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**HOWE TOWNSHIP**

**Forest County**

Regular Meeting

September 8, 2010

7:00 PM

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT.**

Supervisors:

Robert A. Summers, Chairman/Roadmaster  
Larry L. Loxley, Vice Chairman  
Frank W. Polovich

Secretary/Treasurer/Code Enforcement:

Marjorie E. Villarreal

The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance recited. Guests present were Dolores Loxley; Jackie Kaiser, Kaiser Images; Rob Fallon, Marienville District Ranger; Stan and Kay O'Rourke.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

Summers announced the Supervisors and Secretary had just held an executive session to discuss a legal opinion rendered by the Solicitor and will be having another one after the meeting for litigation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Kay O'Rourke asked if the Supervisors had passed a resolution opposing forced government mergers and Villarreal said they had.

**TOWNSHIP WEBSITE.**

Jackie Kaiser of Kaiser Images spoke to the Supervisors about godaddy.com pricing for a township website.

A motion made by Summers and seconded by Polovich was passed unanimously for the township to purchase a deluxe 10-page godaddy.com website next year.

**US FOREST SERVICE PARCEL PURCHASE.**

Rob Fallon, Marienville District Ranger, USDA Forest Service, spoke to the Supervisors about the US Department of Agriculture wanting to purchase a 292-acre parcel from the Western PA Conservancy in Howe Township. He said the purchase is consistent with the goals of the Allegheny National Forest 2007 Land and Management Plan and asked the Supervisors to consider it. Fallon said this includes acquiring surface and subsurface ownership rights from willing sellers within the ANF proclaimed boundary where it benefits the long-term management of the ANF. He said the property benefits the management by consolidating ownership and reducing landline maintenance costs while it enhances the protection of the Tionesta Creek watershed.

**AUGUST 11, 2010 REGULAR MEETING.**

A motion made by Loxley and seconded by Summers was passed unanimously to approve the August 11, 2010 Regular Meeting minutes.

**AUGUST TREASURER'S REPORT.**

A motion made by Loxley and seconded by Polovich was passed unanimously to approve the August Treasurer's Report.

**ROADMASTER REPORT.**

Bob summers, Roadmaster, said the T327 Duhring Road federal project has been finished this month and the various road single sealing is complete.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT.**

Marjorie Villarreal, Code Enforcement Officer, said the nuisance violation off of Route 666 has cleaned up the debris in the yard and still has a dumpster at the area. She said the trailer in a state of disrepair off of Blue Jay Creek Road has not been removed and they haven't cleaned up the property. The Supervisors agreed to give the property owners 30 days to remove it or repair it. Villarreal said she has not heard back from a Brookston recreational cabin property owner that has a hole in the roof of their garage.

A motion made by Loxley and seconded by Polovich was passed unanimously to turn the nuisance violation over to the Solicitor.

Villarreal said a building permit application was received from Joe Pasky for a metal shed off of T333 Bean Farm Road. She said she received one for Stan and Kay O'Rourke's property on Blue Jay Creek Road for a wooden shed.

A motion made by Summers and seconded by Loxley was passed unanimously to approve the building permits.

**FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE 10-2.**

A motion made by Loxley and seconded by Polovich was passed unanimously to adopt Floodplain Ordinance 10-2.

**ENGINE BRAKE RETARDER ORDINANCE 10-3.**

A motion made by Polovich and seconded by Loxley was passed to have the Solicitor advertise Engine Brake Retarder Ordinance 10-3 with Loxley and Polovich voting yes and Summers voting no.

**ROADMASTER PURCHASES.**

A motion made by Loxley and seconded by Polovich was passed unanimously for the Roadmaster to purchase an auger for \$547.00, 55 gallons of 15W 40 engine oil for \$421.00 and 55 gallons of parts cleaner for \$325.75.

**PENSION MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION.**

A motion made by Summers and seconded by Loxley was passed unanimously to accept the Pension MMO of \$88,834.00.

**EMPOLOYEE RAISES.**

A motion made by Loxley and seconded by Polovich was passed to give the full time employees a 3% raise with Loxley and Polovich voting yes and Summers abstaining.

**BILLS TO PAY.**

A motion made by Summers and seconded by Polovich was passed unanimously to pay the bills.

**MAIL AND TELEPHONE CORRESPONDENCE.**

The Supervisors discussed meeting with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) about the gas odor on Route 66 near the garage. Polovich said a resident called him and told him their neighbor was shooting at birds. Villarreal said she mailed the resident copies of the Shooting Ordinance 93-7 to let her know that shooting is not allowed or tolerated in Howe Township.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Kay O'Rourke questioned whether the Township had gotten a salt brine permit and was told they have not as of today, but were still working on it. She asked if the Township was going to replace stolen 911 street signs. She asked if the Township would apply for a hidden driveway sign for Rourke Road heading west on Route 666. O'Rourke told Polovich he should call the Game Commission if someone is shooting at birds.

**911 STREET SIGNS.**

A motion made by Summers and seconded by Loxley was passed unanimously that at the discretion of the Howe Township Board of Supervisors if an existing 911 private lane street sign is stolen or found missing the township will install the sign if the residents of the private lane purchases the sign.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

A motion made by Loxley and seconded by Polovich was passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM for another executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie E. Villarreal  
Secretary/Treasurer/Code Enforcement Officer