

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES -- November 14, 1967

The regular meeting of the College Township Board of Supervisors was held on November 14 in the Municipal Building at 7:30 p.m. All supervisors were present. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report -- Mr. Weaver reported total bills for the month of October were \$8,216.59. The Board approved payment of the bills.

OLD BUSINESS - By-Pass - Chairman Levine stated that because the supervisors had had no recent word from the Highway Department since the new route for the By-pass had been announced, he was suggesting that Mr. Williams act as a liaison with the State Highway Department and ~~the~~ Engineers relative to the By-pass situation, contacting them at least once a month, so that the township could be apprised of the Department's current plans and actions. It was so ordered.

Center County Library -- A letter from the Center County Librarian, Mr. Moore, stated that their spot check showed that an average of 12 persons a week from the State College area used the library, or approximately 500 persons during the year, six percent of all borrowers. At this time, the supervisors decided not to answer the library's request for funds, but to present to the Centre Regional Council on Government a suggestion that some effort be made to consolidate library services so that townships would be asked to pay only one library tax in the future which would support both the County Library and Schlow Library.

Swimming Pool Authority -- A letter from the State College Parks and Recreation Commission suggesting support for a swimming pool authority was referred to Mrs. White, the township's representative on that ~~committee~~ ^{Commission}, for study and recommendation to the December 5th meeting.

Planning Commission -- Dan Stearns, Zoning Officer, was instructed by the Board of Supervisors to contact Crown Construction Company to find out when they are going to install the planters around the light standards as approved in the plot plan for Mittany Mall and to insure that this agreement is carried out.

Sign, Peddlers' and Weed Ordinances -- A representative of the Planning Commission stated that these ordinances are in final form and the Planning Commission at its December meeting will make recommendations to the Supervisors.

NEW BUSINESS Centre Regional Road Plan - Chairman Levine expressed his concern about any hasty acceptance of the road plan without some careful consideration of possible financing costs and the effect on land areas and people in the area. He stated that he approved the concept of the regional road plan, but to start considering an exchange of roads now would imply commitment to the whole plan. He presented 11 questions which he felt the Centre Regional Council on Governments and the Centre Regional Planning Commission should consider before taking action on the road plan.

1. Since the state has indicated that they will not financially support the construction of most of the roads in the Centre Regional Road Plan, can funds be obtained from the Federal Government or any other source to augment local expenditures?
2. What percent of the proposed road construction is in each of the municipalities in the Centre region?
3. What is the estimated cost to the College area taxpayers of constructing all of the proposed roads?

4. Is it feasible to finance this road construction on a regional basis?
5. What is the expected population density in the area served by Legislative Route 14019 (W. Branch road) for the next 20-year period?
6. What is the exact route of the Whitehall Road relocation?
7. What private homes will be taken for reconstruction of Whitehall Road and the construction of each of the proposed roads in College, Harris, Ferguson and Patton Townships and the Borough of State College?
8. How much private land will be taken for construction of these roads?
9. Since the traffic at the Dale Summit "Y" has already reached the dangerous stage, how do we propose to handle traffic problems when we have five separate roads meeting at the same intersection? (i.e., the three roads now existing, the proposed road B and the Highway Department's proposed relocation of Route 26.)
10. What is the rationale behind the 1000 foot offset between proposed roads D and F where they meet Whitehall Road?
11. Should the advisability of constructing Road C between Airport Road and proposed Road B be reconsidered since the Highway Department indicates that they do not see the necessity for this road?

Specifically, the supervisors were concerned about the proposed exchange of part of Branch Road for part of Whitehall Road since Branch Road is unimproved and the estimated cost of making it a safe, usable road would be about \$50,000. This is a large sum of money for the Township. It equals the amount the township has budgeted for recreation and parks for the next 10 years. The strong probability of growth in the Shingletown area would require improvement of Branch road in the near future.

Another major consideration would be the costs of the roads to the region since the major part of the costs would have to be borne by the townships. The need for the roads must be weighed in terms of the individuals whose lands and homes might be affected.

Considerable discussion followed about Branch Road and the Whitehall Road relocation.

Proposed College-Harris Park Site -- The Board decided that at the present time the Township has committed all possible funds to developing parks and do not feel it possible to participate with Harris Township in developing a park near the Boalsburg Shrine.

Street Light petition -- A street light petition signed by 26 residents in the Spring Lea Acres for lighting on Spring Lea Drive, Hickory Road and Willow Avenue from Spring Lea Drive to Hickory was presented to the Board. The petition which contained the names of the majority of landowners in the area was given to Mr. Williams to follow through on the request.

Sign Machine -- The Board approved the payment of \$196.31, the township's share of the cost of the sign machine bought for regional use.

Approval of Plans The Board approved plan for replot of the addition to Dalevue requested by Gordon Kissingner and also approved the final plan for the subdivision on the Stearns tract and the preliminary plan for dividing a portion of the above tract into five lots, with the understanding that Lot No. 5 would be 122 feet instead of 125 feet as required by zoning regulations, to allow sufficient room for the College Township Park access road.

A letter from Ross D. Lowder was read concerning the sketch plan for a subdivision on his land which he had previously submitted to the Planning Commission. After discussion with the Planning Commission representative, the supervisors agreed to write to Mr. Lowder explaining that the Planning Commission was acting on his sketch plan in accordance with their regular procedures.

The Board approved support of a resolution presented by the Centre County Planning Commission. The support of the Commission's 1968 program by the townships makes possible a state grant of \$12,000 and a county grant of \$6,000. In addition the Commission estimates an additional \$9,000 will be required from townships, 15 or 16 percent of which will be College Township's share.

ANNOUNCEMENTS -- Mr. Levine announced that copies of township ordinances have been duplicated and are available at the township office. He also stated that the office hours have been changed from 12 to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays instead of Tuesdays and Fridays.

Supervisors will start work soon on the 1968 budget. Suggestions from citizens for better township services are welcomed by the Board. Public hearings on the budget will be held after it is completed.

The College- Harris Joint Authority which was set up to finance and build a collection system as part of the regional sewage system holds its regular meetings in the Municipal Building at 8:00 p.m. the Tuesday after the last Monday of the month. The public is invited. The Board approved an appropriation of \$100 to help defray administrative costs of the Authority.

The Corring plant has invited the supervisors of the College and Harris townships and members of the Joint Authority to tour their waste disposal facilities.

At the next meeting, Mr. Fred Lightner will present a report of police activities in the township.

SPECIAL REPORTS -- Mr. George Garber, representative of the Citizens for Better Highways, presented the group's proposal for a Slab Cabin Creek Parkway to take the place of the by-pass proposed by the Highway Department. By means of slides he illustrated the differences between a parkway and a high speed expressway. He expressed the opinion of the group that, since the major traffic problem is not that of through traffic but rather efficient handling of largely local traffic, the advantages of a parkway over an expressway are very important to the State College area. Mr. Levine noted his continued opposition to the proposed route of the by-pass, but felt that a parkway approach was a more desirable way for the area. Discussion followed on the parkway plan and questions from the audience were answered by Mr. Garber.

Mr. Williams reported that the Regional Landfill project was progressing well with few problems.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Lester M. Wearice
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