

## HEREFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

November 1, 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: Rose and Glen Greenawalt, Chris Berky, Jack Romig, Cliff Kerchner, Irene Donovan, Kris Erdman, Lowell Seip, Mike Freeman

Guests on Zoom: Tom O'Connor, Candace Perry

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

### Minutes

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded approving the October 18, 2022 regular and budget 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 carried.

Personal Appearances – None

### WORK CREW REPORT

Mr. Masemore reported the road crew finished cutting the trees on Hollyberry Road and cut dead trees on Weaver Road, Mulberry Hill Road and on township property prior to returning the lift. The rest of the line paint will be used, and discussion was had on the availability and cost of replenishing our stock of line paint.

### ENGINEER

**3164 Seisholtzville Road Holding Tank Agreement** – The lot was investigated and there is no suitable place for an on lot septic system. The owner is proposing using a holding tank. Mr. Masemore asked if the tank would be permanent. Ms. Van Dyke stated it would, and an escrow would be set up to address any pumping issues.

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded authorizing the solicitor to draft a holding tank agreement for 3164 Seisholtzville Road. All were in favor. Motion carried. The engineer noted that Mr. Berky had submitted \$2,000 for the escrow to the township secretary.

**Spring Hill Road Stormwater Project** – Ms. VanDyke has received two quotes for survey work to finalize the design and prepare the legal description for the easement needed for the Spring Hill Road Stormwater Project.

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded to authorize Aston Surveying to perform the survey for the Spring Hill Road Stormwater Project with the cost not to exceed \$2,500. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Camp Mensch Mill Bridge** – Ms. VanDyke reported that the structural engineer's cost estimate to repair Camp Mensch Mill Road with a 150-foot section of concrete wall built to Penn DOT standards

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was \$581,000. Ms. VanDyke will get input from the PA Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Masemore asked if there was a time limit on how long the road can be in the configuration it is now. Ms. VanDyke stated it could remain the way it was indefinitely.

### **SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

Only one inspection was performed by the SEO in October.

### **BUILDING INSPECTOR and ZONING OFFICER REPORT**

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

### **SOLICITER**

**Act 537 Plan Update** – Mr. Orlando reported that the working group met but the meetings scheduled with Mr. Ebert and Chip Haas were postponed. Mr. Ebert is working with the engineer on the plant design. The group is trying to finish the draft for submittal to the PA DEP.

**Resolution 2022-21 Adopting Provisions of Act 57** – Mr. Orlando explained that Act 57 was adopted in July and amends the tax collection law to waive the penalty and interest in the first year of property ownership if the new owner did not receive the tax bill. Each municipality must adopt a resolution by January 21, 2023.

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded adopting Resolution 2022-21 which directs the tax collector to waive additional charges for real estate taxes in certain situations. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **Arborist Contract**

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to authorize the Board of Supervisors to sign the arborist modification agreement as drafted between meetings conditional upon the approval and signature of Arbor Essence. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Masemore stated for the audience that the contract had minor modifications. Only trees in the right of way will be marked by GPS coordinates. There will be no physical marking of the trees in Quadrants 2 and 3 and Quadrants 1 and 4 will be revisited.

### **SECRETARIES REPORT**

Ms. Hollenbach provided the Board with a written report. Work was completed to secure financing for the loader. The Zoning Hearing Board granted the variance for 318 St. Peters Road and the Young Subdivision was recorded. A meeting was held with the arborist and the mailing was prepared notifying the residents of his upcoming work. In November, work will begin on Reorganization. The organization of the files, and the review of the escrow accounts will continue.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Dangerous Tree Discussion** – Rose Greenawalt thanked the Board for removing the trees on Hollyberry Road. The crew was nice and professional. She asked about the time frame for removal of the trunks and the stumps. Mr. Membrino stated that probably wouldn't occur until next year. The crew wanted to maximize the time that they had to use the rented lift.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Upper Perkiomen Valley Christmas Parade**

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Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded to authorize Fire Police assistance to the East Greenville Fire Police at the Upper Perkiomen Valley Christmas Parade on December 4, 2022. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **Repository Bid 28 Mystic Lane**

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to authorize the secretary/treasurer to accept or reject the repository bid of \$700 for 28 Mystic Lane. All were in favor. Motion carried. Total taxes owed are \$983.66.

### **Wheel Loader Financing with Municipal Capital Finance**

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to authorize the Chairman to sign the Lease with Option to Purchase Agreement and Escrow Agreement with Municipal Capital Finance for a five-year lease in the amount of \$235,200 at a 3.82% interest rate for a 554P Wheel Loader with forks with the first payment due 10/25/2023. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **Review Fee Escrow Returns**

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded to return \$61.32 to Kathleen Welch to close out the Welch Lot Line Adjustment Escrow. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to return \$32.92 to Francesco Lagutaine c/o Mary and Bryon Young to close out the Lagutaine/Lampe Lot Line Adjustment Escrow. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **Interest Rate Discussion – PLGIT BANK rates 2.85% and 2.97%**

Mr. Masemore made a motion and Mr. Membrino seconded to move the Money Market, ARPA, and Capital Reserve Fund to PLGIT Bank. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **COMMENT FROM THE BOARD**

Ms. Dexter updated the Board on the removal of the historical items. Ms. Perry had taken most of the items stored downstairs to the Schwenkfelder Library. There are still several boxes of books and postcards as well as four flags made for the Centennial celebration. The Board will keep the flags and asked that a note be placed in the newsletter about the books being available for purchase. A display case remains that can be taken to the Kutztown Auction.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lowell Seip of Conrad Road addressed the Board regarding Penn DOT's response to the request for a four way stop at Huffs Church Road, Dale Road, and Hunter Forge Road. The Board suggested waiting until the new State Representative took office in January to ask for his assistance. The engineer was asked to look at the clear site triangle and the barrels at the corner of Dale Road.

Jack Romig of Huffs Church Road stated that traffic has gotten worse than it used to be. It isn't a straight intersection, there are no sidewalks or crosswalks, and it is dangerous for pedestrians.

Kris Erdman of Five Points Road asked the Board if there was a standard of habitability or some language on unsafe structures. He has been trying to sell his home of eighteen years and fifty to sixty

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percent of the comments received from potential buyers are regarding the status of the condemned home next to him. Mr. Membrino stated that the ordinances can be applied but compliance with the ordinance is more difficult. Citations taken to the District Justice don't always mean the issue is resolved. Ms. VanDyke stated that they are currently investigating a complaint. Ms. Dexter suggested that Mr. Erdman also file a complaint with the township.

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 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

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Diane Hollenbach, Secretary/Treasurer