

EPHRATA TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MEETING

September 1, 2020

The Ephrata Township Supervisors met this date at 7:00 p.m. at the Ephrata Township Office Building, 265 Akron Road, Ephrata, Pennsylvania. The meeting was conducted in person and virtually utilizing Skype. Notice was posted on the Township building and on the Township's website.

Present were: Supervisor Clark Stauffer
 Supervisor Ty Zerbe
 Supervisor Tony Haws
 Township Manager Steve Sawyer
 Sergeant Matt Randolph
 Township Engineer Jim Caldwell
 Township Solicitor Tony Schimaneck

Participating Virtually: Admin. Assistant Jennifer Carvell

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A motion to close the public comment period was made by Ty Zerbe. 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 August 11, 2020 Supervisors' Minutes and to approve them as written. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE – BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Solicitor Schimaneck advised the Board that the proposed Ordinance has been advertised and it could be adopted by the Board at the conclusion of the Hearing. Manager Sawyer gave a brief overview and purpose of the Building Code Ordinance Amendment.

Clark Stauffer opened the hearing for:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EPHRATA, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING THE EPHRATA TOWNSHIP BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR CERTAIN ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND FOR CERTAIN ALTERATIONS OR REPAIRS TO RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.

There was no one in attendance to offer any public comment on the proposed ordinance.

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

A motion was made by Tony Haws to approve the Amendment to the Building Code Ordinance to require the issuance of permits for certain accessory structures and for certain alterations or repairs to residential buildings. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

The ordinance will be in effect thirty-five (35) days from the date of the hearing.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Report

- **Reports.** Sergeant Randolph provided a summary of the calls for service within Ephrata Township for the month of August totaling 303 incidents. There were 6 arrests and 6 traffic citations. The monthly report will be kept on file in the office.

STAFF REPORTS

Manager Steve Sawyer

- **Complaint – Parking on Mohler Church Road.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board that he has received a complaint from a Township resident concerning parking along Mohler Church Road on the Northside of the Ephrata Mountain. He stated that in 2008 the Township had received a similar complaint and discussed this issue at several meetings. Copies of the June 3, 2008 minutes were provided to the Board of Supervisors to review prior to the meeting. Manager Sawyer stated that in 1994 a seven-lot subdivision was approved by the Township (133 to 145 East Mohler Church Road). As part of the subdivision, road widening and curbing was installed along the frontage of the seven lots. Some residents are parking vehicles on the street in front of their homes. Sergeant Randolph stated that there have been no accidents in this area because of the on-street parking. Sergeant Randolph provided the Board with a section of the PA Vehicle Code and stated that the vehicles that he has witnessed in this area are legally parked. Manager Sawyer recommended having the police department monitor the area for safety and whether cars are being parked illegally before the Township considers a no parking zone.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe directing staff to request the Ephrata Police Department to monitor this area of Mohler Church Road for safety purposes instead of posting “No Parking” signs at this time. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **Fire Department Study – Jerry Ozog.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that he received an email from Jerry Ozog requesting to give an update to the Board of Supervisors. Jerry Ozog has been contracted to do a Fire Service Study for Ephrata Pioneer and Lincoln Fire Companies. Jerry was present virtually to provide the Board of Supervisors with an update on what has been accomplished by the committee to date and provided a copy of the strategic plan outlining future goals. The study is scheduled to be completed by November. The Township Supervisors thanked Mr. Ozog for the presentation and indicated that they would review the recommendations of the study after it is completed and decide what action that the Township will take moving forward.
- **2021 Non-Uniform Pension MMO.** Manager Sawyer stated that the Township is required to pass a motion each year approving a Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Minimum Municipal Obligation for the following year. The Township received State funds that funds the majority of our pension plan. The Township's actuary, David Killick of Conrad Siegel, reviewed and approved the proposed MMO amount prior to meeting.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to approve the 2021 Ephrata Township Employees' Pension Plan Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) in the amount of \$40,200.30. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

- **New Enterprise – DEP Planning Module.** Manager Sawyer gave an overview of the New Enterprise DEP Planning Module request and recommended approval.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to approve the DEP Planning Module for New Enterprise as presented. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **Ephrata Youth Soccer/Pavilion Rentals.** At the last Supervisors Meeting Travis Schumacher, President of Ephrata Youth Soccer, requested to use the Community Park for the fall of 2020. He stated practices would start the first week of September. A list of protocols that have been put into place by their governing body for all practices and games was also provided. It was also discussed that the Township has not allowed pavilion rentals to date. Attorney Schimaneck stated that his legal advice was to not allow any organized sports or pavilion rentals at this time. The Township tabled the request until the next scheduled meeting. Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that he was in contact with Travis Schumacher and Ephrata Youth Soccer was able to find another location to conduct practices and games and therefore no longer needed to use the Township Park for their fall season. Manager Sawyer requested direction from the Board of Supervisors as to the Pavilion Rentals for the remainder of the 2020 season.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to continue the current policy of not renting the pavilion to any groups for the remainder of the 2020 season. Anyone who has paid to reserve the pavilion will be given a full refund. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

- **Request to Dedicate Bench on Rail Trail.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that the Township received a request to donate a bench along the rail trail close to the Millway Road parking lot. An email dated August 13, 2020 was presented to the Board of Supervisors offering a donation of \$750.00 for the bench, a plaque in memory of a loved one and installation. Manager Sawyer stated that due to the location of the bench that the proposed amount should not add any additional expense to the Township.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to approve the donation in the amount of \$750.00 for a bench in memory of Linda Myer as proposed. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **Comcast - Lincoln Gardens Project.** The Township was put on notice that their project in Lincoln Gardens will begin in the near future. The residents within the development are to be notified by Comcast prior to beginning their project.
- **Cover – East Trout Run Road Project.** Manager Sawyer notified the Board of Supervisors that Scott Cover requested to move fill from a construction project located along East Trout Run Road to 471 North Reading Road. The Lancaster County Conservation District has been contacted and they have approved the proposed project. Jim Caldwell stated he has reviewed the plans and recommended approval.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to approve the proposed Storm Water Management Plan for the 471 North Reading Road project based on the condition that no mud or dirt is deposited on the roadway during the relocation of the fill and that any damage caused to the roadway shall be repaired by the applicant to the satisfaction of the Township. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

Engineer Jim Caldwell reported that the following plans are in the review process:

Ephrata Crossing – Street Light Plan
Denver Wholesale Food - Construction Meeting
Conestoga Valley Mennonite Church – Site Inspections
Autumn Hills – MDS Permit

Solicitor Tony Schimaneck

Tony Schimaneck stated that there was nothing further to discuss with the Board of Supervisors at this time.

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 there was no additional correspondence at this time.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

Clark R. Stauffer

Anthony K. Haws

J. Tyler Zerbe