

Conestoga Township
Board of Supervisors Minutes
April 2, 2024

BOS Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Matthew Connelly.

Present: Supervisors: Chairman Matthew Connelly, Vice Chair Joe Devoy & Tom Grassel, (Attendance list attached).

Introduction: Tom Grassel introduced himself as the newly appointed Supervisor. He shared that he coached Matthew Connelly in little league 12 years ago. Matthew was a team player and well respected back then. He shared how he connected with Joe Devoy within ten minutes of meeting him. He is honored to serve with both men. Tom stated that he has two goals in serving Conestoga Township:

- 1) Never make the front-page of the Lancaster Newspaper as a Supervisor.
- 2) He would like to improve the social fabric of Conestoga Township by growing together and make improvements by solutions suggested from the residents.

Matthew Connelly: Thanked Pat and Diane for donating a television for the BOS Meetings.

Matthew Connelly: Executive Session on March 22, 2024 for personnel reasons.

Minutes: The Supervisors approved the **December 5, 2023 BOS Minutes** on a motion by Tom Grassel and seconded by Joe Devoy and third by Matthew Connelly with all in favor and none opposed. These were not prepared nor approved prior in relation to the Secretary vacancy and produced by Matthew's recollection of the meeting.

March 5, 2024 BOS Minutes had redacted Susan Geesey's name on page 16 from a comment that she did not make. Joe Devoy motioned to approve the March 5, 2024 BOS Minutes with the correction and Tom Grassel seconded and Matthew Connelly third the motion. All in favor – none opposed.

Township Bills and Treasurer's Report: Joe Devoy made a motion to approve the Township bills and Treasurer's report with Matthew Connelly seconded and Tom Grassel third. All in favor – none opposed.

General Public

Gary Miller: He wanted to know if there were any resolutions for two complaints introduced in March's BOS Meeting:

- 1) The neighbor's archery target with arrows found in his yard.
- 2) Neighboring trash from both sides of his property.

Matthew Connelly: Stated that Code Officer, Jeff Fiant, said if the trash is not visible from the road, then there are no violations and he will have Jeff contact Gary regarding his complaints.

Chris Bair: Stated that Run Valley Road Project to have the road relevelled with a top coat was to be scheduled for 2024 and wanted to know the date it will happen? Matthew Connelly was not aware of it. Chris then asked if he was aware that the drainage boxes were put in and Matthew was not informed of that, either.

Tom Grassel asked if the storm sewer had improved the problem from the West side of the road? Chris Bair said it had improved about 80%. Tom said he is not aware that it is scheduled because there were no bids put out for this year and he will look into it.

Sue Geesey: Asked if the State Police were contacted regarding Gary Miller's complaint about archery and that there is a safety measure stating the distance needed to use a bow.

Dianne Babcock: Stated that there is a zoning Ordinance 1113 that no parcel should be used to deposit or store junk.

Joe Devoy: Stated that Matthew Connelly was diligent in presenting pictures to the zoning officer. There is a process and they are following the protocol.

Madelyn Ritz: Asked if there is any information or timeline for the public sewer?

Joe Devoy: Stated that it will be on the upcoming Agenda either next month or the following. Construction is expected to begin in 6-7 years per DEP.

Lynda Like: Stated that John Berry and Naomi Little were applying for grants and were they accepted?

Joe Devoy: Stated they were denied by the state but we will need to pursue grants in order to do this project.

Wes Bruckno: Stated the need for sewers to follow Conestoga Township's policies and not the DEP's direction or we will no longer be a rural township.

Joe Devoy: Agreed with Wes and that we need a compete plan and that there needs to be an understanding of the consequences.

Robin Maguire: Asked why the Township is responsible to pay for John Berry's Issues?

Joe Devoy: Responded that the Township is responsible and not John Berry.

Personnel

Matthew Connelly: Stated that we will advertise for a Roadmaster.

Tom Grassel: Reiterated the need for a Roadmaster and to please apply as Leroy Eshleman does not want to make this his career and that he does a fine job for the Township.

Joe Devoy: Announced that we are looking to hire a bookkeeper for 8 hours per week per recommendation of Chris Magwood from The Shepps Group. Please send qualified candidates our way.

New Business

Matthew Connelly: Stated that the Township will be hosting Work Shop Meetings that will be advertised in the LNP with an Agenda posting on website and on the office door. This is for information with no formal decisions hosted during the morning. There are no dates or set time currently but the community will be notified.

Planning Commission Vacancy: Matthew Connelly asked Wes Bruckno to provide a service description. Wes stated that the Planning Commission plans the future for Conestoga Township while providing a chance for immortality. You plan what happens in the future by adding value to the Township. This is an advisory panel only.

Lydia Martin, Rick Ream, and Robin Maguire asked to be considered for the vacancy while Susan Geesey asked to be considered for the alternate position.

Oil and Chip Bids: Tom Grassel stated that bids were advertised for River Corner Rd, River Hill Rd, Colemanville Church Rd, and Duck Hill Rd. Everyone is welcome to attend the opening of the bids on April 26th at 10:00am.

Leroy Eshelman stated that line painting will be on Sickman's Mill Rd, Sandhill Rd, Shenk's Ferry Rd, and Green Hill Rd.

Budget: Terry Shepps stated the 2024 budget was created in August 2023. Matthew Connelly informed that the budget is first reviewed, approved, then adopted.

Public Comment

Dave Clancy: Asked if the Township would modify the road for drainage on Main Street while the sewer is being constructed. Tom Grassel said anything on Main Street is PennDOT and anything in the future would not have storm/sewer in the same project.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:39pm, with a Motion to adjourn by Tom Grassel, seconded by Joe Devoy and third by Matthew Connelly. All in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted by,
Michele Lovett
Conestoga Township Interim Secretary

We hope to see you at the next meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 7:00pm

Conestoga Township Board of Supervisors Meeting

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Sign In Sheet (Please Print Your Name & Address)

Doris Warsef 39 SANDHILL RD

Dan Alscend 315 SICKMANS MILL

ERIC PEIFER Pequea Blvd

L. E. Ehlum 693 Green Hill

Sherry Heisey 3711 MAIN STREET

Sue Fairhee 175 Stonehill Rd

Jeff Denlinger

Dana Paparo 671 SANDHILL RD.

Harris Malkin 1684 Long Ln.

CHRIS + BARB BAIR Run Valley Rd

Tony & Ally River Corner Rd

PAUL THOMAS main st

Dianne Babcock Pegua Blvd

Don Connelly 90 Back Run Rd,

J Kimmet Sandhill Rd.

T Shepps Valley Rd

W. Lawrence main st


Bob + Leann Hensley 633 Stony Ln

Ray Hess Pegua Creek Rd

Genoa Smith Sand Hill Rd

Madelyn / Ed Ritz Main St Conestoga

Coch  11

Larry Frankford Jr  3618 Main St

MARK WISTINGER 17 ORCHARD

Craig & Wanda 431 Sand Hill

JEREMY ESTHLENAN

Donna Hoar

Mark Mitchell

Sue Veasey

Bob Wiggins

Sybil Liki

JEFF & LORRAINE JOPCHAK

Robin Maguire

Luke Bunting

Robert Banzhof

Sybil MARTIN

Wes Brudeno

SAND HILL

Colemanville Church Rd

Main Street

Stelman Rd.

21 Peach Ln

Main St.

GROFF AVE.

Sandhill Rd.

Green Hill Rd

Sandhill Rd.

7376 River Rd

Kendig Rd