

HEREFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

July 11, 2023

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, Secretary Hannah Edwards.

Guests: Thomas Reibar, Harold Albitz, Jennifer Sacks, Eric Miller, Tom Ritter, Matthew Lorish, Josh Borowski, Brian Gehman, Matthew Gehman, Leigha Laudenslager, Ken Garlick, Dean Marks, Lt. Burckhardt, Charles Gordan

Zoom: Tom O'Connor

Mr. Membrino called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to accept the June 6th and June 20th Minutes. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills and Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded to pay the bills. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Personal Appearances – Lt. Burckhardt (PA State Police)

Lt. Burckhardt of the PSP appeared at the meeting to address the public's concern with the response time from the state police attending to the fire department's request call for help. Mr. Borowski spoke for the Hereford Fire Department regarding 3 instances that concerned him with the amount of time it took the state police to respond to the calls. Mr. Borowski asked for suggestions from Lt. Burckhardt on how to resolve this issue. Lt. Burckhardt suggested calling the barracks like normal, if the state police cannot assist in an immediate action, he suggests having a borough or local town be dispatched out. Lt. Burckhardt mentioned moving forward if there are situations that we feel were not handled properly by the state police upon arrival from the barracks he would like us to reach out to him. The final decision from Mr. Borowski was to reach out to Bally Police Department and the 911 center to see if there are any policies in place where if the PSP cannot respond in a timely manner can there be a decision made that they receive assistance from a closer borough.

Fire Companies

Seisholtzville Fire Company- Ms. Sacks reported 10 calls for the fire department in the month of June. They are still working on the 75th anniversary event. The fire department will also be holding their Chicken BBQ which will be July 22, 2023. Mr. Miller reported there are some trees that need trimming by Penn Dot, the trees are blocking the view and are a safety concern for the fire trucks.

Hereford Fire Company- Mr. Borowski reported the fire department was very slow in June, they only responded to 8 calls.

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Hereford Fire Police – Mr. Albitz reminded the Board that Macungie will be holding two events that request the fire police (Awkscht Fescht and Wheels of Time).

Seisholtzville Fire Police – No report.

Bally Ambulance – There were no questions for Bally Ambulance

WORK CREW REPORT

Mr. Masemore reported the work crew have been working on the cement block wall on the old maintenance building. The crew replaced the broken blocks and painted. They have mowed some state and township roads, trimmed weeds around road signs and painted wheel loader. They have cleaned inlet boxes and pipes ends for drainage. Installed inlet boxes and pipes on Home Road. Replaced the seat in the 1997 Chevy paint truck. The work crew also cleaned park bathrooms, mowed, and trimmed weeds in community and Eco Park. Martin Paving is assisting the township with oil and chipping on some roads in Hereford on Thursday July 13, 2023.

ENGINEER

Camp Mensch Mill Road

Ms. Van Dyke mentioned geotechnical field work was completed to determine depth to bedrock which will help evaluate our remediation options. Awaiting report of results from consultant.

Spring Hill Pipe Replacement

Ms. Van Dyke stated the design information was sent to surveyor for future stakeout and to prepare legal description for easement. Pricing for inlet boxes and materials was obtained and it was determined extending storm sewer along 78 Spring Hill would increase material costs by ~\$4,000 and then labor /restoration/existing pipe connections needs to be included. Ms. Van Dyke asked to contact landowner about costs; Mr. Day anticipates the project being completed in October.

Huffs Church / Hunter Forge / Dale Intersection Follow-up

Multiple concerns were raised over bushes/vegetation limiting sight distance when looking left onto Huffs Church from Hunter Forge, particularly for higher vehicles. Letter will be sent out to PennDot along with a letter to the property owner to see if anything can be trimmed back. Mr. Day and the township road crew will be relocating the barrels at 1194 Huffs Church Road, pushing them back closer to the porch due to visual obstructions on the road. The township is still waiting for feedback from PennDot on the letter that was sent out at the end of June regarding desired signage/markings and further research into 4-way stop. Technicon will reach out to Senator Pennycuick's office in response to their email if we don't hear from PennDOT soon. Additional accidents have occurred at the intersection during the month of June.

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LSA Grant

Technicon is looking into design options for Triechler's Mill Park improvements for the grant application. They will prepare ideas for Hereford Township's consideration so that a cost estimate/plan can be prepared to include in grant application. Ms. Van Dyke mentioned it would be great idea to get the Rec Committee involved and listen to their opinions. A grant application will also be done for the new mower that is needed as discussed in June.

Mr. Masemore made a motion, Mr. Membrino second to appoint Tom Ritter as a representative for Parks and Recreation Committee. All were in favor. Motion Carried

BUILDING INSPECTOR and ZONING OFFICER REPORT

Report sent to Township – no comments or questions; Ms. Van Dyke provided an update on current complaint status & next actions to achieve compliance. Ms. Van Dyke is working on a letter to the property owner on Mulberry Hill Road about the improper disposal of an old jeep top. There will also be a letter sent to the property owner on Hunter Forge Road about the shed being built without a permit.

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Report received by Township – no comments or questions.

SOLICITER

Act 537 Plan

Technicon received high level plans to assist in density calculations for working group but more detailed plans were requested and expected to be received in time to review for the next working group meeting scheduled for early August.

Secretary Report

Ms. Edwards mentioned the Planning Commission book is still in process, the goal is to have it completed by the end of September. She has been working on re-organizing the Townships Facebook page, the goal is to get more interaction and participation with the community via social media. Ms. Edwards has met with two banks in the past week to get account information updated for billing purposes. She continues to complete the daily task needed each day for completion along with addressing new tasks into her daily routine. Her goal is to reach more about the recycling grant provided by the state.

State Police Report

The report shows 57 calls.

Unfinished Business

New Business

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Mr. Membrino made a motion, Ms Dexter seconded to remove Diane Hollenbach and add Hannah Edwards as signers on Ambler Bank account and authorize the signing of the signature cards. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Membrino made a motion, Ms. Dexter seconded to remove Diane Hollenbach and add Hannah Edwards as signers on ESSA Bank account and authorize the signing of the signature cards. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Membrino made a motion, Ms. Dexter second to approve “Developing your Township Budget” course organized by PSATS for Hannah Edwards (Secretary/Treasurer) \$69.00. All were in favor, motion carried.

Miscellaneous Correspondence and additional information

Mr. Membrino made a motion, Mr. Masemore second to cancel the July 18, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting. All were in favor, motion carried.

The next board meeting will be held on August 1,2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hereford Township Building.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

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 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Hannah Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer