

**SUPERVISOR'S MEETING**  
**July 13, 2017**

The Jackson Township Supervisors held their regular meeting at 7:30 a.m. at the Jackson Township Municipal Building. Members present were Supervisors Bruce Baker, John Wallet and Eric Dreikorn along with Solicitor Bill Barbin. Secretary-Treasurer / Manager Dave Hirko was unable to attend. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bruce Baker with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Board Roll Call** was taken with all three Supervisors present.

**Public Comments Concerning Agenda Items:**

(None)

**Correspondence:**

(None)

**Old Business:**

(None)

**New Business:**

(None)

**Other New Business:**

(None)

**Public Comments:**

**Carl Laughard** said, I want to know why they keep coming out on my property. I did a lot of work on my property in the last two weeks and cleaned up and I'm just tired of being singled out. **Chairman Baker** said, I can tell you Mr. Laughard, you're not being singled out. There's been letters go out to multiple people just this last week. **Vice-Chairman Wallet** said, and you have been working on it and that's good. When we get complaints, we have to act on them. **Laughard** said, the law is supposed to apply to everybody. **Solicitor Bill Barbin** said, and if you feel that something is unreasonable, you can come up here and file a complaint. We don't prowl the Township looking for violations. Right now, you may think that's the way it should be, because that's your Argument today but we don't prowl the Township for violations. We take complaints. I had sent you letters for years. Sometimes you cleaned a little up. . .other times. . you have construction materials. . .all this crap. It got particularly bad in the last month. It got bad enough that the Township had to hire a separate attorney to prosecute you. The case is well on its way to court. You have a list of things you have to clean up. **Laughard** said, they didn't give me a list of things. . .first of all they sent something. . inoperable machine. . I'd like to know what machine they're talkin about? I know I use my machines and we've already been to court on that one and as long as you have an acre of ground, you can own your own machines. **Barbin** said, 1 acre of ground has nothing to do with it and here's the thing. . .prosecution is going to take place now. .it's going up to Court in Ebsensburg. . .we're not going to mess around with the Magistrates anymore. You either have to clean this property up right now or there will be a case filed in Court and you can go hire an attorney. . .there will be no more magistrates or messing around. **Laughard** said, well. .I'll take it to Federal Court. **Barbin** said, here's the thing. . you don't have a chance for a refile. You have a right to file in Federal Court but we have a right to file in Ebsensburg. If you don't show up in Ebsensburg, that's probably not a smart move. I'm just telling you ahead of time. If you don't show up in Ebsensburg, you'll probably end up in jail. In the past I've backed off before and as soon as I did, you brought in a bunch more crap. **Laughard** said, I did get rid of 7 vehicles in the last two weeks. **Barbin** said, I don't want to deny that that's a positive thing, but this is the past two weeks for something that's been going on for two years. **Laughard** said, what about Naugle and all these guys? **Barbin** replied, you file a complaint and we will do something about it. We operate off of complaints. **Baker** said, you haven't been singled out. . there's been several other letters just went out this week. **Wallet** said, you're not alone. . .when we receive complaints, we have to act on them. We can't turn our back and ignore it. **Laughard** said, I've been sick. . had my shoulders operated on, but like I said. . .when I got the letter, I got rid of a motor home which I was going to fix up to run, 3 other vehicles and a bunch of metal but also the camper was legal. . .so was the 2 cars. The camper I sold out of state. **Wallet** said, I drive by there every day and I agree. . .it looks a lot better. . .for both the Township and your sake. . we don't want to go to Court. **Laughard** said, I like a nice yard. . .I try to keep the grass cut and everything. I don't want a junkyard. . I don't want people to drive by and say how bad it looks. Where I'm situated, everybody comes off the hill, no matter what I have. **Barbin** said, you're highly visible. **Laughard** said, I'm going to put a fence up by my shed.

**Rick Mosley** said, I've worked with George Burkey off and on over the chickens according to the Ordinance. About a month ago we got a rooster. . .when you buy the chickens there's no way to know what they are. We had a rooster and it started crowing. We didn't even think anything of it. George Burkey came by and we got rid of it. Now I have a hen crowing which is absolutely possible. . I looked into it. It happened. We don't have roosters but

we still have the hen. We have to go to the Magistrate over it. My problem is, what if get rid of this one and another one starts crowing. I talked to George about it. . I talked to Hirko about it. Yes. . this is rare, but it happened once. . it may happen again. I don't want to have to keep getting rid of my chickens. Looking through different ordinances and everything a dog is allowed to bark for 10 minutes before considered a Nuisance. Why can a dog bark for 10 minutes but my chicken can't crow for 2 seconds? **Solicitor Bill Barbin** said, dogs generally don't crow at 5 o'clock in the morning and people lose an hour sleep out of their day. Chickens crowing early in the morning generally get people out of bed. **Mosley** said, I understand that. . I could come home at 3 or 5 in the morning. . I work shifts. . and I have young kids so I'm up early in the morning. Mr. Paul lives across the road and is within 50 feet of my house and he can't hear it as opposed to the neighbors in question who are comparing about it. If I move the coop and lease ground from Mr. Ditchcreek's farm who has agricultural land, I could have the chickens anyway. **Chairman Bruce Baker** said, you can lease ground if you don't have the required acreage to have animals but it doesn't excuse you from setbacks. The setback has to be meant. If you live in an Agricultural zone you should expect to hear cows and chickens. **George Burkey** said, a complaint was made and you didn't do anything about it. **Mosley** said, I did. . I got rid of my rooster. **Rodney Paul** said, my house is about 200 feet from this chicken coop. I hear nothing from my house. I get up every Monday morning to put my garbage out at 5 o'clock and I don't hear anything. Yesterday at one point in time I heard crowing but it was so faint. **Baker** said, I suggest your neighbor record the hen crowing and provide documented evidence of what time it happened before we go any further. **Mosley** said, outside the 10 am to 6 pm window, I've never heard the hen crow.

**Announcements:** **Chairman Baker** announced, The Board of Supervisors next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, July 27, 2017 at 6:00 pm at the Jackson Township Municipal Building.

**Adjournment:** **Motion** Wallet, second Dreikorn to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 am. Vote-3 yes.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Hirko, Secretary