

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
APRIL 25, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson David Moyer called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 p.m., at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Supervisors, James Roma; David Moyer, Thomas Powanda, Solicitor, Daniel Becker, Esquire; John Weber representing LTL Consultants, Brian Brochon, Gilmore & Assoc., Township Manager, Richard Sichler, staff member Susan Brown and approximately twenty (20) residents in attendance.

Absent:

TAPING OF MEETING

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was noted no one other than township staff was taping the meeting this evening.

Chairman Moyer announced an Executive Session was held this evening concerning litigation.

SPECIAL REQUEST

Prestige Property Partners – Presented the Edison Walk Conceptual Plan. This is the former Richard Mingey property located between Route 100 and Old Route 100, Barto Road and Stauffer Road; the property was acquired July of 2018. They are proposing to rezone approximately 20 acres along Route 100 to commercial for upscale retail center and an assisted living facility. This is an age targeted community with proposed lots of 7500 square feet in size and a total of 320 single family homes. It is their hope to put a traffic light on Route 100 to allow access to the property. This would include a boulevard type entrance/exit and frontage improvements to Route 100 to accommodate the addition of left and right turning lanes. The streets will be built to township specifications and be offered for dedication. The open space calculation is based upon the township ordinance which calculates to 74 acres of open space. Prestige is proposing a total of 24 acres with the addition of the previously received 7 ½ acres which the township received on the “front side” of the West Tract development, however that development never fully went through. With the credit for that 7 ½ acres they are providing for a total of 32 acres and the balance they would like to do as fee-in-lieu of. It was felt that playgrounds would not be consistent with this development however walking trails may be more in line with this type of active living. Mr. D’Angelo stated they are still working on the plan based on the market. The current water system, with some upgrades, is adequate to handle the additional housing units. The permitting

process has already begun to cross the wet land areas. Parking issues and street widths on Sugar Maple and Victoria Drive were discussed and it was stated the township should be mindful of those issues when approving this subdivision.

Public Comment

Dot Dornsife, a resident of Sugar Maple Road suggested making Sugar Maple Road a one-way road to help alleviate some of the issues.

Mr. D'Angelo explained a site meeting was held yesterday and walked the entire site in anticipation of moving this project forward. They would like to get the roads paved before the end of the season and getting the punch list items addressed. Mr. D'Angelo asked if the township or the applicant/developer will submit for the zoning change. Mr. Becker stated the applicant should put together a proposed amendment to the zoning and the township will take a look at the proposal.

Connie Cordova, asked the price point of the homes and it was stated between \$270,000 and \$310,000. The homes will be a mix of single- and two-story homes. Ms. Cordova stated the addition of this many residents will increase the demand for local police which will increase taxes.

Supervisor Moyer has concerns regarding snow plowing in this subdivision due to the parking issues and asked that the safety of the residents be considered during the design process of this subdivision. Mr. Sichler informed Prestige the U.S. Post Office is requiring a central mail delivery area so that should be taken into consideration during the design process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Mingey, stated he has updated plans which copies were given to Engineer Weber and also to the Township Manager. Mr. Mingey stated his proposal has changed slightly. The Schwenkfelder Tract density has been reduced to 236 units and added more open space, off-street parking and more buffer areas. Previously there was discussion about the property at Old Route 100 and Barto Road and at this time there are no development plans for this property. The Bally Borough property and the Schwenkfelder property would connect to Bally Borough sewer and 4 units on Stauffer Road would connect to Washington Township sewer system.

Rosalie Fronheiser, stated they have built a house on Weinsteiger Road and to comply with the township street tree ordinance will need to plant trees. Mrs. Fronheiser stated they are not opposed to planting the trees however would prefer not to be required to plant evergreen trees and also to be allowed to wait until fall to do the planting. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda allowing the Fronheisers to plant deciduous trees instead of evergreens to be planted no later than November 1, 2019 and to post escrow with the township. **No comments received.**

All ayes

Jay Jeffries, stated the drainage ditch along Stauffer Road, from Cormorant to the street, has quite a bit of standing water and asked if this is a Spring Valley Village fix or a township fix. Mr. Weber stated it will be looked into.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2019

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma to approve the minutes as prepared for the March 28, 2019 meeting. **No comments received.**

All ayes

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by David Moyer to approve the payment of all bills for the General Fund, Highway Aid Fund, Recreation Fund, Street Light Fund, Traffic Impact Fund, Sewer Fund and Building Escrow Funds up to and inclusive of April 25, 2019, and to file the treasurer's report for audit. **No comments received.**

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of March 2019:

Real Estate Tax	\$115,933.98
Interim Tax	\$ 4.73
Light Tax	\$ 421.40
Hydrant Tax	\$ 118.12
Amusement Tax	\$ 879.06
Per Capita Tax	\$ 6.00
Total	\$117,363.29

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

A copy of the Eastern Berks Fire Department Report is in the binders.

ZONING/SEO REPORT

Reports are in the binders

SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT

A copy of the Engineer's Monthly Report is enclosed.

A copy of the EEMA O & M Report is enclosed

Mr. Brochon reported the Swamp Creek Pump Station construction is essentially complete and a start-up test was conducted and operator training was done as well. As-built plans and documentation are being completed. Spring Valley Village has submitted their request for the release of EDU's associated with the agreement release #2,3 & 4. It is Mr. Brochon's recommendation to approve release 2 and 3 at this time.

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing Spring Valley Village EDU release 2 & 3 in the amounts of \$117,960. and \$167,110. **No comments received.**

All ayes

It is suggested by the Township Manager that the hoist be installed as originally proposed and the Board was in agreement.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

A copy of the Township Engineer's Report is enclosed.

Mr. Weber reported the Clover Hill Final Plan submission was received and the review letter was prepared. Planning Commission will be reviewing this Plan at their May 2nd meeting.

Mr. Weber reviewed the Plan for the bridge on County Line Road with the Board.

Mr. Weber reported he met with Mr. D'Angelo on Wednesday and walked the existing roads. There are a number of things that need to be replaced/repared, and roads need to be paved. Mr. D'Angelo stated he would like to have this work completed by fall. There was some discussion regarding the need for additional parking at Sugar Maple Road.

Bids were opened on Tuesday for the 2019 Road Projects. There were two bids submitted, one from Recon Construction Services with a bid of \$250,944.50 and one bid from E.J. Breneman with a bid of \$259,009.59. A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma awarding the 2019 road project to Recon Construction Services in the amount of \$250,944.50. **No comments received.**

All ayes

The MS4 Permit was submitted at the end of September as required. A review letter was received and are currently working on the review comments. LTL has redone the mapping using the new outfall definitions and submitted to DEP. Chairman Moyer would like to do a workshop to get a better understanding of the process.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None

SUPERVISORS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Truck Sale** – Mr. Sichler reported the high bidder was Dan Lindenmuth for \$8,900 and will take delivery on May 1st. 54% of the revenue must be put back into the liquid fuels fund.

The township has taken delivery of the new truck; Mr. Sichler is recommending payment to Berman Freightliner for the chassis. A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma authorizing payment to Berman Freightliner in the amount of \$106,878. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing payment to E.M. Kutz in the amount of \$77,772. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Roadside Mower Sale** – has been purchased by Broad Top Township, Bedford County has purchased and taken delivery of the roadside mower for a purchase price of \$36,100. The new roadside mower is almost ready for delivery.
- **PADOT Ehst Rd/Route 100 Stormwater Issue** – there has been no update on this project.
- **Mowing Contract**-an RFP was issued for mowing on a per mowing basis, two bids received with the low bid from Forever Green with a price quote of \$650 per cut. Mr. Sichler also advertised for part time seasonal help and has not received any responses. Supervisor Moyer stated it is time to hire 2 full time positions to mow and help with roadcrew work and someone to run the treatment plant. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the Manager to put together a job description for a full-time employee with an operator's license. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **RFP Sewer Plant Expansion** – Mr. Sichler received four responses to the RFP. The Supervisors will review and get their responses back to the manager by May 6th.
- **LED Lighting upgrade** – Mr. Sichler has been working with Denny Electric.
- **Gutter Cleaning** – gutter cleaning is needed in some areas of the township. It was discussed possibly using Pike Township's grader, renting or purchasing a used grader.
- **DCNR Community Recreation & Conservation Planning Grant App.** – was submitted on 4/15/19 however this needs to be done by resolution. A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda adopting Resolution 2019-17 DCNR Community Recreation & Conservation Planning Grant. **No comments received.**

All ayes

Supervisor Roma asked if all the re-keying work is completed in the administration building. Mr. Sichler stated there is some work that still needs to be done.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Safety Committee request**-a request was made by the safety committee regarding how the township addresses trees and bushes growing into the right-of-way. A sample has been provided to the Supervisors for their review and comment.
- **Per Capita Tax Exonerations**-A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda approving the Per Capita Tax Exonerations for 2018/2019. **No comments received.**

David Moyer – aye

Thomas Powanda – aye

James Roma - abstained

- **Spring Clean Up – May 4th**-Spring Clean-up will be held on May 4th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. This year the township will not be taking tires. –
- **Sewer late fee waiver request** – A late fee of \$37.98 was assessed on account 771 and the customer claims the bill was not received. A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda denying the waiver request. **No comments received.**
All ayes
- **Berkeys Bridge** – Mr. Sichler reported work on the bridge will begin on May 6th and will continue for approximately 6 months.

SUBDIVISIONS/PLANNING

None

SUBDIVISION EXTENSION

None

COMMUNICATIONS

- Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed.

Chairman Moyer stated we are one of many municipalities that carries sewer delinquency. It was reported at PSATS that some municipalities carry \$60,000 to \$70,000 delinquent debt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

The next WTMA (water) meeting will be held on Thursday, July 25, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m. **No public comment received.**

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Sichler
 Manager/Secretary