

HEREFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

September 6, 2022

The regular meeting of the Hereford Township Board of Supervisors was held in person at the Municipal Building and via Zoom. Those present were Supervisors John Membrino, Keith Masemore, Karla Dexter, Township Engineer Jennifer VanDyke of Technicon Enterprises Inc. II, Township Solicitor Eugene Orlando Jr. of Orlando Law Offices, Secretary/Treasurer Diane Hollenbach,

Guests: Albert Ciccarone, Cliff Kerchner, Vic See, Matt Ferdock, Clay Reinert, Elwood Harper, Rose and Glen Greenawalt, Caryl Pettijohn, Mike Freeman, Lowell Seip
Guests on Zoom: Irene Donovan, Tom O'Connor, Candace Perry

Mr. Membrino called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting for personnel and to receive advice and counsel on potential litigation.

Minutes

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded approving the August 16, 2022, regular meeting minutes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills and Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to pay the bills and approve the Treasurer's bill list. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Personal Appearances - None

WORK CREW REPORT

Mr. Masemore reported the road crew paved in Longswamp Township. Seal coating of Old Mill and Greenhouse Lane was to start today but the rain pushed the work back to Wednesday.

ENGINEER

Young Subdivision Planning Module

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded to authorize the secretary to sign the Young Subdivision Component 1 Planning Module. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Spring Hill Road Stormwater Project – Ms. VanDyke met with the property owners, and they are supportive of the project to run a storm water pipe across their property to the existing headwall. Ms. VanDyke will work with Mr. Orlando on creating the easement needed and provide a budget number to Ms. Hollenbach. The work is tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2023.

Camp Mensch Mill Bridge – The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection asked for current pictures of the damage to the bridge. Ms. VanDyke is working with the structural engineer on a plan to repair the bridge.

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

The Board reviewed a copy of the SEO report for August 2022.

BUILDING INSPECTOR and ZONING OFFICER REPORT

The Board reviewed a copy of the Building Inspector's and Zoning Officer's report for August 2022.

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SOLICITER

Act 537 Plan Update – Mr. Orlando reported on the last Act 537 Plan Working Group call. There was discussion between the property owner and the Township Consultant, Fred Ebert, regarding the type of design for the sewage system. Mr. Ebert recommended a system that needed less maintenance and less operating cost for the end user. There was also concern that the system was not sized properly. The landowner’s engineer will need additional input for a redesign of the sewage system. Drafts of the necessary agreements are expected to be submitted to Mr. Orlando soon.

SECRETARIES REPORT

Ms. Hollenbach provided the Board with a written report. Ken Garlick was sworn in as fire police and has interest in the emergency management coordinator position. He will be attending the next meeting to introduce himself to the Board. The furnaces and water cooler were scheduled to be cleaned. Ms. Hollenbach asked if the Board would like her to schedule annual maintenance on the generator. The Board suggested checking with Eddinger who supplied the propane and Vic See recommended a service provider in Alburdis. Ms. Hollenbach reminded the Board there was a zoning hearing on September 21st.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dangerous Tree Discussion

Vic See of Township Road provided a memo to the Board of Supervisors containing ideas of ways to deal with the dead ash trees. These ideas were generated from a meeting of residents who had previously been meeting about repealing the dangerous tree ordinance. There are one hundred and forty families in the group. The residents are interested in creating a Tree Commission. Mr. See feels the State needs to get involved in the ash tree issue.

Ms. Dexter asked Ms. Hollenbach to provide the resident group with the research that Mr. Ciccarone had sent to the supervisors. The research showed how some communities are handling removal of the ash tree, funding, and structure of a Tree Commission. One thing the Board of Supervisors would not want, that some communities undertake, is replanting of trees in the road right of way. Mr. Ciccarone stated that he is continuing his research and more will be sent to the Board. Ms. Dexter added that the solicitor is looking at what it will take to float a bond and how to form a Tree Commission. Mr. Membrino thought that it may need to be formed by ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

Co-op Purchase of a new Asphalt Zipper – The Board discussed the purchase of a new asphalt zipper with Rockland Township and Longswamp Township. The Board will discuss this again at the September 20th budget meeting and was most interested in purchasing the new zipper through lease financing. Mr. Masemore reported that the road crew had used the belt loader and were very pleased with how it worked. The belt is worn, and they will look at replacing it themselves this winter.

Hazard Mitigation Plan – The County has requested an update to the Hazard Mitigation plan by September 30th. Ms. Hollenbach went through the plan and marked the priority of the mitigation measures from past adopted plans. However, there are a few new mitigation measures that the Board should review and decide if the measures are a low, medium, or high priority to the township. If each Board member would fill out and turn in the form, Ms. Hollenbach will compare them and then the Board need only discuss the measures where their answers differ.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Cliff Kerchner of Hollyberry Road spoke with State Representative Dave Maloney about the ash tree problem. Mr. Maloney understood the issue having cut down dead ash trees on his own property. He was involved in getting the state to act on the spotted lantern fly issue. Mr. Maloney will be Hereford Township's State Representative after the fall election.

Lowell Seip of Conrad Road recounted several accidents and a fatality that happened at the intersection of Huffs Church Road, Hunter Forge Road, and Dale Road. Mr. Seip requested a four way stop due to the line-of-sight issues, how the Hunter Forge Road and Dale Road are offset from each other and the high rate of speed of the traffic. State Representative Ryan McKenzie's office spoke to Penn DOT about the situation and Penn DOT denied the request because the intersection does not meet the criteria for a four way stop.

Mike Freeman of Dale Road spoke with Dave Maloney's office, but he could not help.

Clay Reinert of Huffs Church Road spoke about the accident that took place on July 13, 2022, at 9:30 at night when two injured motorists ended up on his front steps. Mr. Reinert has only lived in his home two years and is concerned about the dangerous intersection.

Mr. Masemore suggested talking to a local representative that serves on the State Transportation Committee. Mr. Membrino suggested that the township engineer contact LTAP for help with traffic calming or signs. Ms. Hollenbach offered to write a letter to Penn DOT requesting a traffic study for the addition of two stop signs. The Board agreed to send the letter.

There being no further business, Mr. Membrino made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Masemore. All were in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Diane Hollenbach, Secretary/Treasurer