

EPHRATA TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MEETING

June 20, 2023

The Ephrata Township Supervisors met this date at 7:00 a.m. at the Ephrata Township Office Building, 265 Akron Road, Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

Present were Supervisors: Clark Stauffer
Tony Haws
Ty Zerbe
Manager: Steve Sawyer
Admin Assist: Jennifer Carvell
Engineer: Jim Caldwell
Police: Sgt. Matt Randolph

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clark Stauffer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Scott Cover stated that he is aware that the Township has requested a proposal from the Northern Regional Police Department and is considering switching police service. Mr. Cover stated that as a business owner in both Ephrata Borough and Ephrata Township, he feels that the Ephrata Police Department is providing a great service to the community and is in support of the Township renewing a contract with the Borough even if it is more costly to the tax payers than switching to Northern Regional Police Department. The Board of Supervisors thanked Scott Cover for his comment.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to close the Public Comment Period. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Tony Haws to dispense with the reading of the June 6, 2023 Supervisors' minutes and to approve them as presented. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

SCOTT COVER – 471 NORTH READING ROAD PROPERTY

Manager Steve Sawyer provided the Board of Supervisors with a copy of the April 6, 2023 Supervisors' Minutes regarding the Earth Disturbance Permit for 471 North Reading Road. Scott Cover, owner of 471 North Reading Road, attended the April 6th meeting and informed the Board that the demolition of the former Garman Builders office has been completed, but the grading has not been completed due to the property being under agreement of sale. The future owner did not want Scott to proceed with the backfilling of the former structure and grading of the site without their engineers being involved to verify that the grading and compaction is done correctly. Scott Cover was

granted a sixty (60) day time extension to complete the grading work based on the justification provided. Manager Sawyer stated that the sixty (60) day time extension has expired and the grading work has not been completed. Scott Cover was present and stated that an environmental study being conducted by the potential buyer is taking longer than expected. He also stated that a meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, June 22nd and he will inform the buyer that the site must be graded and stabilized within sixty (60) days if an additional time extension is approved by the Board. Jim Caldwell stated that the Earth Disturbance Permit was issued to Mr. Cover, but if the property is sold, the new owner would be responsible to comply with the permit conditions.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to approve the modified Earth Disturbance Permit with the condition that the site be graded and stabilized per the permit within ninety (90) days based on the justification provided. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Department – Sgt. Matt Randolph.

Sgt. Matt Randolph was in attendance and provided the Supervisors with a summary of the calls for service within Ephrata Township for the month of May totaling 399 incidents. There were 8 arrests and 23 traffic citations. The monthly report will be kept on file in the office.

Manager Steve Sawyer

- **Lancaster County Burn Ban & Fireworks.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that Lancaster County has issued a county-wide burn ban, but it does not cover fireworks. Manager Sawyer contacted Chief McKim and the local Fire Companies for their recommendations. Pioneer Chief Michael Kiefer responded by email supporting a firework's ban during the county-wide burn ban. Manager Sawyer provided the Board of Supervisors with a Resolution prepared by the Township's Solicitor that would ban all fireworks within Ephrata Township until such time the Lancaster County Commissioners lift the burn ban for the County.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to adopt the Resolution prohibiting the use of consumer or display fireworks until the expiration of the Lancaster County Ban on Open Burning established pursuant to Lancaster County Resolution No. 42 of 2023. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

- **Ephrata Township Paving Project – 6/21, 6/22, 6/23.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that New Enterprises is scheduled to complete our 2023 paving project on Wednesday, June 21st and Thursday June 22nd. They will begin by milling all of the roads using traffic control and then closing the roads while the paving is being completed. The paving work is scheduled to begin at 5 PM on Michelle Drive, 8 PM on Pleasant View Drive and 11 PM on Dutchland Avenue. Residents and business owners that will be impacted have been notified by the Township.

- **EAJA Project-Ridge Avenue Closure – 6/20,6/21, 6/22.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that the Ephrata Area Joint Water Authority will be installing a large valve vault in the southeast bound lane at 70 Ridge Avenue on Wednesday, June 21st and Thursday, June 22nd. Ridge Avenue from East Main Street to East Mohler Church Road will be closed to through traffic during the project. Access to all residential properties will be maintained throughout the project, but residents will only have access to their property from either East Main Street or East Mohler Church depending on their location. Manager Sawyer stated that this information will be also available on the Township's website.
- **Cocalico Creek Restoration Project – Payment Application.** Manager Sawyer stated that the Township received a payment request in the amount of \$251,633.70 and a change order that decreases the overall amount of the project in the amount of \$16,844.00 from Flyway Excavating. A spreadsheet table was provided showing the overall price of the project at \$859,764.00. Manager Sawyer requested authorization to pay the requested Payment Application and to also accept change order #4 as presented.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to approve the Payment Application to Flyway Excavating in the amount of \$251,633.70. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to approve Change Order #4 decreasing the overall project cost by \$16,844.00. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

- **Ephrata Township Community Park – Pavilion Project.** Previously the Board reviewed plans prepared by Don Good for a 20' x 30' pavilion and a 26' x 36' concrete pad to be placed by the small pond at the Ephrata Township Community Park. Manager Sawyer recommended that the Board consider a smaller pavilion for this area. Staff is recommending a 22' x 22' concrete pad with an 18' x 18' pavilion which would accommodate four (4) six-foot picnic tables. The pavilion would not be designed for rentals. Direction was given by the Board of Supervisors to move forward by getting some quotes from local contractors for the size and design presented.
- **Bookkeeper / Administrative Assistant Position.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that Linda Boyer, the part-time Bookkeeper is planning to retire this fall. Manager Sawyer requested authorization from the Board of Supervisors to begin advertising sometime in July for a full-time Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant position as a replacement for Linda. The Sewer Authority shares this expense with the Township.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe authorizing staff to advertise for a full-time Bookkeeper/Administrative position in July of 2023 as a replacement for Linda Boyer. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **Ephrata Baseball Association – Fall Field Reservation Request.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that the Ephrata Baseball Association submitted a Fall Field Reservation Request as in prior years. The Ephrata Baseball Association also provided a Certificate of Insurance.

A motion was made by Tony Haws approving the Ephrata Baseball Association's Fall Field Reservation Request as presented. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

- **Snakehead Fishing Event – Ephrata Township Park.** At the last Supervisors' Meeting, Michael Petrosky was present to request that the Board approve a snakehead fishing tournament at the Ephrata Township Community Park. The Board approved a similar event at the park during the summer of 2022. Mr. Petroski requested that the Board approve the use of fishing kayaks for the one-day tournament. The tournament that was held last year required each participant to register with the Township and be registered in the nationwide Gauntlet Snakehead Fishing Tournament. The event last year was limited to ten (10) participants due to the size of the lake. Manager Sawyer reviewed the conditions imposed by the Board for the approved event last year. Mr. Petrosky is requesting to hold the event this year in the late afternoon evening hours instead of the morning to early afternoon hours. Mr. Petroski also requested that the event be limited to five or six participants. The decision was tabled at the last meeting until Mr. Petroski provides a proposed date and the Township can prepare new registration forms. Manager Sawyer stated that Mr. Petroski is requesting the one-day snake head fishing tournament be held on July 22, 2023 with a rain date of July 23, 2023. Manager Sawyer stated that last year the Township allowed ten (10) participants and three (3) registered.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to approve the use of kayaks for a one-day Snakehead Fishing Tournament at the Ephrata Township Community Park on July 22, 2023 with a rain date of July 23, 2023 to the first ten (10) participants that register. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **7-4-23 ETBS Meeting – Reschedule or Cancel.** Manager Sawyer stated that the next scheduled Supervisors' Meeting is scheduled for the July 4th Holiday and there is no known action that will be required from the Board of Supervisors at this time.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to cancel the Ephrata Township Board of Supervisors Meeting scheduled for July 4, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

Township Engineer - Jim Caldwell reported that the following plans/projects are in the review process:

- Cocalico Creek Restoration Project – Site Work
- CB Burkholder road Closure & Detour Route
- Lakeside Villas – As-built Plans
- Allen Auker – SWMP

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to accept the list of checks written and to pay any bills pending. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Tony Haws stated that he had nothing additional to add to the meeting.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 A.M. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

Clark R. Stauffer

Anthony K. Haws

J. Tyler Zerbe