

The Keating Township Supervisors met on February 1st, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the Township Building with David McClain bringing the meeting to order and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisors McClain, Tanner, Covert, Sec’y Smith, Fran DeLancey and fourteen (14) township residents attended the meeting.

The Minutes of the January 3rd, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved by motion of Supv Tanner/2nd Covert.

TREASURER’S REPORT showed the following bank balances:

	GENERAL FUND	STATE AID	SEWER	Period of	1/1/17 to 1/31/17
Petty Cash	45.10	-	157.26	General Fund	Receipts \$ 22,717.20
Checking	15,447.65	1,568.99	39,327.32		Expenses \$ 22,565.52
Savings	407,304.63	83,960.50	93,218.49		Checks No. 7383-7410
NWS - Savings	107,441.91	-	1,380.00		
Impact Fee/Debt Res	51,027.93	-	46,960.50	State Aid	Receipts \$ -
	<u>\$ 581,267.22</u>	<u>\$ 85,529.49</u>	<u>\$ 181,043.57</u>		Expenses \$ 18,383.07
UNPAID EXPENSES:	8,395.85	774.15	7,546.23		Checks No. 3089-3094
PAID EXPENSES	<u>\$ 422.25</u>		<u>\$ 3,485.70</u>		

A motion was made by Supv Covert/2nd Tanner, to accept the Treasurer’s Report, pending audit. Motion carried unanimously. By motion of Supv Tanner/2nd Covert, it was unanimously agreed to pay the bills as listed on the Expense Report for a total of \$16,716.23, including Sewer Expenses of \$7,546.23. A motion was made by Supv Covert/2nd Tanner to pay any bills that come due before next meeting that will accrual a late charge. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARD:

- 1) John Stratton, read a statement about concerns about an agreement with Lafayette Township to process sewage for some 30 to 40 homes in that township. “To date, that agreement appears to include Lafayette Township ‘buying into’ a portion of the Keating Twp sewer plant on the hill, paying part of the cost of a larger collection line and then transportation and treatment costs for their metered sewage.” Citing a section of the 2nd Class Twp Code, Stratton said, “It appears to call for several things to happen whenever one municipality wants to enter into an agreement with another to treat its sewage. It requires a petition to the Court of Common Pleas, a hearing with public notice, three so-called reviewers appointed to investigate the facts and determine all costs expenses, and deal with all of the questions that may arise. “Was that action done?” Stratton asked. Supv McClain replied, “This could have been done prior to 2013, but the township will verify this has been completed.” Stratton continued his statement, saying, “Now a simple question: Did we ‘buy into’ the Smethport sewer plant when East Smethport sewage began to be sent to the plant? If not, then we simply pay more to have our sewage treated and Smethport gets a ‘profit’ to support and maintain their plant. Why wouldn’t that straightforward arrangement be the best for KT in relation to Lafayette’s sewage? “If Lafayette ‘buys into’ our plant that may give them the expectation, if not the legal right, to have a say in future rates, plant operations, upgrades and other issues.” According to the supervisors, the Twp did “buy into” the Smethport plant and makes quarterly payments to the borough. “And, while they would have an amount of plant usage, they would not dictate what the twp does.”
- 2) Don Vandermark asked about increasing health benefits since the Twp is paying average or above average salaries. Supv McClain stated that there will be an upcoming workshop soon. Don asked have there been any numbers for Phase III project and what would the monthly sewage amount be? And have we looked in additional grant money? Supv McClain stated that there have been some preliminary numbers based on Phase II but to say

it's going to cost \$60 or more or less, we won't know till phase III is bid. Twp is not able to ask for more grant/loan money till we know what bid amounts come in at.

- 3) Lu Vandermark keeps hearing there are other options. She has heard that if we keep our financials inline to original budget DEP is willing to look at other ideas. McClain explained to her that we are too far into Phase III to stop and turn a different direction because it will be too costly for the twp. She also asked if we had any project amounts for Phase III. McClain stated that we really don't because it's not ready to bid. Covert also explained that Phase II and Phase III are different because Phase III is update to what DEP is asking for now.
- 4) Emery Gallup asked if we can pump the sewage to Smethport Borough plant. McClain stated that it has been reviewed in the Act 537 plan that it was best to build 2 plants. Emery also asked if we can connect Wolf Run sewer line to Foster Twp instead of coming down Wolf Run Hill. Supv are working on contacting Foster Twp to see if it's possible.
- 5) Margaret Vandermark will monthly sewer fees be the same for Phase II & Phase III areas. McClain, yes they will be same. Margaret would also like to know what a Supervisor Job is....

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) A motion was made by Supv Covert/2nd Tanner, to approve payment of Requisition No. 34 in the amount of \$39,273.66. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2) Supv Covert will be attending the PSATS 95th Annual Educational Conference in Hershey April 23rd to 26th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Keating Twp received Smethport Fire Department 2016 Year End Report.
- 2) Supv agreed to not pick one engineering firm to be Twp designated one. Supervisors would like to choose one depending on what the project consist of.
- 3) A motion was made by Supv Tanner/2nd Covert to send our WWTP Operator to Williamsport to take his operator exam. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) Sec-Tres Smith went over various delinquent sewer accounts. Acct #2565 & #1005: Ask Stapleford and Byham to research the properties to see if we can possibly start a sheriff sale. Acct #2130: Try one more time to serve property owner lien paperwork. Acct #2065: Send property owner a letter regarding connection of system.
- 5) Sec-Tres Smith asked Supervisor if she can send letters to all delinquent connection for Phase II.
- 6) Supervisor's received Kelmar Services, LLC agreement and fee schedule. They will review this at February work shop.
- 7) A motion was made by Supv Covert/2nd Tanner to advertise workshop at Twp building at 4pm on Feb 22nd, March 22nd, May 17th, Sept 19th and Oct 17th
- 8) Supv McClain would like to change how we motion each employee at the organization meeting. Sec-Tres Smith was asked to contact Holly at PSATS to ask her about it.
- 9) Township assessment changes, mailed on Jan 9th, 2017, which reflected a \$152,530 increase in the Township's real estate assessed value.

NEXT MEETING: will be held on March 1st, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the Township Building.

ADJOURNMENT: was heard at 7:10pm.

Respectfully submitted, Melissa Jo Smith, Secretary-Treasurer