.75 per month service fee, seconded by G Bradbury. Roll call vote: R Williams-yes, G Bradbury-yes, S Delong-yes, R Hamilton-yes and K Pitchford-yes. Motion carried.

•Discussed the 8-15-22 Village of Farwell letter. Invite R Humphrey the Village Market Master to our meeting.

•Discussed adjusting the Transfer Facility rates sheet for odd items that go into the gondola. R Hamilton compared prices with the neighboring communities and the rates should be raised as presented. K Pitchford made the motion to accept the rates as presented, seconded by S Delong. Roll call vote: K Pitchford-yes, S Delong-yes, R Williams-yes, R Hamilton-yes and G Bradbury-yes. Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

•Karl Hauser, City of Clare, meet & greet, running for Trustee for MMCC.

•K Jankowski – FYI: Clare Co. website will be down for a couple of weeks.

•P Leyva asked “when C Parks has the public hearing will Surrey Township be there”? R Hamilton answered yes. “Can Lake 13 Improvement Board and Lake 13 Association also be there to find out who did what and when”? R Hamilton answered, they need to be invited. It was mentioned that the President and Tom Westhoff who is the Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer should be there and that the meeting should take place before everyone leaves to go south.

•D Harman thanked the Board for listening to the complaints regarding Liberty Mountain. Wondered who would be calling her back and if the noise violations would be addressed. R Williams answered that the attorney or her assistant would be calling and that the noise would be taken care of through the attorney.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm

Glenna Bradbury, Surrey Township Clerk

Transcribed by Glenna Bradbury, Surrey Township Clerk

