



## Allen Township Board of Supervisors

### Meeting Minutes

**February 11, 2020  
7:00 P.M.**

A General Meeting of the Allen Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. at the Allen Township Municipal Building, 4714 Indian Trail Road, Northampton, PA 18067. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Chairman Dale Hassler.

**1. Roll Call:** Present: Carl Edwards; Gary Behler; Bruce Frack; Dale Hassler; Gerald Montanari, Sr.; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr., Esq.; Stan Wojciechowski, PE, CME.; Ilene Eckhart, Manager.

**2. Public to be Heard:** Mr. Clater, 75 Arrowhead Road, indicated he listened to the recording of the January 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting. Mr. Clater voiced concerns and was shocked that the Board took action in January under an agenda item described as a Rockefeller Security Release to include a decision concerning the expansion of Northampton County Bridge #124 as a three lane bridge. He felt giving a \$1 million dollars back to a developer for nothing. He felt the two newest Supervisors made this decision without knowing the full history, the traffic study factors nor the objective of the extra lane. Mr. Treadwell clarified that Mr. Clater was correct that the Board made a motion to notify Northampton County that third lane was no longer warranted by the Township but that the Township still held the letter of credit for Township purposes. Mr. Clater felt that the Board created a permanent bottleneck in the roadway. He provide the traffic study details as provided to the Township about four years ago. He felt the Board needed to be aware of the traffic impact and the public will have to live with the decision.

Mr. Montanari voiced concern and noted that he thought about the issue before deciding in that there was nowhere to ultimately dump the traffic – Rt. 329, Savage, Weaversville Road. He felt the real crux of the issue came with the straightening of Weaversville Road. He questioned where all this traffic was going to necessitate the three lane bridge. Mr. Clater felt that the traffic would just back up somewhere else. Mr. Clater felt that the Fuller development would not add a lane to the bridge after the fact – he felt Fuller would ultimately request for another traffic signal. Additionally, he felt the Rockefeller Zoning Ordinance Validity Challenge currently before East Allen Township would press more traffic through to Allen Township onto Willowbrook Road, pursuant to their plan. Mr. Clater voiced concerns about the Board trying to nix that from a traffic study standpoint, due to the parameters used and the ability to swap two cars for one truck. Mr. Clater felt the Board made a serious mistake and asked that they arm themselves with information. Mr. Montanari felt that the Board will all regret the traffic that has been created. He felt that ultimately Weaversville Road has to be further improvement, which will still dump all the traffic down to Airport Road and Race Street, as well as how Willowbrook Road will be impacted.

**3. Public Hearings:** No Public Hearings.

**i. Willowbrook Curative Amendment/Validity Challenge – Hearing Postponed Until April 28th, 2020 at 7PM – Location - Allen Township Fire Company: Mr. Treadwell**

indicated the hearing was rescheduled to February 25<sup>th</sup> originally so the extension should be considered at the February 25, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting. Ms. Eckhart confirmed she would list the item on the agenda for the February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**4. Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the minutes of January 6, January 14 and January 28, seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the minutes noting one correct to the Reorganization Meeting on January 6th, 2020 correction his vote as Vice Chairman from abstained to no; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

## **5. Reports**

**A. Treasurer:** Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

**B. Solicitor:** On file. Mr. Treadwell explained the Notice of Hearing on Proposed Division of Allen Township into Two Election Districts. Mr. Frack felt someone should attend the hearing. Mr. Hassler voiced concerns that it might be better to have the County delay the division to two districts after the Presidential Election. Mr. Treadwell requested an executive session to discuss potential property acquisition. Additionally, Mr. Treadwell requested an executive session to discuss a land acquisition matter at the conclusion of the meeting.

**C. Engineer:** On file. Mr. Wojciechowski stated he responded to the City of Bethlehem Engineering Department's requests for guidance on the repair of local roads associated with the Drexel Heights water upgrade project and stream-crossing permit.

**D. Planning/Zoning/Code Enforcement:** Ms. Eckhart provided a recap of items, which will be before the Planning Commission in January.

**E. Road Superintendent/Public Works Leader:** On file and presented by Mr. Gogle.

**F. Fire Company:** On file and report supplied by Second Assistant Chief Krill.

**G. Emergency Management Coordinator:** On file and presented by Mr. Krill.

**H. Parks:** On file.

**i. Lehigh River Property – Estimates for Building Removal/Reclamation:** The Board authorized Ms. Eckhart to begin to obtain estimates for removal/reclamation of the house on the Townships property.

**J. Nazareth Council of Government:** On file and presented by Mr. Krill.

**K. First Regional Compost Authority:** Ms. Eckhart indicated the Authority met on January 21<sup>st</sup> at the Moore Township Municipal Building. Ms. Eckhart indicated slight changes were approved to the Commercial Fee schedule. Additionally, the first increase to the per capita rate was implemented. She

further reported that the Authority formed a subcommittee to update the Rates, Rules and Regulations, consisting of Moore and East Allen Townships representatives along with the Director of Operations. These changes will be brought back to full Authority for consideration.

**L. Stormwater:** On file.

## **6. Unfinished Business**

**A. Release of Certain Easements – Cesanek Minor Subdivision 1991:** Mr. Treadwell provided a recap of easement areas are along Seemsville Road on the property now owned by JW Development as depicted in the Release Area E&F attachments. These estimates were necessary at the time of the 1991 Cesanek Minor Subdivision. JW is intending to convey these areas to PADOT as a part of their project and PADOT requires that all dedicated areas be free and clear of all encumbrances. As a result, JW is requesting that the Township sign the attached Release thereby giving up the rights conveyed in the Easement documents. Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the release; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Mr. Treadwell clarified that was an additional document, which would need to be reviewed near the area of the Conservation Easement for the purposes of mitigation of two small wetland areas. This is an Army Corps of Engineers permit related issue. This item would be added to the February 25, 2020 Agenda.

**B. Century Commerce Center – Security Release #1 – Reduction Recommended \$5,048,404.80 (Remaining Security Balance \$6,201,798.79):** Mr. Behler made a motion to release the security in the amount of \$5,048,404.80; seconded by Mr. Montanari. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted.

## **7. New Business**

**A. Sunrise Express Preliminary Commercial Subdivision and Site Plan, Extension of Time for Completion of MPC Review and Action until July 14, 2020:** Mr. Behler made a motion to acknowledge the grant of the extension of time; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

## **8. Public to be Heard:**

The Board held a brief executive session regarding a land acquisition matter.

There being no further comments or business the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart

