

HEREFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

June 21, 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, and Karla Dexter, Secretary/Treasurer Diane Hollenbach, Hereford Fire Chief Josh Borowski, Hereford Assistant Chief Dean Marks, Hereford Fire Police Captain Harold P. Albitz, Seisholtzville Fire Chief Ray Strickland, Matt Ferdock, Matt & Jenn Spangenberg, Tom Malinaric, John F. Conway, Glen & Rosemary Greenawald, Hilary & John Yanan, Austin Romero, Elinor Lora Abreu, Vaune Klepac, Vic See, and Irene Donovan. Tom O'Connor, and Candace Perry attended on Zoom.

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

Hollyberry Road Tree Removal Bid Opening - Bids were opened at 7:30 p.m. for the removal of trees on Hollyberry Road.

Arbor Care	total bid \$75,039.84
Lindsey Tree Removal	total bid \$63,300.00

Mr. Membrino stated that the bid bond and insurance certificate did not appear to be in the Lindsey Tree Removal bid package. Mr. Masemore was concerned that the bids came in over budget. Ms. Dexter wanted the solicitor's opinion on the incomplete bid package from Lindsey Tree Removal.

Mr. Masemore made a motion and Mr. Membrino seconded to reject all bids for the Hollyberry Road Tree Removal since all bids were higher than the budgeted amount. Mr. Membrino and Mr. Masemore voted, "Aye." Ms. Dexter voted, "Nay." Motion carried 2-1.

Minutes

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded approving the June 7, 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 report. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to authorize payment of \$304,376 to Stephenson Equipment for the Co-op purchase of the LeeBoy paver. All were in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Membrino explained that the bill was split four ways and each municipality sent their portion to Hereford Township and we would be paying the invoice.

Personal Appearances

Rose Greenawald of Hollyberry Road asked what happens now that the bids were rejected. Mr. Membrino stated that the Board must discuss, regroup, and decide what to do after the engineer asks some of the companies that did not submit a bid why that was.

Fire Companies

A. **Hereford Fire Company**- Chief Borowski reported twelve calls for the month. The chicken BBQ sold out. The Fire Company will be at the Wawa grand opening on June 30th. Wawa will be giving the fire company a donation. Dean Marks reviewed an incident that happened June 14th on Conrad Road with a limb from a dead ash tree hitting a young woman's vehicle almost killing her. Mr.

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Marks has contacted Brad Rush of PennDOT who says there is no money for tree removal. Mr. Marks has contacted Ryan McKenzie's office for assistance.

- B. **Seisholtzville Fire Company**- The Fire Company responded to nine calls. Two members have graduated as State Fire Fighter 1. Mr. Strickland stated he is looking into QRS certification for the medical calls on which the fire company assists.
- C. **Seisholtzville Fire Police** – No report.
- D. **Emergency Management Coordinator** – Mr. Strickland is looking at SOG's (Standard Operating Guides).
- E. **Hereford Fire Police** – Mr. Albitz reported the fire police attended the Macungie Truck Show. They will be attending the July 4th festivities in New Goshen Park and the Huffs Church Picnic. There are several events in August in the Macungie Park. When the Fire Police barricaded Conrad Road after a tree fell, someone took one of the barricades. This is one of the eight barricades the Township bought for the Fire Police as well as cones.
- F. **Bally Ambulance** – There were no questions for the ambulance service.
- G. **Recreation Committee** – No report.
- H. **Environmental Advisory Council** – No report.
- I. **State Police Report** –No report.
- J. **Matt Ferdock of Weaver Road** asked if the Township would consider buying a bucket truck and look at hiring a person to remove the dead trees in the right-of-way. He asked the Board to repeal the ordinance and suggested prioritizing the areas of the Township that need to be taken care of now.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dangerous Tree Ordinance – Caryl Pettijohn of Hollyberry stated the front page of the Morning Call stated the state has stimulus money. They should be contacted and asked to use the money for tree removal. This is a statewide problem. Why isn't the state dealing with it?

Ms. Dexter liked Mr. Ferdock's idea of the bucket truck. The ash trees are dead now. More trees will probably die in the next wave. Ms. Dexter felt the ordinance was discriminatory and split the Township into the haves and the have nots. She was concerned that the have nots would try to take down their trees themselves and get injured in the process.

Mr. Masemore stated that the liability is there, and the trees need to come down. The residents and Township are at a stalemate.

Mr. Ferdock stated that if the ordinance is removed, the liability goes away once the marked trees are down. He knows as a businessman that if he donated half of his tree removal cost to the Township for purchase of a bucket truck, he would be ahead.

Vic See or Township Road stated that Cliff Kerchner had contacted Ryan McKenzie's office in March. and Harrisburg says there is no money for tree removal.

Matt Spangenberg of Township Road pointed out that Conrad Road is a state road and will not be marked by the arborist. This also make the ordinance discriminatory in state roads versus local roads. He felt that treating people differently with how much time they are given to remove trees based on how many trees they must take down is discriminatory. Mr. Spangenberg stated that if the Board votes to repeal the ordinance, he will immediately begin taking down marked trees on his property. He asked the Supervisors for a motion to repeal the ordinance.

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Ms. Dexter made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to repeal Ordinance 2021-01 the Dangerous Tree Ordinance. Mr. Membrino stated that ordinances must be repealed the same way they are adopted.

Ms. Dexter made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to amend the motion to authorize the Solicitor to draw up a document to repeal Ordinance 2021-01 the Dangerous Tree Ordinance. Ms. Dexter and Mr. Masemore voted, "Aye." Mr. Membrino stated he was vehemently opposed. Motion carried 2-1.

Mr. Masemore asked the audience if they would begin taking down their trees and stated that he had voted to repeal because the Township and residents were at a stalemate and the trees need to come down. Mr. Yanan of Sigmund Road asked about the procedure to close a Township Road. Mr. Masemore stated the Township should be given three days notice. Fire Chief Borowski asked that emergency services be notified. Mr. Membrino advised that residents that want to work with the board should continue to attend Township meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Spring Hill Road Drainage

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to authorize the engineer to create a plan to address the rusted drainage pipe near the fish hatchery on Spring Hill Road. All were in favor. Motion carried. The pipe is on private property and in the road right of way.

Seal Coat Bid

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to amend the agenda to add the adoption of Resolution 15-2022 Price Adjustment of Bituminous Materials for small quantities. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to adopt Resolution 15-2022 Price Adjustment of Bituminous Materials for small quantities. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded to authorize the secretary to advertise the seal coat bid for Green House Road and Old Mill Road with the bid opening on July 19, 2022. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Traffic Signal Service Agreement

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Ms. Dexter seconded to authorize the chairman to sign the traffic signal maintenance agreement. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Fegely Special Exception Escrow

Mr. Membrino made a motion and Mr. Masemore seconded to approve the release of \$515.70 from the Fegely Special Exception Escrow to Mullaney Law Offices. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PennDOT ARLE Grant Application

Mr. Masemore made a motion and Mr. Membrino seconded to submit an application for the PennDOT ARLE grant by June 30, 2022. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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Hereford Township Heritage Society

Ms. Dexter reported that she met with Candace Perry of the Schwenkfelder Library, and they looked through the items stored in the historical society offices. Many of the items were used to make the “Early Times in Hereford Township” book but there are some items that need to be stored in a more climate-controlled environment. The Board agreed that an inventory should be done so a resolution to donate the items could be adopted. Ms. Dexter will speak with Ms. Perry on how to proceed. The Board felt that there was no need to keep the current historical society website operational. It was mentioned that there are many things about Hereford Township at the Schwenkfelder Library. Vic See spoke briefly about the first Union soldier to be buried in Arlington Cemetery was born in Hereford Township on the Christman Farm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Membrino made a motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Diane Hollenbach, Secretary/Treasurer