



Allen Township Supervisors

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Bruce Frack, Chairman
Dale Hassler, Vice Chairman
Larry Oberly
Alfred Pierce
Gary Behler

Brien Kocher, P.E.
B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr., Esq.
Ilene M. Eckhart, Manager

ALLEN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES Thursday, September 8, 2016

A General Meeting of the Allen Township Supervisors was held on Thursday, September 8, 2016, 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 Bruce Frack.

Roll Call: Bruce Frack - Present; Larry Oberly - Present; Alfred Pierce - Present; Dale N. Hassler – Present; Gary Behler - Present; Brien Kocher, PE - Hanover Engineering Associates, Inc. – Present; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr. Esq. - Present; and Ilene M. Eckhart – Present

Public to be Heard: Mrs. Barbara Sommers, Hogan Way, questioned construction activities on Willowbrook Farms. She questioned if apartments were being constructed. Mr. Bob Dwyer, a representative of the Fuller Trust, was present on another matter and indicated there were no approvals from the Township for any development. He indicated that there was additional future right of way for the widening of Willowbrook Road.

Public Hearings: No scheduled public hearings.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Oberly made a motion to approve the general meeting minutes of August 11th and August 23rd, 2016 and the Comprehensive Plan Workshop minutes of August 2016 as presented, seconded by Mr. Hassler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Reports

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

B. Solicitor: On file.

C. Engineer: On file.

i. **Willowbrook Farm Berm – Earth Disturbance and Driveway Relocation:** Mr. Kocher indicated that there were no revisions received. Mr. Dwyer was present to address any questions.

ii. **Willowbrook Road Construction Activities – Maintenance of Traffic Plan (Follow-Up):** Ms. Eckhart updated the Board regarding the recent meeting for the coordinated maintenance of traffic plan. She explained the immediate work will be the tapping of the Bethlehem Water Main.

iii. **Hampton Ridge North – Request to Commence Maintenance Period:** Mr. Kocher reported that the pre-maintenance inspection would be completed and a report submitted prior to the next Board of Supervisors meeting based on the request received from the developer.

D. Zoning Officer: On file.

i. **Stone Ridge Fence:** Based on the recommendation of the Zoning Officer/Building Code Official, Mr. Hassler made a motion to require the fence; seconded by Mr. Behler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

E. Code Enforcement: On file.

F. Road Superintendent/Public Works Leader: On file.

i. **John Beltz, Completion of 90-Probationary Period:** Mr. Oberly made a motion to approve Mr. John Beltz as a regular full-time employee based upon the successful completion of his probationary period; seconded by Mr. Hassler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

G. Fire Company: On file.

H. Emergency Management Coordinator: On file. Mr. Gary Krill presented his monthly report.

I. Nazareth COG Report: No report.

J. Parks: On file.

i. **Covered Bridge Park – New Driveway – Request for Gate –** Ms. Eckhart indicated there was a concern voiced regarding the new driveway and if a gate or other control mechanism could be installed. The Board agreed to review the driveway and discuss the matter again at a subsequent meeting.

K. First Regional Compost Authority: No report.

L. Stormwater – Nothing to report.

i. **2016-11 Resolution to proceed with the grant and retrofit:** Mr. Oberly made a motion to authorize Ms. Eckhart to proceed with the LSA Monroe Grant application for the

retrofit of the Dry Run Stormwater Detention Pond; seconded by Mr. Behler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Unfinished Business

A. Drexel Heights Water System – Follow-up Mtg with City of Bethlehem: Ms. Eckhart followed up on the meeting and discussions with the City of Bethlehem regarding water system. She indicated she will request the City schedule a meeting with the residents to discuss the issues with the water system directly. She indicated the City was contemplating some improvements to the main line and system which services Drexel Heights and was seeking coordination of some of these improvements with the proposed Rt. 329 Improvement project. She provided a list of the individuals who are experiencing issues with their water service.

B. Hunter Access Program: Ms. Eckhart indicated this was follow-up to the information provided by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Mr. Oberly felt there were many reasons to oppose hunting on the Township properties along the Lehigh River. He felt that the Township Park, Recreation and Open Space Study Committee was in the process of completing the Comprehensive Plan recommendations which would recommend some short and long term goals for the property. He further felt that the plan would entail some educational components which would involve educational activities for school children at the property. Mr. Oberly did not feel the hunters and the school children being present on the property were safe. He further felt the months for hunting would severely limit participation for school children. Mr. Oberly indicated he did not support the program nor the rationale for the program. Mr. Behler understood the intent for passive recreation, but the land is already being hunted because we do not have an enforcement mechanism. Mr. Behler felt the Township could restrict the season and the type of hunting. He indicated he supports archery hunting by permit. Mr. Behler felt that the merits of the Hunter Access Program outweighed the negative and that the program provided a way to control the types of access. Mr. Hassler indicated he was in favor of allowing the program as a stop gap measure with the requirement of the Township residents with a permit for archery only. Mr. Hassler further commented there is no plan currently in place to bring school children to the property for programs. Mr. Hassler was in favor of allowing access without a limit on season. Mr. Hassler felt that if we opt to not enter the program we should post the property to prohibit hunting. Mr. Hassler felt once a plan is in place that would potentially change the situation. Mr. Behler noted that he was a hunter and had no intention to hunt the area. He felt the limited size of the property will self police as hunters become aware of the program. Mr. Frack agreed with both sides but felt the area may be too limited in size. Following some further discussion, Mr. Pierce made a motion to enter the Commonwealth program for archery only hunting with the requirement to be a Township resident and that the program needs to be in compliance with our land restrictions; seconded by Mr. Behler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes with the exception of Mr. Oberly who voted no.

C. Paving and Curb Specification – Draft Code Amendment: Ms. Eckhart presented a draft pursuant to the Board's direction. Mr. Pierce questioned the distinction between Arterial and Collector Roads. Mr. Oberly made a motion to forward and advertise accordingly; seconded by Mr. Hassler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

D. Freight Growth/Infrastructure and Land Use Planning Coordination – Multi-Municipal Study and Grant Opportunity (LVPC Meeting Follow-up): Mr. Oberly made a motion to proceed with the grant application to perform the study as outlined by Ms. Eckhart; seconded Mr. Behler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

New Business

A. 2017 Non-Uniformed Pension MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation): Mr. Oberly made a motion to accept the calculation; seconded by Mr. Behler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Public to be Heard: Don Noll, Pinehurst, thanked the Allen Township Volunteer Fire Company for their presentation at the Willow Green community and also for arranging for the Northampton Borough to assist with the work to the flagpole.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart