

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 24, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Moyer called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:05 p.m., at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Supervisors, Chairman Moyer, Thomas Powanda, Rommie Long, Solicitor, Joan London, Esquire; John Weber representing LTL Consultants, Tom Unger, Systems Design Engineering, Township Manager, Richard Sichler, Township Treasurer, Missy Swanson, and eighteen (18) residents in attendance.

Absent: Brenda Breidigan, Tax Collector

**TAPING OF MEETING**

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

**SPECIAL REQUEST**

Florence Good, 111 Hillcrest Road for a driveway permit was not present at meeting.

Greg Adelman, Spring Valley Village: Greg was present to ask the Board of Supervisors to consider an area zoned as industrial to be used for mobile homes. Greg was not looking for action to be taken at this meeting, just for the board to consider. Greg introduced Brian Seidel, landscape architect, who handed out design plans for the proposed mobile homes in the industrial zone. Brian stated these plans were submitted to the planning commission on February 3, 2022. Brian said there are to be 35 mobile homes in the proposal. He showed the board his analysis of traffic and that half of the parcel will remain open space. Chairman Moyer stated the board of supervisors will take this into consideration.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Tara Christman**, 2216 Old Route 100: Tara asked if Sugar Maple Road will be a one way once developing starts. Chairman Moyer stated there is nothing in concrete stating that Sugar Maple will become a one-way street. Tara also mentioned having trouble seeing our minutes and information on our website. Chairman Moyer stated that the best way to find out what is going on in the township is to attend the meetings. Joan London mentioned that coming to the Planning Commission meetings is a way to see how the subdivisions are processing. Joan described the three steps in subdivision plans: Sketch, Preliminary, and Final. Tara also asked why the township is acquiring open space off

Passmore Road. Chairman Moyer stated that the new parcel the township is acquiring from Prestige as open space will connect with previous open space the township already owns. This will allow the township to create a bigger park.

**Jim D'Angelo, Prestige Builders:** Jim complimented the township on how well they have worked with his company. He said they are waiting on PA DOT review to see if Sugar Maple can become a one-way road. Jim stated that he wants to start the conversation about upgrading the sewer plant. Jim would like to have preliminary approval on his plans, but Tom Unger stated he can not have preliminary approval without the sewer capacity issue completed. Thomas Powanda wants to get Prestige Subdivision process moving along and Chairman Moyer suggested setting up a special meeting to just address the sewer issue.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2022 REGULAR MEETING:**

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Rommie Long to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 27, 2022 BOS Meeting as prepared. **No comments received.**

**All Ayes**

**MEETING AGENDA ADDITION:**

Rich Sichler proposed the following additions to the agenda:

- Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Bid – No action was decided except to just waive on completing it.
- Berks County Conservation District MOU – A motion was made to amend the agenda for this MOU by Chairman Moyer and was seconded by Thomas Powanda. **All Ayes** A motion was then made to approve the Berks County MOU by Thomas Powanda and seconded by Chairman Moyer. **All Ayes**
- Snow Emergency Parking Ban Enforcement – this was decided to be put on Unfinished Business for next month and given to Joan London to prepare.

**TOWNSHIP REPORTS**

A motion was made by Chairman Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda 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 February 24, 2022, and to file the treasurer's report for audit. **No comments received.**

**All ayes**

Chairman Moyer announced an Executive Session was held this evening to personnel issues.

## **TAX COLLECTOR**

Tax Collectors Report for the month of January 2022 were presented by Rich Sichler in Brenda Breidigan's absence:

Real Estate Tax	\$ 2,704.79
Light Tax	\$ 0.00
Per Capita Tax	\$ 0.00
Amusement Tax	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total	\$ 2,704.79

## **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

A copy of the Eastern Berks Fire Department Report is in the binders. Chairman Moyer reminded the residents that the Fire company is looking for donations and volunteers.

## **ZONING/SEO REPORT**

Reports are in the binders.

## **SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Chairman Moyer wanted to express appreciation for both John Weber from LTL Consultants and Tom Unger from System Design during the current Engineer's Week.

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

- **Sewer Report** – No Action items
- **Influent lift station upgrade:** Tom Unger stated they are getting pricing and plan on doing this in the Spring of 2022.
- **Weinsteiger Electric Upgrade:** Tom Unger said he contacted Met-Ed for pricing without having to enter into a work order and fee. He has not heard back from Met-Ed yet.
- **Chapter 94 Contributory Report to Boro of Bally:** A motion was made by Chairman Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda to approve the Chapter 94 report. **All Ayes**

## **TOWNSHIP ENGINEER**

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

- **Resolutions 2022-18, Roark Americana – 849 Forgedale Road Planning Module (on-lot septic system approval):** John Weber showed the board plans for the on-site septic system. Septic is approved but John's planning module needs to be adopted by the board. Thomas Powanda made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-18 for 849 Forgedale Road and was seconded by Rommie Long.  
**All Ayes**
- **Subdivision plans:** John Weber stated that the March 2022 Planning Commission meeting will discuss 4 subdivision plans: Edison Walk/Prestige, the Prestige/Gross plan, The Kelly Group plan, and the Shadeland Group plan.

- **Barto Road Alignment:** LTL has staked out the center line to the new road. Buckeye Pipeline has staked out their pipe. No Bog Turtle study has been completed yet.
- **2022 Road Project:** John Weber stated that he did a cost estimate for the Wilt Road to Hoffmansville Road paving project and came up with a cost of \$312,000. This is higher than was budgeted. John Weber wants the bids to be decided at the March BOS meeting as an early bid gets a better price. They may have to look at possibly not doing the whole project in order to stay within budget.

### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- **Prestige Edison Walk Agreement :** Joan London stated the township needed to adopt a memorandum of understanding. Chairman Moyer made a motion to adopt a memorandum of understanding between Prestige and Washington Township and Thomas Powanda seconded it. **All Ayes.**

### SUPERVISORS

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **PADOT Ehst Road/Route 100 stormwater issue-** Rich Sichler stated that he has heard nothing but still sees the project starting Spring of 2022.
- **Gehring Road open space tract** – Chairman Moyer met with a lumber company and they walked the property. He has not heard back with a quote yet. Chairman asked the audience if anyone knew anyone in the lumber field to give us a call.
- **Administration Building Restructure:** Tom Unger did an inspection of the Administration building for the restructure. Tom will look into giving us a quote. Rich stated that he has not looked in the TW Tilt Kits for the windows yet.
- **Skid Steer and Brush Hog purchase:** Rich presented three quotes and a vote was taken. Chairman Moyer made a motion to purchase Compact Track Loader 333G II from John Deere for \$91,716.00 and was seconded by Thomas Powanda. This purchase does not include the bucket. Rich is going to get quotes on another bucket. **All Ayes**
- **Basketball court painting:** Rich is going to refresh the price quote on the painting from Sport Court. Thomas Powanda asked if the road crew could do the painting. Rich will get two quotes: one for Sport Court to do the full project and a second for just the paint so the road crew could paint. It was decided also that they want three colors incorporated in the painting.
- **Truck Replacements:** No decision was made on purchasing or replacing the long rails. It was noted that if we order a new truck now, we won't get it till around May 2023. Rich is going to look at getting better prices for both new trucks and replacing the long rails. He did have a quote from EM Kutz for \$8,210.00 to replace the long rails. A resident stated to check with PA DOT and the turnpike to see if they had any trucks for sale. It was agreed to postpone this decision to next months meeting with a few more quotes.

- **Nighttime Sign Audit:** Romnie Long asked if this has been set up. Rich stated he has a call into LTAP for their machine to check reflect ability. Rich has not heard back from them yet.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Social Media Review:** Romnie Long asked that our website be updated and made more user friendly. Romnie would like to see pictures of our township on the website. Rich said our current web service supplier, Enter.net's contract needs to be increased to allow for more changes to be done per month. The upgrade will cost \$408 more per year. Romnie Long made a motion to approve the upgrade to Enter.net and it was seconded by Thomas Powanda.  
**All Ayes**
- **Newsletter Update:** Rich stated a Spring newsletter will be going out soon. Romnie Long asked to have the newsletter contain helpful tidbits such as the website for unclaimed money.
- **Mower Purchase:** Rich presented three quotes for a new mower. A motion was made by Thomas Powanda to purchase the John Deere Z970R ZTrak from Littles for \$15,484.25 and this was not seconded, so the motion dies. A motion was made by Romnie Long to purchase the EXMARK 72" Laser X Vanguard from Passmore Service Center for \$13,208.30 and seconded by Chairman Moyer.  
**Romnie Long – Aye**  
**Chairman Moyer – Aye**  
**Thomas Powanda – Opposed**
- **Summer Help:** Rich stated he is looking for direction in the hiring of summer help: what is the township willing to pay, what experience level are they looking for, will it be PT or FT. Thomas Powanda would like to see a road crew person put in charge of parks only. It was decided to start the March BOS meeting at 5:00pm to discuss this topic of summer help and how to proceed. Rich will be putting together a current job description summary.
- **Washington Park Playground entrance:** The entrance to the playground is in bad shape. The BOS approved for the entrance to be paved.
- **Recycling Center Operations:** Chairman Moyer asked the residents in attendance who uses the Red Barn for their recycling. None of them do. Chairman Moyer said that most garbage companies offer recycling in their service. Chairman Moyer said the recycling program costs the township money. Rich is going to look again at the grants that were received to build this program.
- **Office Postage Machine:** Rich showed the Board of Supervisors a spreadsheet showing the additional cost of getting a postage machine. It would cost the township possibly \$400 more each year than using the current Bulk Mail Permit system now in place. A motion to purchase the SendPro C Series postage machine with a lease of \$76 per month for 63 months was made by Chairman Moyer and seconded by Romnie Long.  
**All Ayes**
- **Purging of Old Files:** Rich gave the Board of Supervisors a copy of records the township has retained that could be disposed of. They included: Tax bill receipts, Time cards, Treasurer's reports, Accounts Payable Files, Accounts Receivable

Files, Payroll Taxes, and Permits up to 2014. A motion was made by Rommie Long and seconded by Chairman Moyer to dispose of the above records. Chairman Moyer also said to all residents that we will be giving away some items at the township: Worth Remembering Book, Continuing the Vision Book, and Washington Township Buttons. These are nice books with the history of Washington Township so please stop in for your copy.

- **Appointing of volunteer positions:** A motion was made by Thomas Powanda to appoint Tara Christman to the Park and Rec Committee for a three-year term ending 2024 and was seconded by Chairman Moyer. **All Ayes** A motion was made by Thomas Powanda to appoint Wenhuan Qui to the AG Advisory Council and was seconded by Rommie Long. **All Ayes.**
- **Cubbler Court Open Space:** Chairman Moyer asked about the status of the sale of the Cubbler Court open space to one of the residents. Rich said the resident was in the process of getting an appraisal.
- **PA Game Lands:** Rommie Long mentioned an event called Clean Up West Bank being held March 12, 2022 at 10:00am if anyone is interested in volunteering. Masks are required.

#### **SUBDIVISION/PLANNING**

None

#### **SUBDIVISION EXTENSION**

**Edison Walk/Rose A. Gross Minor Subdivision Plan:** A motion was made by Rommie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda extending the plan from 3/2/22 to 6/2/22.

**Edison Walk Residential Subdivision Plan:** A motion was made by Chairman Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda to extending the plan from 3/29/22 to 9/30/22.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None needed

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Romnie Long and seconded by Thomas Powanda to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:54 p.m. **No public comment received.**

**All ayes**

Respectfully submitted,

Missy Swanson  
Treasurer