

BRIAR CREEK TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Work Session

February 19, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.

Briar Creek Township Municipal Building, 150 Municipal Rd., Berwick, PA 18603, Columbia County, PA

The Work Session for the Supervisors of Briar Creek Township, Columbia County, PA was held at the Township Municipal Building on February 19th at 7:00 PM. Present were the following: Supervisors C. Fisher, M. Sitler, J. Gallagher, D. Sarge, P. Leighow, Secretary/Treasurer S. Johnson, Road Master S. Rauch, Police Chief T. Frace. Resident - Bret Politz.

AGENDA & MINUTES

- Call Work Session to Order by C. Fisher at 7pm
- Pledge of Allegiance was said by all who were present.
- Public Participation (limited to 5 minutes per person; inappropriate language will not be tolerated)
 - Resident Bret Politz inquired about how the process will go for accepting bids for the Blight Property the Township is interested in selling. He was given a copy of the Terms & Conditions.
- Announcements
 - Executive Session after last Township Meeting
- Maintenance Report
 - 7th Ave Bridge Insurance Claim from August of 2023. Received quote from Bower's for \$7500.00 plus an additional cost for inspection of the bridge \$730.00 from Larson Design group. Motion to approve and accept the above quotes and proceed with submitting bills to the insurance company for repairs to begin was made by M. Sitler and seconded by J. Gallagher. Motion passed 5-0.
 - Lower Woodcrest property that was having a water runoff issue is pending more information from our Zoning/UCC Officer L. Frace on how to proceed.
 - Button Energy has locked us in for propane at \$1.70 a gallon to match the best quote we received from Heller's until the end of May of 2024. BCT will continue to shop around for the best possible price at the conclusion of the current agreement.
 - The proposed Culvert on Martzville Rd. is anticipated to happen in the Summer of 2026.
 - Bank Loan for the Loader was postponed due to undisclosed changes on behalf of Journey Bank. BCT voiced how disappointed we were with the whole Commercial Loan process. Motion to approve the continuation of the loan process with a new fixed interest rate and monthly payments offered by Journey Bank was made by M. Sitler and seconded by J. Gallagher. Most passed 4-1.
 - S. Rauch received permission from the BoS that he had authority when it comes to doing a spot buy for fuel to save the Township money on an as needed basis if service is lacking.
- Police Report
 - With Breezeline we are currently paying over \$400.00 a month for our phone systems. No updates have been made to Breezeline billing since 2015. With the APR proposal we began to receive quotes. We received 3 different proposals (2 from contrast). The first proposal from Contrast is to replace our entire phone system with the same one which we currently use at a price of \$12,184.63. That would reduce our monthly bill to \$272.53. Contrast gave us a second quote for the IP phone system, \$2059.96 for equipment which would bring our monthly bill to \$578.58.
 - 7th Level gave a proposal for the same IP phone system at a one-time equipment charge of

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\$1761.21 with a monthly bill of \$135.45 this price would include 10 replacement phones.

- J. Gallagher made a motion that we move forward with the phone system proposal including POA switch offered by 7th Level and the motion was seconded by M. Sitler. Motion was approved 5-0.

- Office Report
 - SAM Renewal expires May 1st, 2024 (1 yr. \$299.00; 2 yr. \$399.00; 5 yr. \$899.00)
 - A motion was made by M. Sitler and seconded by J. Gallagher to approve paying the 2 yr. fee of \$399.00 for the SAM renewal and maintenance. Motion passed 5-0.
 - Postal Machine was installed on February 21, 2024.
 - Shannon attended QuickBooks training on the afternoons of 20FEB2024 & 27FEB2024.

For the good of the order

- The Blight Property
 - Bids for the property are currently being accepted at the township office until 1 PM Monday March 4, 2024. The bids will be opened by the BoS at the 7pm meeting.
- Kennedy Tree Service at Woodland Acres is in the process of being filed by the Solicitor at the magistrate. Waiting for further correspondence.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:14pm to begin Executive Session

Executive Session began at 8:14pm and ended at 8:37pm.

Adjourned Work Session 8:38pm.

Respectfully,
Shannon Johnson
Secretary/Treasurer