

CASTANEA TOWNSHIP
347 NITTANY ROAD
LOCK HAVEN PA 17745
570-748-9070

Supervisors:
Brandon Coleman-Chairman
Charles Clukey Jr.
John Gradel

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 7, 2024

Supervisors present: Brandon Coleman, Charles Clukey Jr. & John Gradel
Brandon Coleman. Called meeting to order at 7:00pm

Secretary Minutes:

Chairman Coleman made a motion to accept minutes, seconded by Supervisor Gradel, MCU.

Financial Report:

Supervisor Clukey made a motion to accept financial reports, seconded by Supervisor Gradel, MCU.

Public Comment:

- Resident Jenny & husband want to know the timeframe for repairing the dip on Quiggle Ave and if there could be better signage in the future. Chairman Coleman placed a call to the City regarding the insufficient patch work and they are scheduled to return and repair the 3-inch dip in the gravel. Chairman Coleman stated that he spray painted the area to warn people of the pothole and has informed the City of four additional areas on Greenwood, Jones Street & Mount Vernon. Chairman Coleman stated that any resident that incur damages to their vehicles should inform the Township. The City said they will have the paving issues addressed by Thanksgiving.
- Resident Tyler requested clarification on the parking clearances for the Township. Chairman Coleman stated he would look into the situation further as the resident's driveway is empty and they are blocking entry to the alleyway because their cars are parked too close.
- Chairman Coleman thanked Tyler for the Fire Company's participation in the bridge dedication.
- Joe – During the last rain storm many residents were flooded due to the drainage situation up-hill because of stakes in the drain area and leaves piling up. Chairman Coleman will contact residents again to discuss as they were previously out of town when he called. Terry Crawford stated he removed the debris from the ditch with his loader. Chairman Coleman placed a call to Todd about storm water management options.
- Terry Crawford wanted to know when the ditches would be cleaned. The clean-up was delayed due to rain. The equipment is rented and additional work at the water house was added to the clean-up list and once that is completed the ditch cleaning will resume this week or next.

Correspondence and Communications – N/A

Report of Officials and Committees:

Supervisors Reports

Charlie Clukey – Sewer Report

- August – 4 Sewer payments \$36,607.63, 2 Inspection \$400, 3 Water shut-offs – Total \$37,007.63
- September & October – Sewer payments \$35,775, 1 Inspection \$200, 3 Water shut-offs – Total \$35,975.00

John Gradel-

- The Village Tavern bought a sign on the Town Directory.
- The bottom lettering on the Town Directory is in productions, was delayed due to the owner upcoming retirement.
- Once the sign lettering is complete we can do the holiday lighting which has been purchased.
- Supervisor Gradel stated that he had received several calls regarding leaks on Greenwood Avenue and has advised residents to contact the City.
- UGI update to follow later.
- Made a call about Main Street Matters Grant to inquire about qualification. Supervisor Gradel stated that we may also qualify for a side program called Elm Street. More information to follow.

Brandon Coleman-

- Road Crew has spent two weeks on crack sealing to roads and the completed work look good.
- Charlie took care of pump stations.
- Weeding and trimming was completed.
- Keeter – handled mowing for the guys so that we could maximize use of the rented equipment. Cuts completed along Quiggle & Crawford ditches, stones need raked back and berm repaired on McElhattan Rails to Trails, weeds trimmed and pot hole patching underway.
- Cleaned stones on Nittany Road from storm wash-out.
- Cleaned and repaired restrooms. Brandon has scheduled Jim & Glen to begin winterizing the restrooms for seasonal closure.
- All stones cleared from park, brush cut around bridges, road reflector replaced on McElhattan Ave, bridge name signage completed, prep for work to begin on Grape Street, metal bars around ballfield have been removed.
- Shop has been cleaned and coal burner removed, office prepped for installation of new split unit.
- The old coal bin has been picked-up.
- All brush from mowing has been removed.

- Glen had a meeting with PennDOT representative and they have agreed to maintain the area below Paul's place effected by the wash-out.
- Creek Road – waiting on call from PennDOT to schedule walk-through and complete regrading work.
- Looking for something to cover graffiti, more to follow.

Auditors Report - Kristy Sellers, Mary Margaret Winton and Bonnie Poorman – N/A

Engineer - Tom Levine not present.

- Brandon reported Tom will have Corrective Action Plan at next work session.

Code Officer- Jim Phoenix

- Chairman Coleman presented September Code Enforcement Report - 5 door knockers, contacted 5 residents which 4 complied with requests.
- Due to a death in the family at 3 Fleming, there was a door knocker placed regarding mowing which has since been taken care of.
- Discussion about property located at 349 West Brown Street.
- Jim stated he would follow-up with Roger after he finished a walk-thru with Mr. Hoy who stated that the building is condemned and suggested that we contact Cindy Walker, Code Enforcement for Lock Haven. After investigating it was discovered that Lock Haven Water Authority is the owner of the property and they have since been in communication with us stating that they are in the process of getting bids and will keep us informed going forward.

