



# Allen Township Supervisors

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## ALLEN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, May 22, 2018**

A **General Meeting** of the Allen Township Supervisors was held on Tuesday, May 22, 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:** No Public Comments

### Unfinished Business

- A. **Savage Road Extension, Offer of Dedication- Expiration December 2018:** Mr. Treadwell explained the Offer for Dedication of Savage Road. He said it was proposed for Dedication approximately 10-15 years ago and that the expiration will be December 2018. Mr. Hassler questioned the PPL encroachment issue previously discussed. Ms. Eckhart stated that she submitted to PPL an Obstruction Permit and that they looked at it based on the plans that were submitted. Mr. Oberly felt that the Howertown Road Bridge Project could necessitate a bypass road. He stated that having this right-of-way could enable the Township to put a temporary road there quickly and it would eliminate the bridge problem. He felt that giving it up would be a mistake. Mr. Behler questioned if the expiration of time could be extended. Mr. Treadwell stated that the Township had 21 years from the initial offer and that perhaps the Township Engineer should look at the PPL conflict issue. Mr. Behler stated that we may want to reach out to Mr. Miller about extending the expiration date. Mr. Treadwell responded that the Township could do that. Mr. Oberly stated that he would like to hold it in reserve until the bridge gets replaced. Mr. Hassler made a motion to authorize the Township Manager, Ilene Eckhart, to talk to Dale Miller to propose a 5 or 10 year extension of offer; seconded by Gary Behler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

- B. Hampton Ridge North, Expiration of Financial Security June 1, 2018, Authorization to Draw if Acceptable Extension Not Received:** Mr. Oberly stated that Hampton Ridge North has a financial Security that is going to expire on June 1, 2018 and the agreement is that unless it is extended, authorization will be given to draw on the balance. He stated the approximate balance is \$27,554.17. Ms. Eckhart stated she is going to contact the American Bank. Mr. Behler made a motion authorizing the Township to draw down on the Financial Security from Hampton Ridge North if an extension is not received; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.
- C. Willowbrook Golf Pro- Shop, Sewer Planning- Operations and Maintenance Agreement:** Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the Onlot Sewage Management Agreement with Willowbrook Golf Pro-Shop; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.
- D. Fencing Estimates, Barbara Drive (rear of Dog Park Property) and Summerglen Stormwater Detention Area:** Ms. Eckhart gave a verbal report on the fencing estimates for Barbara Drive and Summerglen. She reported that the estimate for the 4' black chain link fence for Barbara Drive was \$2,475.00 and the Summerglen estimate was \$22,950. She proposed that they move forward with the Barbara Drive work. Due to the estimate being too high, she advised she will advertise bids for the fence at Summerglen. Mr. Hassler made a motion to approve the 4' black chain link fence to be done by Anchor Fence Company, Inc. for Barbara Drive; seconded by Mr. Frack. Mr. Hassler made a motion to authorize Ms. Eckhart to advertise bids for the fencing at Summerglen; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Ms. Eckhart reported on the 2018 Dodge 3500 diesel truck replacement. She stated that there is an issue with ordering that vehicle due to production limitations. Mr. Gogle got an estimate from Hondru Dodge for a 2018 Ram 3500 diesel truck which includes that same add-ons with a price increase of \$4,300. Mr. Hassler made a motion authorizing the purchase of the 2018 Dodge Ram 3500 truck; seconded by Mr. Behler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Ms. Eckhart reported that there were additional problems with the street sweeper that we share with North Catasauqua and that Mr. Gogle will be getting demonstration units to look at over the next few months. She stated that she spoke with Council President Peter Paone of North Catasauqua and he advised her that they are going to get a fair market value on the sweeper and that he would like to know if we intend on using the street sweeper for the rest of the year. She advised that we will have to address this issue in 2019 and we will look into purchasing a new street sweeper at that time.

### **New Business**

- A. Request for Fire Police, Kreidersville Covered Bridge Festival:** The Kreidersville Covered Bridge Association is requesting the use of Fire Police at the festival on Sunday, June 3, 2018 at 9AM for the Run. Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize the use of Fire Police at the Kreidersville Covered Bridge Festival on June 3, 2018; seconded by Mr. Montanari.

On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes with the exception of Mr. Hassler who abstained.

