# Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District

Saturday, September 10th, 2011

Committee Members Present: David Bonney, Marty Feit, Clerk-Treasurer; Al Barvenik, Gerry Grondin, David Devane, Nancy Devane, Gilles Beaudoin.

Committee Members Absent: None

Public Present: Jerry Asplund, Scott Siegel, John Corrine, Paul Aube.

The meeting is opened at 10:30 am.

Location: Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street

Meeting Introduction; I.A.W. - M.G.L. CH39- Section 23C.

**Approval of August 6th Meeting Minutes-**Mr. David Bonney reviews meeting minutes and advises that a portion of the meeting minutes, referencing septic systems should be omitted. Nancy Devane also states that a portion of the minutes referencing Dave should also be omitted. A motion is made to accept the amended meeting minutes from the August 9th meeting, motion is seconded; Unanimous Approval.

## Sherwood Forest Road Superintendent's Monthly report- August 2011

Marty advises that he and Dave Devane had a conference call with MEMA. He also explains that FEMA will be sending a representative out and they will be informed of the informational meeting that will be held; they will attend the meeting and then learn how to submit their claims. He advises committee members that since President Obama has declared Berkshire County a disaster area, personal property claims will also be reimbursed.

General Roads- Dave Devane reviews report with Committee members present. He advises of a complaint that came in on August 13<sup>th</sup> from 216 Black Arrow Way. The owner of the property called to say that their realtor could not access their road. Dave advises that he called the realtor and advised him that the road will soon be repaired. The realtor understood completely and was alright.

Dave advises of roadside mowing that had been ongoing, to include culvert repair. He states that up until the storm Friar Tuck Drive was in real good shape.

A complaint also came in from the owner of a property owner on Robin Hood Lane. Craig went to the site and opened up a path so that she can access the property.

Dave states that the hurricane work will be ongoing until they submit all the paperwork to MEMA and FEMA.

Nancy reminds of a letter received from the Jakots. They own property down on Nottingham Circle and there is a culvert on his property. Dave advises that he has visited the property and will be revisited, once the surrounding owners are determined, etc. David Bonnet states that they will have to notify the Conservation Commission. Marty reads the letter aloud for the Committee Members to hear. The owners request the pipe be removed immediately. Committee members review letter and state that the pipe has been there for over thirty years. Mr. Bonney requests that the letter be addressed, Marty agrees to do so. Mr. Bonney confirms that after the Conservation Commission is contacted, they will have to send them a copy of their decision in order to move forward.

Nancy Devane advises of another letter from the Dingles. Mr. Bonney states that it is from 683 King Richard Drive. Marty reads the letter aloud for the committee members to hear. Mr. Bonney explains that he believes that it is the Morrows former residence. Committee members discuss the letter received; Marty states that he will be sending them a letter of response as well.

Nancy advises that they received a phone complaint from the Powers, referencing damage caused by the storm, and their road being washed out.

Marty adds that they should consider a recording system when a major disaster occurs.

## **Public Participation-**

Member of the public, Jerry Asplund, 483 Alan-A-Dale drive states that ever since White Wolf took over grading the roads, he seemingly crowns the road, causing a lot of water to run down his driveway. He states that it causes ruts so deep, that he and his wife frequently have to fill in these deep ruts, and have had to do this four times this year already. He also states that there is a sandbar also in front of his residence. No action has been taken yet. To be reviewed by committee

Scott Siegel, 402 Alan-A-Dale Drive, states that a ton of sand is coming down from the washed out Whistling Arrow. He states that he feels like Craig is doing a great job on the roads, however, the problem is getting worse and that something will need to be done.no action has been taken yet to be reviewed by committee.

Member of the public, Paul Aube, introduces himself and expresses his concerns about his road. He states that the road has already washed away once and that it would most likely happen again. He advises that putting a culvert in may be an idea to consider. Mr. Aube gives his email address to the committee for further correspondence. He is informed that he will be notified, and they will let him know what progress has been made to help rectify his problem. Problem was corrected, Paul also asks that a dead tree in front of his house be removed which is on road district property. Dave to bring to committee during our Oct meeting.

Mr. Bonney asks if there is any other public participation to come before the board, hearing none; he moves on.

## **Road And Lake District**

Committee members discuss the fact that the Road District and the Lake District need to get together and discuss some of these proposed issues. Nancy suggests that Marty should send them a registered letter, requesting that a committee member attends a future meeting to have a much needed discussion. Marty suggests that either Howard Lerner or William Maier would both be great sources of information and would be requested to attend a future meeting. Nancy questions whether or not Sherwood Forest has a Master Emergency Plan or not, and if so, where is it at. Marty states that he will send a letter to George Roberts, requesting any information that he might have in regards to the Emergency Plan.

**Treasurer's Report-**Marty reviews the figures, bank balances as well as outstanding bills with committee members present. Marty advises that some of the bills paid are going to be reimbursed due to the fact that they are storm related. Marty explains that he, Craig and Dave had a meeting at his home, Craig agreed to just have a list of materials supplied to him, a separate account will be established and then they will go from there. Committee members discuss changing the by-law so that some of these issues can be taken care of. Committee members discuss if they are to take on fixing people's culverts, then they need a way to ensure that they can collect the money that is due to them. Committee members discuss the process of putting a lien on a piece of property, until all monies are collected.

Marty finishes the review of the treasurer's report, stating that if they compared the money that is in the account now to the money that was in there a year ago, there is actually twice as much money currently in the account, over last year. Marty goes over all bills paid, and asks for Treasury warrant to be accepted. Unamimous approval.

Committee members begin to discuss the signs purchased and whether or not three bids were actually acquired before a vendor was chosen. Marty states that he feels like they should go ahead and pay the bill to avoid further action and possibly being taken to small claims court. Mr. Bonney advises that he thought this part of the discussion could be continued to an Executive Session to preserve the privacy of all. Dave Devane explains that year after year, there are signs that are always taken and that additional signs were to be ordered this year. Nancy agrees with Marty and states that despite the way the whole sign deal went down, they should go ahead and pay the bill because they do owe it and by not paying it, it reflects poorly on them. Nancy states that an apology letter should go out to Beneath The Surface, apologizing for the oversight. Mr. Bonney asks Marty to send out an email to him stating such.

**Warrant Approval-** A motion is made to approve the warrant as presented, the motion is seconded; Unanimous Approval.

**Web Update-** Marty explains that Brent Fennel has not yet responded to any of the email that have been sent to him. Marty advises that they need to agree that Mike McEnerney will be the new webmaster. Marty also advises of the other problem that is the fact that although he has the password, he does not have the browser and need that information from Brent. Since last meeting Brent finally called back Mike McEnerny and the web site is being worked on.

**Delinquent Taxes-** Marty explains that he has spoke with the Town treasurer, Chris Bleau and that she has advised him that she is currently working on a complete list of the delinquent tax payers and should have the list to him within a week or so, Marty advises that he will have it for the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**On-Line Bill Pay-**Marty advises that he would like to start paying the bills online instead of having to write checks. He explains that this would pose a slight delay in the committee member's paychecks, however there is no cost to them at all and that they will even save the postage, because the bank absorbs the cost of the stamp. Committee members all agree that is the most efficient way to go and agree that it is a great idea. Legacy Bank is changing to Berkshire Bank so the on line bill pay will begin when Berkshire bank officially takes over.

Marty brings up the fact that he thinks it may be a good idea to increase the meeting pay for the members from \$25 to \$50. He states that he thinks that this will help with committee participation as well as helping when it is time to recruit new members. Marty advises that there was \$1800 allotted for this and that they will not use anywhere near all of it. Mr. Bonney also suggests that Dave Devane should be keeping track of all of his extra hours that have been incurred due to the hurricane. Nancy confirms that he has put in many extra hours and that he goes out at least twice every day. Committee members discuss the fact that if FEMA does not provide reimbursement for this, then the district should make sure that he gets the money he deserves.

## **Committee Report-**

## Driveway Culverts- Previously discussed

Annual Meeting Date to be set for May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 1:00 pm- Mr. Bonney explains that he just went ahead and picked 1:00pm however, he is open to suggestions. Marty advises that they might want to change the time in order to hopefully get some of the

summer people in attendance. Marty states that he feels that more people are home in the morning than in the afternoon. Committee members agree that 10:30 am would be the most convenient time for everyone. Marty agrees to pass this information on to George Roberts, Town Clerk. Mr. Bonney states that he would like to have the warrant done by April.

**Lake waterways-** Committee members discuss sending a letter to the Lake District requesting that they send a member of the Lake District to come and attend a Road District meeting so that they can discuss some issues that are important. Marty advises that he will contact Howard Lerner and request that he attends the next meeting to discuss these proposed issues.

## Work Orders-

Mr. Bonney explains that work orders are a must and have to be done in a timely manner before anyone can get paid. Nancy states that a process should be created so that they can meet once or twice a week to make sure that everything is in order. Mr. Bonney explains that the committee needs to discuss how they want the work orders done.

A motion is made to adjourn the meeting, motion is seconded, and the meeting is adjourned at 12:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marty Feit Clerk-Treasurer