Zoning Officer-Jeremy Kreiser

- Call received from contractor at First Quality stating they are looking for a building for a small battery energy storage system. Jeremy stated that our code book does not cover this and that once the application is submitted Chairman Coleman will provide the Planning Committee and Tyler from the Fire Department with the information needed to proceed.
- Several calls were received but no permits were issued in September.

Police Office Report: Brandon read police report.

Planning Committee - Joe Miller

- Subdivision of property by the ballfield on the side hill, 1 sewer hook-up currently and waterlines run to the parking area.
- Stated that the lawyer for the Planning Commission is retiring.
- The sewer from Cummings – sewer & water is being repaired by Harper free of charge.
- Ballfield – waiting for funding, rescheduling the meeting to approve repairs from the original contractor who did a terrible job. Bowman & Charles have been working in repairs, fencing is still an issue.
- Two pavilions have been donated and are ready to install. We are waiting for information before work can begin.

Recreation Committee - Rick Schulze

- A thank you for all the help with the Bridge Dedication and for the Supervisors for hosting. There was a great turn-out for the event.
- Halloween Parade scheduled for October 27, rain date is October 28, beginning at 4pm. Board of Supervisors to approve the Township's theme to promote the Chestnut Festival which is "Going Nuts for Castanea". Expenses to be approved by the Board of Supervisors,
- Currently looking for a Christmas tree from a local tree farm as we are not able to plant a tree on that location because PPL owns the property.

Old Business:

- Halloween Parade is scheduled for October 27 with a rain date of October 28.
- Trick or Treat schedule October 31 from 6pm – 8pm.
- ATV Special Meeting – There was a full house for review and discussion on the matter. We will start work after budgets completed to draft an Ordinance or Referendum to put on the ballot in order to be fair to all residents.
 - Resident Paul questioned if the Board of Supervisors can change the law. We cannot as the area (Keller Street to end of houses on McElhattan Avenue) is part of Porter Township and it does not include the trails, just Township roads. Chairman Coleman stated that he would do more research on the matter.
- UGI Gas Expansion – Supervisor Gradel wrote a letter on September 16 to UGI to discuss the expansion of natural gas in the Township as several residents have expressed interest. Don Brominski, Business Development Director will be attending the work session scheduled for October 21 at 7pm. Many residents are interested in costs and what programs may be available
- Shelly Davis will start as part-time office assistant this week.

New Business

- The Volunteer Fireman's Association allocation for 2024 has been paid. This is tax money that is collected and distributed from the State Fire Tax Fund.
- The agreement between Castanea Township & Lamar Township to plow the .2 miles of Barrel Road has been executed. Motion to approve by Supervisor Clukey, seconded by Supervisor Gradel, MCU
- A motion to approve the expense of \$375 for the Halloween Parade and magician was made by Supervisor Gradel, seconded by Supervisor Clukey, MCU.
- A motion to approve a donation for marching bands from Central Mountain, Sugar Valley Rural Charter and Bucktail in the amount of \$75 each was presented by Supervisor Gradel, seconded by Chairman Coleman, MCU. Supervisor Gradel stated that Rick raises money through this organization for the Recreation Committee with their yearly events.
- Motion to approve seven cash prizes of \$50 each to be awarded at the Halloween Parade was presented by Supervisor Gradel, seconded by Supervisor Clukey, MCU.
- Chestnut Festival – Rick stated he received a Tourism Grant for the band at the event which will run from October 25, 2024 through January of 2025. There will be vendors, food, crafts, a brewery with chestnut base brews and a polka band from Wilkes-Barre. Rick also requested the Board of Supervisor host the dance. A motion to approve was presented by Supervisor Gradel, seconded by Supervisor Clukey, MCU.

- Keystone Central 2025 Recreation Program is requesting \$1000 which is \$100 more than 2024. Their program runs from June 16 through August 8, 2025 from 9:30am – 12pm for ages 5-12. Motion to approve and pay beginning of 2025 calendar year was presented by Chairman Coleman, seconded by Supervisor Clukey, MCU.
- 2023 Audit was accepted & signed. Motion to approved audit presented by Chairman Coleman, seconded by Supervisor Gradel, MCU.

Review and pay bills:

- Supervisor Gradel made motion to pay said bills, seconded by Supervisor Clukey, MC. Chairman Coleman abstained.

Motion to adjourn presented by Chairman Coleman at 7:45 pm, seconded by Supervisor Clukey, MCU.

**Attest: Shelly Davis
Secretary/Treasurer**