



Allen Township Supervisors

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ALLEN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

A **General Meeting** of the Allen Township Supervisors was held on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at the Allen Township Municipal Building, 4714 Indian Trail Road, Northampton, Pennsylvania 18067. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Chairman Larry Oberly.

Roll Call: Gary Behler – Present; Bruce Frack - Present; Gerald Montanari - Present; Dale N. Hassler – Present; Larry Oberly- Present; Robert Cox, P.E., P.L.S. (Barry Isett & Associates, Inc.) – Present; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr. Esq. - Present; and Ilene M. Eckhart – Present

Public Hearings: No Public Hearings

Public to be Heard: Jeff Dorn, Debbie Lane, voiced concerns regarding the through traffic in Drexel Heights. He commented regarding the speed bumps but asked that other efforts be considered. Mr. Hassler suggested the temporary closure of Debbie Road. He felt that it may cause other problems. Mr. Oberly further commented that every sign involved with the detour has been permitted as part of the PennDOT Highway Occupancy permit. He did not feel that the road should be closed – if it is not physically closed. Mr. Oberly noted that he lived on Atlas Road but that he did not find it as bad as it. He noted

Shelly Dorn, Debbie Road, voiced additional concerns regarding the traffic cutting through Debbie Lane and Drexel Drive.

Sandra Blaukovitch, Debbie Lane, voiced concerns regarding the number of vehicles coming through the development. She felt there was not any common sense.

Evangelos Lambinides, 667 Buckingham Drive, voiced concerns regarding the removal of the street trees as proposed by the Township pursuant to the recent letter received from the Township. He felt removal of the trees would be a negative step concerning the beauty of the development. He understood the utility conflicts and further he recommended suing Omega Homes for the poor workmanship in the development.

Unfinished Business

- A. **Rockefeller Lot #5 Request for Construction Hours:** Johanna Chervak, Rockefeller Development Group was present to discuss the request for a one-hour extension of the construction work hours on Lot 5. The township ordinance currently allows construction

from 7AM to 7PM, and we are requesting to work from 6AM to 7PM. She explained if the Board was amenable to the same, the site contractors will work from 6AM until 6PM, and the steel and concrete subcontractors will work until 7pm. She explained the one-hour extended work-day will benefit the overall productivity by staggering work and will reduce the number of days under construction. Additionally, she noted this will reduce the risk of site work operations continuing through the winter, reducing weather delay risk. The request to perform night-shift work for a duration of 8 weeks between the hours of 7PM and 5AM; commencing on 7/1/18. Ms. Chervak explained this work is limited to scope on the Willow Brook Golf Course. The primary driver for the night-shift work request is to provide a safer environment for golf course patrons and staff by reducing the use of larger equipment during golf course operational hours. The night shift work will be comprised of excavation, mass grading and fine grading.

Mr. Behler would agree with the first extension (1 hour beyond permitted time in the agreement draft). Mr. Hassler further agreed with the one-hour extension – but not working through the evening. Mr. Oberly was concerned with working basically around the clock. He further questioned how is this a golfcourse safety issue. Additionally, he questioned the requirement regarding the proximity to the Catasauqua Water Supply Wells. He would like documentation that this has been resolved with Catasauqua. Mr. Frack felt the work should not go beyond 8 PM. Ms. Chervak indicated the proposed extend hours would be about eight weeks in duration. Mr. Frack made a motion to authorize work from 6 AM to 8 PM; seconded by Mr. Behler. On the motion, all yes. Mr. Hassler made a motion to deny the request for a second shift pursuant to the request; seconded by Mr. Behler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

- B. Rockefeller Lot #4 Request for Modification of Final Plan Approval Conditions, Willowbrook Road Bridge Replacement:** Mr. Treadwell explained the request of Rockefeller Development Group, dated May 25, 2018 which requested relief of the condition which required a widened bridge as the replacement of the Willowbrook Road Bridge across the Catasauqua Creek. Mr. Hassler voiced concerns regarding widening the bridge to a three lane bridge. He felt the widening of the traffic would invite additional traffic northward to areas of the Township where truck traffic is prohibited (Willowbrook north and Savage Road). Mr. Hassler felt the harder the physical condition is the better chance the Township regarding making truck traffic into these areas difficult. He further felt the Township should not be involved with the County. He also questioned the widening of the bridge to three lanes, as he felt it was not in line with the original subdivision plan and was not originally proposed for widening as the placement of the West Bullshead Road/Willowbrook Road signal poles would have been installed in different locations.

Mr. Oberly felt the traffic volume was already there to warrant the widened bridge. Messrs. Knoll and Philpot disagreed with the current volume of traffic making it a necessity.

Mr. Behler agreed with Mr. Oberly. He felt the traffic already warrants the widening of the bridge. Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to work with the Northampton County General Purpose Authority, Northampton County and the Rockefeller Development

Group to negotiate an agreement for the design and construction of the third lane for the Northampton County Bridge #124; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes with the exception of Mr. Hassler who voted no. Mr. Cox questioned the Lot #4 condition and any change in the approval motion.

- C. **Coplay Northampton Bridge Replacement Beam Delivery, Request for Right of Entry Howertown Park/Short Lane:** Messrs. Larry Franko (Pennoni) and Jared Musser (Trumbull Construction) were present to discuss the right of entry agreement, with the conditions as follows (as provided by the Township Engineer) and the legal agreement review with security per the Solicitors satisfaction. Mr. Cox raised the concern for moving the beams in the overnight hours vs. daytime hours. Mr. Oberly raised the concern of the utility work along the north side of Rt. 329 and the condition of flagged daytime traffic. Mr. Franko indicated he was concerned about the safety issue. He was concerned about backing up Canal Street at night time due to safety concerns.

Mr. Hassler made a motion to grant the right of entry agreement for the Howertown Park and Short Lane pursuant to the following conditions with the security in the amount of \$5,000; seconded by Mr. Frack. All yes. This is planned for the week of July 16th or the following week.

- D. **Township Yard Waste Drop Off/Pickup Area, Further Discussion re: Security and Operations:** Ms. Eckhart reviewed the estimate of Altronics Security System in the amount of \$2,199 for the installation of two additional cameras to address the yard waste drop off/pickup area. Mr. Hassler made a motion to authorize purchase and installation in the amount of \$2,199; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the question from the audience concerning the pixels' capacity of the cameras, it was indicated that the additional cameras were two-megapixel high definition infrared cameras. The audience member suggested eight megapixels minimum. Based on the suggestion, Mr. Hassler and Mr. Frack withdrew their motions until a demonstration can be planned. The quote is for 2-megapixel high definition it was felt that 8 megapixels would be a better improvement.
- E. **PennDOT response Speed Limit Study (Rt. 329, 3016, 3017 Allen/East Allen Townships):** Mr. Oberly read the PennDOT response for the reduced speed limit for these roadways pursuant to the Allen/East Allen request. The request to reduce the speeds was denied by PennDOT.
- F. **Allen Township Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan, Toole Recreation, Final Plan Authorization to Amend Comprehensive Plan of 2017 to Integrate Plan Component:** Ms. Eckhart indicated that the draft plan is ready for the intermunicipal review process. Mr. Behler made a motion to send the document to the LVPC and surrounding municipalities for review comments upon formal receipt of PA DCNR's acceptance of the draft plan; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

- G. **Commercial Fire Inspection Proposal, Barry Isett & Associates, Inc:** Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize proceeding with the proposal dated June 21, 2018 to develop a Commercial Property Inspection Program pursuant to the Barry Isett & Associates, Inc proposal dated June 21, 2018; seconded by Mr. Hassler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.
- H. **Property Maintenance 2015 Version, Draft Authorization to Advertise:** Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize advertisement of the draft ordinance which would implement the 2015 version of the UCC Property Maintenance Code by reference; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.
- I. **JW Development Items – For Board of Supervisors Direction Prior to Planning Recommendation:** Ms. Eckhart summarized several items were discussed at the last Planning Commission meeting which would require Supervisors input prior to the Planning Commission's rendering of a recommendation. She summarized the items included the following: Proposed Seemsville Road Relocation, Signalization and Transfer of Road Segment to Non-Commonwealth Ownership, Internal Road – Form of Future Ownership, City of Bethlehem Mud Lane Water Extension, Proposed Form of Dedication of Open Space concerning the revised plan submission of May 25, 2018. She requested the Board consider moving the meeting to the Fire Company Building to allow for an adequate capacity for attendees. Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize the advertisement of the July 10th, 2018 Board of Supervisors Meeting relocation to the Allen Township Fire Company Building; seconded by Mr. Hassler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

New Business

- A. **Act 537 Plan Status and Discussion re: Update:** Ms. Andrea Martin, EIT provided an outline of the status of the Township Act 537 Plan. She recommended that the Board consider authorizing her to meet along with DEP and the Township Manager to outline a path for an update in consideration of the date of the plan and the Township's new Comprehensive Plan goals. Following some discussion regarding the merit of the Act 537 Plan Update, Mr. Hassler made motion to authorize the Township Manager and Ms. Martin to meet with DEP to discuss a path for the update of the Act 537 Plan; seconded by Mr. Montanari, Jr. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.
- B. **Request for Special Signage regarding Township Property – Parkview Drive:** Ms. Eckhart detailed the residents request for special signage which would read language that the turnaround is for Fire Vehicle parking only. Mr. Hassler made a motion to establish appropriate signage to indicate that the dead end area of Parkview would serve for Fire Department parking only; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.
- C. **Request for Hidden Driveway Signage, Villani, 4835 Cherryville Road:** Mr. Cox reported on the legislative involvement of the right in right out driveway that resulted in the issuance of the PennDOT permit for the residence at this address. He indicated that

the driveway did not appear to be constructed in accordance with PennDOT's standards. He felt that adding Hidden Driveway signs leaned towards the Township's involvement in a PennDOT issue. Mr. Oberly made a motion to deny the request; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

- D. **Draft Conditional Offer of Employment, Full Time Zoning Officer/Building Code Official:** Ms. Eckhart reviewed the transition Mike Edelman from a part time independent contractor to a full time employee. She presented a recommended draft conditional offer of employment for the Board's consideration to hire Mr. Edelman. Following some clarification regarding the office hours; Mr. Behler made a motion to hire Mr. Edelman upon satisfaction of the draft conditional offer to the position of full time Zoning Officer/Building Code Official; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.
- E. **Flagger Training:** Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize the three seasonal part time road crew employees to attend the upcoming Flagger Training to be held in East Allen Township; seconded by Mr. Hassler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Public to be Heard: Mr. Eugene Clater, Snow Hill Road, commented on the following items concerning related to the Planning Commission: He indicated that on June 12th the 102" wide truck legislation was signed by the Governor. He noted the Howertown Road Bridge replacement has been advanced to the design stage. He commented regarding the Jaindl Basin near Howertown Road and the area of the replacement bridge and that the waiver of sidewalks discussed was only for the northern sidewalks. Regarding the Willowbrook Road Bridge he stressed that he felt three lanes was necessary due to the traffic volumes.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart