

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
OCTOBER 28, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson David Moyer called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:25 p.m., at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Moyer announced an executive session was held this evening to discuss land issues and a personnel matter.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Supervisors, David Moyer, Thomas Powanda, James Roma, Solicitor, Joan London, Esquire; John Weber representing LTL Consultants, Tom Unger, Systems Design Engineering, Township Manager, Richard Sichler, Township Secretary, Susan Brown, and approximately ten (10) residents in attendance.

Absent: None

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

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 23, 2021 as prepared. **No comments received.**

All aye

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma 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 October 28, 2021, and to file the treasurer's report for audit. **No comments received.**

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of September 2021:

Real Estate Tax	\$ 1,386.11
Per Capita Tax	\$ 579.00
Amusement Tax	\$ 8,205.05
Total	\$ 10,170.16

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

A copy of the Eastern Berks Fire Department Report is in the binders. Chairman Moyer urged residents to support the annual fund drive.

ZONING/SEO REPORT

Reports are in the binders

SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

- **Lee Moyer sewer connection** – Mr. Unger will review the cost estimate for the Moyer connection which will be an attachment to the agreement.
- **WWTP influent pump station**, pump has arrived. There is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday to coordinate the installation. The blower/exhaust fan is not functioning and it is believed to be the wrong voltage.
- **Weinsteiger Lift Station 3 phase electric** – A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing SDE to do an evaluation of cost for 3 phase electric and equipment upgrade for 3 phase electric at the Weinsteiniger Pump Station. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **WWTP capital expense planning** – A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing SDE to put together a detailed capital cost plan for planning purposes. **No comments received.**

All ayes

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

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

- **Bally Springs Phase 2 & 3** – An agreement was reached at last months meeting to repair some outstanding items and a \$100,000 escrow that was posted for the completion of those items. The items included the repair of 2 water valves, one on O'Donoghue Way and one on Chase Circle, replacing the no outlet sign on Avalon Circle and removing the paint from the globe of the streetlight at the intersection of Avalon Circle and County Line Road.

The first items have been complete and satisfactory. The two water valves have been raised and the no outlet sign has been replaced. In the process of cleaning the paint off of the globe of the streetlight the globe was damaged and it is the recommendation of LTL that the globe be replaced. The Developer has ordered a replacement globe from two different vendors but have not received the globe as of yet. At this point LTL would recommend the township hold \$5,000 for

security and the remaining \$95,000 could be released. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing road dedication for phases 2 & 3 of Bally Springs and to release \$95,000 back to the developer. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **MS4 Annual Report** – submitted to PADEP and LTL did receive notification that the report was received.
- **44 Crescent Lane** – A notice of violation was sent to the property owner in Florida. The owner worked with their insurance company and the house has since been demolished and debris removed. A fence has been installed around the property.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- **Rose Gross Property** - Ms. London reported on the Rose Gross property acquisition, the environmental due diligence is underway. Liberty Environmental has been engaged to perform a phase 1 and they have begun work. The memorandum of understanding has been extended pending the completion of the phase 1 environmental study.
- **Mingey litigation** – Ms. London received comments from Attorney Adelman on the township's proposed revisions to global settlement agreement. Ms. London will be responding and hopefully the agreement will be completed by the next meeting.

SUPERVISORS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **PADOT Ehst Road/Route 100 stormwater issue**-work is scheduled for spring 2022.
- **Gehring Road open space tract** – Mr. Moyer continues to try to make contact with someone to look at the trees.
- **Barto Road straightening** – Chairman Moyer would like to start the process. Mr. Weber stated they do have the plan they worked on. Mr. Moyer would like LTL to stake out the center of the roadway. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing LTL Consultants to send the Plan for Barto Road straightening & to include the intersection of Barto Road and Old Route 100, to Buckeye Pipeline. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **2022 Budget preparation, major projects & purchases** – Rich distributed an amended budget. The last item on the page was not included, line item 436.250 maintenance of the storm sewer system, \$23,055.91 for 1/3 of the stormwater project material cost for Route 100 and Ehst Road. Rich also contacted the gas company regarding connecting to the gas line however they have not gotten back to him. The Chairman said to keep the \$50,000 in the budget for the gas pipeline.

Rich spoke with the porta potty vendor regarding leasing handicapped porta potties. To lease the units would be an additional charge of \$80 per month on top of the \$120 maintenance fee for each unit per month, which includes cleaning and

restocking. Rich also checked into more durable units for a cost of about \$1,800 per unit. The Supervisors recommending budgeting for leasing the units next year.

The Recreation Study is a complete cost of \$70,000. It was decided to transfer ½ of the sidewalk fund to recreation fund and to budget \$25,000 for equipment replacement.

Rich got a price quote for a John Deere skid steer of \$88,000 track loader with brush hog to be purchased from the sewer fund.

The budget does not include ½ person for the WWTP. Budget should include a half time person with benefits. It was suggested adding a 3% rate increase across the board for budget purposes only, actual raises are to be determined. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the advertisement of the proposed 2022 budget and sewer budget. **No comments received.**

All ayes

Rich will work on the 5-year projection and both sewer rates and tax rates will be determined after the Board has a chance to review the projections.

- **Temporary large equipment storage solutions for winter 2022** – Rich checked on a few different options. The final rental numbers will be looked at on November 18th.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Sewer late fee waiver requests** – A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma amending the agenda to include two additional sewer accounts for consideration of waivers. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda waiving the late fee in the amount of \$31.83 for account 589.01. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda waiving the late fee in the amount of \$31.83 for account 256.01. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma waiving the late fee in the amount of \$31.83 for account 1506.01. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by Thomas Powanda waiving the late fee in the amount of \$31.83 for account 1400.01. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda will waive the late fee of \$80.90 for account 1119.01 if account becomes current within the next 10 days. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Berks County certification of Municipal Tax sheet** – Since tax rates were not set tonight this item will be on the November agenda.
- **Texas Eastern NPDES Permit** – no action required.
- **Federal Government Vehicle Parking** – Rich received a request from a U.S Army Staff Sergeant recruiting office working remotely with a government issued vehicle. The condition of having a government issued vehicle is it must be parked on government property overnight and is requesting to park in the township parking lot. The Board of Supervisors were not in favor of granting this request.
- **Sale of Case Backhoe** – Rich reported the new backhoe has been received and would like to sell the old backhoe. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the sale of the Case backhoe on Munica Bid with a minimum bid of \$25,000 with the auction to end prior to the November 18th meeting. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Purchase of shoulder leveler attachment** – A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the purchase of a shoulder leveler in the amount of \$7,525. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Intersection of County Line Rd & Gehringer Rd.** – LTAP evaluated the intersection and made 3 recommendations/levels.

1. Level 1 recommendations:

- a. In advance of the curve in the northbound direction, install a Right Turn with Side Road Left warning sign supplemented with a 20 MPH Advisory plaque placed anywhere from the point of curvature up to 100 feet in advance of the curve.
- b. In advance of the curve in the southbound direction, install a Left Turn with Side Road Right warning sign supplemented with a 20 MPH Advisory plaque placed anywhere from the point of curvature up to 100 feet in advance of the curve.
- c. Install a Large Single Arrow sign on the outside of the turn in the northbound direction. This sign should be placed directly in the approaching driver's line of sight.
- d. In the southbound direction, replace the existing Chevron sign with a Large Single Arrow sign.

2. Level 2 recommendations:

- a. Install advanced curve warning treatments (“SLOW-curve” thermoplastic pavement markings). The pavement markings should be located 45 feet from the first point of curvature in each direction and should comply with the guidelines in PennDOT Publication 111, Section TC-8600, sheet 11.
- b. Double up the Turn with Side Road signs and 20 MPH Advisory Speed Plaques by placing one on the left side of the road in each direction.
- c. To increase the visibility and conspicuity of the signs, add a yellow reflective channel post strip in each of the advanced warning signs and Large arrow signs.

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma authorizing the implementation of Level 1 this year and Level 2 in spring of 2022. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Niantic Rd & Route 100 crosswalk** – Signal Services, Inc. conducted their annual maintenance and inspection of the traffic lights and intersections and recommend the following improvements for Route 100 & Niantic Road:
 1. The 24” white stop bars and pedestrian crosswalk pavement markings are worn in some spots and need to be repainted.

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma authorizing Rich or Brian to obtain pricing for the crosswalk marking improvements, as outlined, at Route 100 & Niantic Road. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Heydt’s Schoolhouse Rd culvert pipe purchase** – A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the purchase of 60” x 40’ culvert pipe at a cost of \$130 per foot, not to exceed \$6,000. **No comments received.**

All ayes

SUBDIVISION/PLANNING

None

SUBDIVISION EXTENSION

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda granting the following subdivision extension:

Rose A. Gross Minor Plan 11/12/21 to 02/11/2022

No comments received.

All ayes

COMMUNICATIONS

- Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Chairman Moyer announced Trick or Treat will be this coming weekend, please be careful driving.

The General Election will be held Tuesday, November 2nd.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:45 p.m. **No public comment received.**

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Brown
Township Secretary