**B. Mass Gathering Event Request- Willowbrook Farm Western Heritage Festival:**

Phil Hussmann, 2017 W. Bullshead Rd, he stated that he scheduled this event for June 30-July 1<sup>st</sup> at Willowbrook Farm and he is expecting 1,000-1,500 people to attend this event. He said he spoke with the Zoning Officer, Michael Edelman, about the permit and he stated that he will make provisions to the sanitary as directed by Mr. Edelman in order to be in compliance. Mr. Behler questioned Mr. Cox if the road will be available for this event. Mr. Cox reported that the road is strong, wide and able to be traveled on for this event. He said he was informed that the Allen Township Fire Department will not be able to provide support for this event and that he is getting the area firefighters to be available as well as using Bear Securities. Mr. Montanari asked if this will be an annual event. Mr. Hussmann stated that if this event is successful then they will bring the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association and hold this event annually. Mr. Treadwell stated that there is a bonding requirement and that they are working through that. Mr. Treadwell stated that the Board of Supervisors allows the Code Enforcement Officer to issue the permit as long as it complies with the Code.

Ms. Eckhart explained the votes of recommendation of the May 21, 2018 Planning Commission Meeting. To get to the Board's wishes was the intention of the Planning Commission vote. She further explained the Comprehensive Plan Amendment to keep both documents consistent. Mr. Behler provided a brief explanation of his feelings regarding the zoning changes and why he changed his vote. Mr. Hassler felt that the Board should keep it zoned as Rural. He said the property is a field today and it would be a missed opportunity because if the Township goes for a change later it will be too late. Mr. Cox added that he felt the current layout was fairly maxed out. Mr. Treadwell stated that before the Board makes a decision about changing the zoning on this property, changing the zoning from R1 to Rural or IC to Rural, they need to analyze the positive and negative ramifications before they take the next step. He said changing this property from R1 to Rural or IC to Rural would bring the property value down. Mr. Oberly stated that they will table the recommendations and not make a decision at this time.

**Public to be Heard:** Bob Bysher, 1275 Weaversville Rd, he stated that he petitioned PennDOT to put truck restrictions signs on Weaversville Rd and they called him back and told him that they would put the signs in place. He stated that although there were changes made to the Senate Bill, any existing signage or restrictions remain in place. He said PennDOT installed a bypass sign for trucks on Weaversville Rd and he was concerned that when trucks pull out on Weaversville Rd they will miss the sign and make a right turn in the area of Atlas Rd. He is requesting that a temporary sign be put with the same restrictions as the 102 or larger because that sign is masked with other signs now. Mr. Oberly suggested placing a sign at the top end of Atlas Rd, near the cemetery, advising truck drivers that they cannot make a right turn onto Weaversville Rd. Mr. Behler stated that prior restrictions are on local roads, not State roads and that Weaversville Rd is a State road. Mr. Bysher further clarified that PennDOT would have to go through the normal engineering and traffic studies in order to put a restriction on the road and if a restriction was placed on a State road by PennDOT, that would remain

in place, as well as weight restrictions. He stated that if there is not signage in that area then Weaversville Rd. will get abused because there will be a lot of traffic on that road.

Gene Clater, Snow Hill Rd, He stated that the Howertown Rd bridge project is going through approval now and the public comment time period ended on May 22, 2018. The Preliminary Engineering phase is next year and there will be a meeting with the Township and the Public. He said it will be a 2.5 million dollar project to replace that bridge and \$148,000. of that is for right-of-way acquisitions. Construction will begin 2021. He said he had discussions with PennDOT and there is no way this project will get cut because it is the top one or two on their list. There is \$150,000 put aside for an engineering study next year on what the options are for eliminating the s-curves on Weaversville Rd. There will be discussions on what funding will be used for this project. He further clarified that PennDOT could not put the restrictions on Weaversville Rd without doing the study and the main reason was the right-of-way and the issue with the curves with oversized trucks. The engineering study holds up with the new restrictions.

Phil Hussmann, 2017 W. Bullshead Rd, Mr. Hussmann asked about the approval of his permit for the Willowbrook Farm Western Heritage Festival. Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize the Zoning Officer and the Code Enforcement Officer to issue the permit for the Willowbrook Farm Western Heritage Festival pending all requirements are met; seconded by Mr. Hassler. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Rick Novak, Bally Drive, questioned if W. Bullshead Rd, E. Bullshead Rd, and Savage Rd are truck restricted and if it is going to hold up with the new law. Mr. Oberly said he hopes it is going to hold up.

Bob Bysher, 1275 Weaversville Rd, He asked what the Township can do about the sign on Weaversville Rd. Ms. Eckhart said they are going to have to seek an Amendment to the Temporary Signal Permit. She advised that she will check with PennDOT to be sure that it doesn't block anything. It has to be back enough so people can make the turn. Mr. Oberly suggested that the sign could go up at the first entrance and then it wouldn't be inside the permit. Mr. Montanari asked if the speed bumps would be put on the road. Mr. Oberly said no decision was made at the last meeting but that they were going to look into it. Mr. Bysher said he has seen a dramatic reduction of trucks on Weaversville Rd since the signs have been put up. Mr. Oberly commented that the predominant length of Weaversville Rd is in East Allen Township, not Allen Township.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart