



Allen Township Supervisors

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Paul Balliet, Chairman
Bruce Frack, Vice Chairman
Dale N. Hassler
Alfred Pierce
Larry Oberly

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

ALLEN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 13, 2015

A General Meeting of the Allen Township Supervisors was held on Thursday, August 13, 2015, 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 Paul Balliet.

Roll Call: Paul Balliet - Present; Larry Oberly - Present; Alfred Pierce - Present; Dale N. Hassler - Present; Bruce Frack - Present; Brien Kocher, P.E., Hanover Engineering Associates, Inc. - Present; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr., Esq. - Absent; and Ilene M. Eckhart - Present

Public to be Heard: No comments from the audience.

Public Hearings: Donato Trinkle Conditional Use Hearing: Mr. Hassler made a motion to open the hearing pursuant to the published notice; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. See full stenographic transcript. Mr. Piece made a motion to approve the conditional request use requested subject to the engineer's review and confirmation of the record that was made before us; seconded by Mr. Oberly. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Mr. Oberly made a motion to close the hearing; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Ms. Eckhart indicated that the opinion would be delivered to the Board at the first scheduled meeting in September.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Oberly made a motion to approve the minutes of the Joint Planning Commission Board of Supervisors Meeting of June 24 2015, July 9, 2015 and July 28, 2015 Board of Supervisors Meeting as presented, seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Reports

A. Treasurer: Mr. Hassler 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. Ms. Eckhart requested a brief executive session following the regular meeting session to discuss the acquisition of land.

C. **Engineer:** On file.

i. **Homestead Estates Swale Investigation:** Mr. Kocher indicated that he did perform a field inspection regarding the swale. He explained that the swale was difficult to establish throughout the development of the swale. Mr. Kocher recommended reviewing the Natural Areas Ordinance and to also give consideration to natural swales pursuant to the Best Management Practices described in the Township MS-4. Mr. Kocher explained the Township may allow an exemption to allow the root growth as a Best Management Practice. The Supervisors will review the recommendation along with the subject property and revisit the issue at the next meeting.

ii. **Walker Drive Stormwater Investigation:** Mr. Kocher explained the design of the swales at the corner of Gray and Walker. Mr. Pierce questioned the placement of the shed in the swale. Mr. Hassler questioned the bio-mesh filter that was temporarily installed was removed. Mr. Kocher confirmed the bio-mesh filter was appropriate to be removed. The Owner of Lot #48 commented regarding the direction of the swale impacting his garage. At the conclusion of a lengthy discussion regarding the possible effects of the Residences at Willow Ridge site work, the Board agreed that the area of the singles and twins required consideration of finding some resolve through the Township due to the situation of the default of the developer, which in effect has left the Township in the role of the developer. Mr. Kocher will arrange a meeting in the field to follow-up with these concerns and report back to the Board with recommendations to resolve the issues.

iii. **Trinkle Planning Module:** Mr. Frack made a motion to approve the Trinkle Planning Module and authorize the signatures of the Township; seconded by Mr. Pierce. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

iv. **Willow Ridge – natural plantings:** Mr. Kocher reported on the seeding of natural areas.

D. **Zoning Officer:** On file.

i. Mobile Sporting Equipment – use in Township right of ways: Ms. Eckhart reviewed the complaint correspondence regarding use of mobile basketball hoops in the Township’s right of ways. She presented two examples of possible ordinance amendments to regulate placement of certain items in the right of way. Mr. Pierce felt that this did not belong in the Zoning Ordinance, as per the one example provided. He felt the Solicitor should look at the issue at hand and make a recommendation.

ii. Brake Retarder – Ordinance Request: The Board reviewed the matter and felt the criteria could not be met due to the steepness of Cherryville Road.

E. **Code Enforcement:** On file.

F. **Public Works:** On file.

G. **Fire Company:** On file.

H. **Emergency Management Coordinator:** On file.

I. Nazareth COG Report: On file.

J. Parks: On file. Ms. Eckhart requested the Board consider an area of additional fencing in the amount of \$3,395 to act as a barrier between the parking area and roadway at the Dog Park. In addition, she presented a draft of rules and regulations which she would like the Board consider for signage. Mr. Frack made a motion accept the proposal of Anchor Fence Company in the amount of \$3,395 for the additional section (140 feet) of fence for the dog park; seconded by Mr. Oberly. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Unfinished Business

A. Allen Township Open Space, Recreation, & Park Plan – Recommendation of Planner per Study Committee Recommendation: Mr. Pierce made a motion to accept the Toole Recreation Planning, Stromberg/Garrigan & Associate and the Natural Lands Trust proposal for the Allen Township Open Space, Recreation & Park Plan in the amount of \$77,895.00 (790 Hours) contingent upon PADCNR; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

B. Walker/Hayes – Through Traffic Concerns – Follow-up: Mr. Kocher provided a brief report regarding the intersection concerns voiced at a previous meeting. Mr. Pierce felt the Engineer should look at the parking issue of commercial vehicles. Additionally, public comments were received and reiterated regarding the request to place additional stop signs at the intersection of Walker and Hayes as a speed reduction measure. Mr. Pierce expressed strong concerns regarding the use of stop signs for speed control. The Township Engineer concurred.

C. Follow-up report meeting with City of Bethlehem re: water service north of Rt. 329: Mr. Hassler provided a recent report of the meeting with City of Bethlehem concerning water service west of Howertown Road and north of Rt. 329.

D. Report of Zoning Appeal Received – LVTA Addition to Parking Area – Impervious Coverage Relief: Ms. Eckhart updated the Board on the LVTA request for variance. She indicated Mr. Clater agreed to attend and observe the testimony as the matter of impervious coverage limitations was current before the Planning Commission as a general review item.

F. Yard Waste Drop Off – Contaminant Dumping: Ms. Eckhart requested the Board readdress the matter of contaminant dumping at the Township Yard Waste Drop Off. Mr. Pierce suggested the Board consider hiring an attendant for four to six hours on Saturdays during the season. He felt the duties should not include loading no unloading. Mr. Oberly made a motion to seek applicants for the attendant position; seconded by Mr. Pierce. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

G. Truck Traffic Restriction – Savage Road Corridor (Traffic Study): Mr. Hassler made motion to authorize the Township Engineer to perform a Traffic Study, Savage, Willowbrook West and East Bullshead; seconded by Mr. Pierce. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

New Business - No New Business Items.

Public to be Heard: No comments from the audience.

The Board held a brief executive session to discuss a property acquisition. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart