



Allen Township Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes May 23, 2023 6:00 P.M.

A General Meeting of the Allen Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at the Allen Township Fire Company Building, located at 3530 Howertown Road, Northampton, PA. Mr. Hassler led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1. Roll Call:

Present: Gary Behler; Dale Hassler; Paul Link; Tim Paul; Jason Frack; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr., Esq.; Ilene Eckhart, Manager; Maurin Ritinski, Administrative Assistant; Tom Gogle, Public Works Crew Leader and Amber Averbeck, Records Clerk/Receptionist

Absent: Stan Wojciechowski, PE, CME and Andrea Martin, EIT

2. **Announcements and/or Actions to Add New Items to Current Agenda:** Ms. Eckhart indicated that she would like to update the Board regarding one item and request an item to be added to tonight's agenda.

Ms. Eckhart explained that she has received the draft of the River Central Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan. This is a collaborative with Catasauqua Borough, East Allen Township, Hanover Township (Northampton County), Northampton Borough, North Catasauqua Borough, and Allen Township. She reported that she will circulate the draft to the Board and provide a link to the website.

Ms. Eckhart reported that she has received notification of grant awards and requests that the Board consider adding this item to tonight's agenda for further discussion. Mr. Behler made a motion to add this topic to tonight's agenda, seconded by Mr. Paul. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

3. **Public Hearings:** No public hearings.

4. **Public to be Heard:** No public comment.

5. **Unfinished Business**

A. Allen Development Partners Preliminary/Final Land Development Plans – Acknowledgement of Grant of MPC Time Extension: Ms. Eckhart indicated that she has received correspondence from Allen Development Partners regarding an extension for the Wawa Land Development Plan until September 4, 2023. Mr. Behler made a motion to acknowledge the grant of the MPC time extension for the Allen Development Partners Preliminary/Final Land Development Plans

relating to Wawa until September 4, 2023, seconded by Mr. Paul. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisor present voted yes.

B. 559 Atlas Road Land Development Plan – Acknowledgement of Expiration of MPC Timeline/Withdrawal of Plan by Application (Correspondence of May 11, 2023): Ms. Eckhart explained that the proposed twin/duplex plan was tabled at the March Board of Supervisors Meeting. Ms. Eckhart reported that she has received correspondence from the applicant indicating that the property has since been sold to an individual for the building of a single family dwelling and that the applicant for the submitted twin/duplex plan no longer wishes to obtain approval of a twin/duplex at this property. Mr. Treadwell commented that the Board had previously denied the waiver requests during their March meeting. Mr. Link made a motion to deny the 559 Atlas Road Land Development Plan per the most recent Barry Isett Review Letter (dated March 8, 2023), seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

C. Indian Trail Road Bridge Replacement – Full Detour – May 30th, 2023: Ms. Eckhart provided the Board with an update on this project. She reported that she discussed the start date with the project engineer and it was relayed to her that the full detour will be active on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at the direction of PennDOT. Ms. Eckhart explained that PennDOT is anticipating additional traffic due to the Memorial Day holiday and that this is the reason for delaying the full detour.

Ms. Eckhart provided an update regarding the Howertown Road Bridge Replacement. She indicated that roadwork is expected to begin next week with traffic being flagged in order to install a major cross pipe. The detour will be activated on Monday, June 5th, 2023 and will only allow northbound traffic through the site.

Mr. Hassler stated that the Fire Company has plans in place to provide efficient responses to emergency calls for the duration of both bridge replacement detours.

6. New Business

A. Lappawinzo Fish and Game Association Mortgage Burning Event – Request for Fireworks Display – June 10th: Ms. Eckhart stated that she received a letter requesting authorization from the Township to permit a fireworks display during the Lappawinzo Fish and Game Association’s mortgage burning event on June 10th. She explained that this request must be brought before the Board of Supervisors under the ordinance regarding nuisances. She indicated that the Board may grant a non-typical fireworks display. Mr. Behler inquired what limits the ordinance lists for the duration and timeline. Ms. Eckhart explained that only one hour is permitted in a 24-hour timeframe. Mr. Frack stated that their request letter confirms that they will be adhering to the one hour time limit. Mr. Behler questioned the type of fireworks that will be used. Ms. Eckhart stated that she is unsure but assumes they would be using non-consumer grade fireworks. She also stated that some consumer grade fireworks are similar to non-consumer grade fireworks. Mr. Link noted that some fireworks, such as non-consumer grade, may require a license in order to detonate. Mr. Behler questioned if the Fire Company will be present at the bonfire. Mr. Hassler noted that he does not expect the fire to spread and they will only attend if they are requested. Mr. Link made a motion to approve the request for a fireworks display on June 10, 2023 for the Lappawinzo Fish and Game Association’s mortgage burning event, seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

B. Request for Fire Police for Stone Church Memorial Day Procession – May 28th, 2023: Mr. Hassler explained that this is an annual event in which the Fire Company provides safety for the Memorial Day procession. Mr. Hassler explained the route that is taken and indicated that the road is only shut down at the most for five (5) to ten (10) minutes at a time. Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the request for Fire Police for the Stone Church Memorial Day Procession on May 28, 2023, seconded by Mr. Link. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes with the exception of Mr. Hassler who abstained.

C. Grant Awards Update (*Item Added to Agenda*): Ms. Eckhart reported that the Township received the grant award announcement that was applied for during the LSA Grant Application Rounds for Monroe and Lehigh/Northampton Counties (2022 rounds) to request funds to replace a backhoe. The application was for a 2023 John Deere 410L with an estimated cost of \$159,900 during the application submissions in 2022. Recent notices from the Commonwealth have announced the fund requests total award in the amount of \$219,220. Ms. Eckhart explained that an updated quote will be needed along with updated estimates for the sale of the current backhoe. She recommends the Board consider replacing the large equipment trailer as there is flexibility to utilize the any overage fund awarded. Ms. Eckhart explained that this trailer has been deteriorating and is used to move large equipment such as a backhoe. Mr. Behler stated that if the trailer has deteriorated to the point of it needing to be replaced he is in favor of covering any additional amount due on the trailer by utilizing other funds. Mr. Behler made a motion to proceed with using the awarded grant funds towards a new backhoe and obtain a quote for replacement of the large equipment trailer, seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Ms. Eckhart also reported that funding backlog has been received that was applied for to obtain sewer equipment. She explained that she is working with Senator Miller's office with regard to a duplicate award from an application several years ago (from the LSA Statewide Application Cycle). Ms. Eckhart stated that the funds would need to be used in a sewer related project with a scope change, which will be approved by a special order of business by the CFA. She indicated that there is currently no need to sewer related equipment at this point without duplicating equipment. She recommends considering a sewer related project, such as manhole rehab and possibly lining improvements to the two oldest sections of public sewer. These areas are Boro Vu and Northampton Heights/North Hills/Cherryville Heights. The proposed project would be for retrofitting manholes and lining of lines. Ms. Eckhart estimates the cost to be roughly the same as the sewer televising equipment and sewer flusher (approximately \$200,000). Mr. Behler questioned the condition of the lines and recommends that if anything needs to be replaced in the next five years the Township should be looking to make these improvements. Mr. Gogle reported that Ms. Martin has a thumb drive with images from the lines and that she will be able to provide additional information. Ms. Eckhart stated that if Ms. Martin saw anything urgent that she would have immediately alerted the Township. Ms. Eckhart explained that this would be a similar project to the Willow Green improvements that were previously completed in an attempt to be proactive. Mr. Gogle stated that manhole repairs and upgrades would be beneficial. A proposal for the lining project will be put together and will be brought back to the Board for consideration.

7. Public to be Heard: Larry Hiestand, 4051 Kreidersville Road, expressed concerns with truck traffic and Cesanek Road. Mr. Hiestand indicated that he recalls Cesanek Road being for passenger

vehicles only and a proposed barrier to restrict trucks. He stated that he witnessed a 53' truck coming out of Cesanek Road and making a right turn onto Howertown Road. Mr. Hassler stated that a discussion was had regarding a barrier and it was brought to the Board's attention the liability it would cause if a truck were to knock it down and damage a car behind the truck or injure someone if it fell. Mr. Hassler stated that other solutions have been reviewed. Mr. Treadwell commented that it is a communication issue. Ms. Eckhart explained that no restrictions were placed on the highway occupancy permit from PennDOT but confirmed there is a condition in the Township's plan approval. Mr. Behler stated that a flashing light should be at the internal turnaround circle. Mr. Hassler stated that the signage is misleading which states "all trucks must turn left" which is located 150-feet from Howertown Road. Mr. Hassler suggested that "no trucks" be painted on the road. Ms. Eckhart also agreed that the signage is misleading and explained the confusion that ensued from the temporary detour signage that was placed for internal paving. Mr. Behler commented that he does not recommend the public driving on Cesanek Road as it is still a private road and has not yet been dedicated to the Township. Mr. Hiestand voiced concerns of how the bridge replacement detours will impact traffic. Mr. Hassler commented that signage to prevent trucks on E. Bullshead Road were placed and that Ms. Eckhart received a call on Monday about a truck on this road.

8. Announcements: Mr. Hassler announced the upcoming meetings. All meetings and events below will be held at the Allen Township Fire Company unless otherwise indicated. These meetings and events are as follows:

- Park and Recreation Board – Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 5:30 PM – Site Visits: Kreidersville Covered Bridge Park
- Board of Supervisors – Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM
- Planning Commission – Monday, June 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM
- Board of Supervisors – Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 6:00 PM
- Park and Recreation Board – Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 6:00 PM

9. Adjournment: There being no further comments or business the meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart



Allen Township Board of Supervisors

Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, May 23, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Location: Allen Township Fire Company Building
3530 Howertown Road, Northampton, PA

The Allen Township Board of Supervisors Meetings will be held at the Allen Township Fire Company Building, located at 3530 Howertown Road, Northampton, PA.

A summary of the public comment policy and procedures is located at the end of the agenda as a reference for individuals wishing to address the Board during the "Public to be Heard" segments.

Note: Per Act 65 of 2021 requirements, this agenda was posted to the Township website and physical location of the proposed meeting, by Township staff on: May 19, 2023

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Roll Call

_____ Tim Paul, Board Member

_____ Stan Wojciechowski, PE, CME, Engineer

_____ Jason Frack, Board Member

_____ B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr. Esq., Solicitor

_____ Paul Link, Board Member

_____ Ilene M. Eckhart, Manager

_____ Gary Behler, Vice Chairman

_____ Dale N. Hassler, Chairman

4. Announcements and/or Actions to Add Items to Agenda

5. Public Hearings

6. Public to be Heard (Residents shall limit their comments to no more than three minutes)

7. Unfinished Business

A. Allen Development Partners Preliminary/Final Land Development Plans - Acknowledgement of Grant of MPC Time Extension

B. 559 Atlas Road Land Development Plan – Acknowledgment of Expiration of MPC Timeline/Withdrawal of Plan by Applicant (correspondence of May 11, 2023)

C. Indian Trail Road Bridge Replacement – Full Detour - May 30th, 2023

8. New Business

- A. Lappawinzo Fish and Game Association Mortgage Burning Event – Request for Fireworks Display June 10**
- B. Request for Fire Police for Stone Church Memorial Day Procession – May 28th, 2023**

9. Public to be Heard (Residents shall limit their comments to no more than three minutes)

10. Next Meetings All meetings will be held at the Allen Township Fire Company Building, located at 3530 Howertown Road, Northampton, PA

- ◆ Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, June 13, 2023 6:00 PM
- ◆ Planning Commission, Monday, June 19, 2023 6:00 PM
- ◆ Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, June 27, 2023 6:00 PM
- ◆ Park and Recreation Board, Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:00 PM

11. Adjournment

-Public Comment Policy and Procedures-

1. A period for public comment will be held at the beginning of the meeting and at the conclusion of all agenda business items. Any public comments or questions shall be reserved until time on the agenda. Public comments and questions will not be permitted during the course of the Board's/Commission's business items.

2. Individuals who speak must give their name, address and municipality prior to speaking.

3. Time limit on length of public comment or presentation will be three (3) minutes per person, per meeting.

4. A speaker will only be granted one three (3) minute extension, if given, for a maximum speaking time of six (6) minutes, at the discretion of the Chairman.

5. Comments/questions shall be directed to the Board/Commission members only.

6. Procedures will be in place to maintain proper decorum for the hearing. Public participation will be allowed but the Board will ensure respect for all citizens and maintain order. Personal attacks and outbursts will be ruled out of order. The Chairman of the Board or Commission may, within this discretion, rule out of order scandalous, impertinent, and redundant comment or any comment the discernible purpose of which is to disrupt or prevent the conduct of the business of the meeting.

7. Individuals with lengthy written statements may submit them for the record and provide a verbal summary of three (3) minutes or less. Interested persons may email public comments via email, sent to manager@allentownship.org until 3:00pm local time the day of each meeting or by contacting the Township office. Public comment received via email will be read at the outset of the meeting. If you require an auxiliary aid, service or other accommodation, please contact the Allen Township offices in advance. In addition, an audio recording of the meeting will be posted to the Township website: www.allentownship.org within 48 hours of the meeting.