

Allen Township Supervisors

4714 Indian Trail Road

Northampton, Pennsylvania 18067

Phone: (610) 262-7012

Fax: (610) 262-7364



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

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

ALLEN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 23, 2014

A General Meeting of the Allen Township Supervisors was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2014, 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; Dale N. Hassler – Present; Alfred Pierce – Present; Larry Oberly - Present; Bruce Frack - Present; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr., Esq. - Present; Jim Milot (Hanover Engineering Associates). – Present; and Ilene Eckhart – Present.

Public Hearings:

A. Ordinance #2014-04 Vacation of Unnamed Alley (in the vicinity of Pine Street): Mr. Oberly made a motion to open the hearing; seconded by Mr. Pierce. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Mr. Treadwell reviewed the request of a property owner requesting the vacation of an unnamed alley in the Township. He further explained that the property owner was requesting vacation even though the Township has not exercised any rights or utilized the alley in the past as additional measure to clear the record. Mr. Treadwell clarified in addition that the property owner would still need to take some form of legal action to acquire the area of the alley privately. Mr. Balliet requested public comment. Mr. Pierce indicated that this was part of a 1903 subdivision. Mr. Hassler made a motion to close the hearing; seconded by Mr. Oberly. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Mr. Hassler made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2014-04 vacating the unnamed alley; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

Public to be Heard: No comments from the audience.

Unfinished Business

A. Krapf Quarry – Infill Operation: Mr. Treadwell indicated there was a follow-up meeting at the Krapf property on September 18th, 2014 and it appeared due to the progress at the site that the property owner was moving forward to comply with the Northampton County Conservation District requirements and filling in the quarry in a manner consistent with what has been directed. Mr.

Treadwell summarized the settlement agreement which is intended to resolve the Notice of Violation (Zoning) issued by the Township. Ms. Eckhart requested that a provision be added that the settlement agreement applies only to the in-fill use. Mr. Treadwell indicated he would clarify this section of the final agreement. Mr. Oberly made a motion to accept the Settlement Agreement, subject to the change to Section F concerning the reference to the in-fill operation only and authorized Mr. Balliet to execute the agreement; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes with the exception of Mr. Pierce who abstained.

B. 2015 Budget Workshop Meeting – authorize advertisement for Thursday, October 23 at 6:00 PM: Following some discussion regarding the availability of dates in October, the Board agreed by consensus to schedule a Budget Workshop Meeting for Thursday, October 23rd at 6:00 PM. Ms. Eckhart will advertise accordingly.

C. Willow Ridge Apartments – storm water detention pond conversion: Mr. Milot indicated that the consultant for the developer has been in contact with their office and that their intention is to proceed with converting the storm water detention ponds. Mr. Milot indicated they have indicated there are no alterations to the ponds which will require the installation of liners, seeding and seeding of open space areas. Ms. Eckhart further indicated that a formal plan for the open space areas will be submitted to the Planning Commission and Supervisors. Mr. Pierce questioned the formal linkage to the Nor-Bath Trail property from the development. Ms. Eckhart indicated she has contacted Gordon Heller to develop a design in conjunction with the developer. Mr. Hassler questioned the maintenance.

D. Electronics Recycling Event: Mr. Oberly announced the Electronics Event scheduled for Saturday, September 27th.

E. Installation of Concrete Curb – in house: Ms. Eckhart requested the Board's consideration to replace the existing block curb at the front of the Township Municipal Building due to deterioration with poured concrete curb in a material estimate amount of \$1,000. Following some discussion, Mr. Frack made a motion to authorize the road crew to perform the replacement of the block curb with poured concrete curb; seconded by Mr. Oberly. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

F. Rental of Dozer: Ms. Eckhart indicated that the Public Works Director has suggested a month-long rental of a dozer to perform grade work at the Savage Road Dog Park Project and to level piles of fill at the Township's West 27th Street property. Ms. Eckhart indicated that the erosion and sedimentation plan has been prepared and should be kept on site. Following some discussion regarding compaction, Mr. Pierce made a motion to rent the bulldozer to complete the leveling of piles at the West 27th Street and the preparation of the Savage Road Dog Park for one month for \$3,300 for the month; seconded by Mr. Oberly. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Mr. Hassler was concerned that the crew performs the crack sealing and the replacement of the Municipal Building Curb with the poured concrete curb.

G. Third Party Inspection Agency: Mr. Pierce reiterated the status of the building code enforcement matter. Mr. Pierce indicated, as he understood, Bureau Veritas is the official code inspection agency but that Lehigh Valley Inspection and Keystone also inspects and that Mr. Edward Diechmeister has also requested an alternate inspector. Mr. Pierce suggested since the Board was working to transition the process to multiple agencies it made sense to allow Mr. Diechmeister to also

utilize an alternate in the interim. Ms. Eckhart indicated that Mr. Tepes had a prior agreement for the entire North Hills project and that a developer had requested an alternate agency for Stone Ridge due to a conflict. Mr. Pierce suggested it was not unreasonable to allow Mr. Diechmeister requested six units be allowed to be inspected by an agency of his choice. Mr. Diechmeister expressed his concerns regard the two other arrangements noted by Ms. Eckhart, as well as the availability of alternatives and the difference in fees. Following some discussion, Mr. Pierce made a motion to allow Mr. Diechmeister to obtain permits for six units in the Fall 2014 from an alternate building inspection agency (other than Bureau Veritas) conditioned upon Mr. Diechmeister providing the name of the inspectors (of the three existing), the certification and that the selected agency has a Building Code Official who will provide the necessary sign-offs if Bureau Veritas does not provide the necessary sign-offs; seconded Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

H. Howertown Road – Culvert & Pipe Maintenance: Ms. Eckhart provided on the status of the PennDOT Howertown Road pipe/culvert and there has been no response received. Mr. Frack felt the road needs more than a cleaning of the pipe but also a shoulder re-grading. He felt the water will not otherwise get to the pipe. Mr. Hassler voiced concern about the potholes on the bridge. Mr. Milot questioned the previous discussions. Mr. Milot suggested more formal correspondence. Mr. Oberly made a motion to inform PennDOT that if they do not take corrective measures on Howertown Road (in the problematic area between Mud Lane and Nor Bath Boulevard) that the Board will proceed with efforts to break the PennDOT Winter Services Agreement this year. Mr. Oberly later withdrew the motion based on the forgoing discussion: Mr. Oberly felt the Winter Maintenance Agreement was costing the Township too much money to maintain and that PennDOT was not paying (via the contract) any more. Mr. Frack was concerned with the motion made by Mr. Oberly as he felt the Township was better maintained by the Township. Mr. Pierce felt that the Township does not have to accept all of the PennDOT Roads offered. Mr. Pierce agreed will both Messrs. Oberly and Frack on their views but felt we should just delete the section of concern: Howertown Road from Mud Lane to Nor Bath Boulevard. He was concerned also that Township maintenance vehicles need to travel over the PennDOT roads to get to the Township Roads, in any case. Mr. Oberly agreed with Mr. Pierce and withdrew the previous motion and moved to have Mr. Milot make some contact to a higher level within PennDOT to resolve the matter of Howertown Road and to communicate the ramifications to PennDOT regarding the Winter Maintenance Agreement if disrepair of Howertown Road is not addressed; seconded by Mr. Pierce. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes. Mr. Pierce also asked Mr. Milot to obtain PennDOT's official position regarding the maintenance of storm water pipes which are located under the street.

New Business

A. Correspondence received from East Allen Township regarding First Regional Compost Authority: Mr. Pierce felt the letter received should be filed. Mr. Oberly felt the letter received relates to an Authority matter. Mr. Hassler made a motion to pass the correspondence onto Jim Wilson the Allen Township representative of the First Regional Compost Authority; seconded by Mr. Oberly. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

B. Community Map: Ms. Eckhart requested the Board consider the production and mailing of an updated Community Map by PRINT services. Mr. Oberly made a motion to authorize the production and mailing of an updated Community Map pursuant to the proposal of PRINT (pursuant

to the collection of fees to produce and mail by vendor advertisements); seconded by Mr. Pierce. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

C. Bethlehem Water/NBMA Water Service Map and request for support of territory expansion: Ms. Eckhart presented the Bethlehem Water Service Map. Mr. Pierce felt a separate letter should be sent to update regarding East Allen Gardens. Mr. Pierce was concerned that the Township could not fix the roads in East Allen Gardens until the water system is replaced. Mr. Oberly made a motion to authorize the Manager to send the letter in support of the application pursuant to the territory expansion; seconded by Mr. Pierce. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

D. Pipeline Seminar – Cedar Crest College: Mr. Oberly indicated that an upcoming informational seminar was planned for Monday, September 29th at 7:00 PM regarding future pipelines.

Public to be Heard:

The Board held a brief executive session regarding personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart
Manager