

The Board of Supervisors of Dallas Township held their monthly meeting for February on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 6:30 pm. in the Municipal Building located at 105 Lieutenant Michael Cleary Drive, Dallas, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Those in attendance included: Supervisor Chairman William J. Grant, Supervisor Vice Chairman Robert J. Wagner, Supervisor Elizabeth A. Martin, Solicitor, Attorney Thomas J. Mosca, Township Manager/Roadmaster, Martin K. Barry, Police Chief Douglas J. Higgins, Secretary/Treasurer, K. Gary Kirk as well as 9 other individuals.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to Pay the Bills**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to approve the Minutes** from the January 6, 2020 Organization/Regular Meeting, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to approve employee health care reimbursements** that had been requested since the last meeting in the amount of \$490.76, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried. Total employee health reimbursements made for 2020 is \$490.76.

Citizens' Comments Concerning Agenda Items:

Brenda Pugh asked where Lower Fairground Road is and Township Manager Barry stated its location.

Agenda:

Supervisor Grant stated that the Dallas Township Elected Auditors met on January 7, 2020 and approved Supervisor Robert Wagner's hourly wage rate while working in the Road Department to be \$23.95/hour. This amount agrees with the Road Department Union Contract. They also approved a \$23.95/hour rate for any Supervisor who participates in the approved semi-annual road inspections.

Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to appoint Gary R. VanDeutsch as Roadmaster effective February 16, 2020 at an annual salary of \$55,827**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried. Supervisor Martin asked if Supervisor Wagner should abstain since he is a member of Road Department. Attorney Mosca suggested that the Supervisors reopen the motion and have Supervisor Wagner abstain from voting. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to reopen the motion of appointing Gary R. VanDeutsch as Roadmaster effective February 16, 2020 at an annual salary of \$55,827**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried with Supervisor Wagner abstaining. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to appoint Gary R. VanDeutsch as Roadmaster effective February 16, 2020 at an annual salary of \$55,827**, seconded by Supervisor Grant and carried, with Supervisor Wagner abstaining.

Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to approve Resolution 2020-2, A Resolution to Officially Name Lower Fairground Road**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried.

Township Manager Barry discussed street parking issues including previous ordinances concerning parking during inclement weather and specific times allowed for street parking. On certain streets in the Township cars are parking on the street overnight which makes the roads narrow especially for emergency vehicles. Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to Advertise an Ordinance Amendment to update Ordinance #1987-1, An Ordinance Regulating Traffic and Parking in the Township of Dallas**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried.

Township Manager Barry provided an update on the DEP/DAMA Act 537 Plan. We are part of DAMA for sewer and they have been going through some issues with DEP. There is an improvement plan in place and they are having quarterly meetings. The upcoming March meeting will include a determination of

the overall improvement plan for all Back Mountain municipalities that participate in DAMA. Dallas Township is ahead of schedule on their section of the plan.

Supervisor Grant provided an update on the Southside Park. He stated that in 2015 we were awarded a study grant concerning putting the playground at that location. In 2018, we were approved for an LSA grant and DCNR funding for the Southside Park as well as a pledge from John Metz to provide a donation to the park. After the design was started there were some safety concerns of having to cross the highway from New Goss Manor and some soil stabilization issues. Other locations were considered for the park including by the Back Mountain Little League fields and the property next to our administration building, however, DCNR would not allow the approved funding to be used at a different location. Some adjustments for the playground were made to the Southside Park location to alleviate the previous concerns. At last night's Planning Commission meeting, they approved consolidating 20+ parcels to make the Southside Park all one parcel. Bids for the playground should be done in May and the playground should be open in the Fall. Township Manager Barry added that DAMA is working in conjunction with our playground project to do some storm water improvements as part of their MS4 plan.

Township Manager Barry provided an update on MS4. DAMA's residential rate will continue to be \$5/month and their commercial rate will be based on impervious area in 2020. DAMA is working on storm water improvements at our Southside Park and at our Route 309 location. They will announce additional projects in the next few months.

Supervisor Grant provided an update on the Route 309 building renovations for the police department. He stated that the bids received had a cost of close to \$400/square foot. This amount exceeded our budget and did not make sense to complete since the building is 50 years old. The Supervisors have not accepted any of the bids and are reviewing other options.

Police Update:

Chief Higgins stated that the next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be February 27th at 6:30pm. Topics that are planning to be covered include narcotics and vaping. The National Night Out will be August 4th at the Dallas High School. A Traffic Enforcement detail will be conducted in March. Office Robert Odgers recently made a large drug bust which include LSD, crystal meth and shrooms which had a street value of over \$6,000. One Police Sergeant has gone through First Line Supervisor training and our other Sergeant will be attending the training March.

Road Department Update:

Township Manager Barry provided the road department update and stated that they are performing winter weather activities, have picked up over 500 Christmas trees, are doing pot hole patching, road repairs and street sign replacement. New signs have been placed on Pear Tree Lane and in New Goss Manor to indicate that there is not access to the Dallas schools. He also congratulated Gary VanDeutsch on being appointed Roadmaster. He has been employed by Dallas Township since September 2002 and has a very experienced background.

Additional Citizens' Comments:

Dr. David Evans stated that his in-laws and now his nephew have owned a house on Shupp Road for over 40 years and that there has been water run off issues throughout this time. He stated that his in-laws told him nothing has been done to fix the issues since former Supervisor Glenn Howell owned a neighboring property and he did not want any of the water diverted toward his property. He stated that he was to meet with Township Manager Barry this past fall, but the meeting did not

happen. He presented several pictures from the past few years showing some of the water issues. Township Engineer Thomas Doughton, Roadmaster VanDeutsch & Township Manager Barry will meet with him after tonight's meeting to schedule a time to go to the property to review the issues and to see what could be done to fix the situation.

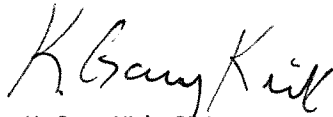
Ann Davies thanked Township Manager Barry for the abundance of new signs to try to prevent tractor trailers from going down and getting stuck on her road.

Brenda Pugh asked if a pile of dirt which prevents access to part of Fairground Road could be moved 75-100 feet as she is trying sell some property located on that road. After discussion concerning the history, safety issues and access issues, Supervisor Martin made a **Motion to move the pile of dirt approximately 75 feet further down Fairground Road**, seconded by Supervisor Wagner and carried. There was additional discussion concerning putting up Road Closed/No Access signs.

Adjournment:

Supervisor Wagner made a **Motion to adjourn**, seconded by Supervisor Martin and carried. The Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Gary Kirk". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

K. Gary Kirk, CPA
Secretary/Treasurer