

## EPHRATA TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MEETING

May 17, 2022

The Ephrata Township Supervisors met this date at 7:00 a.m. at the Ephrata Township Office Building, 265 Akron Road, Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

Present were Supervisors: Clark Stauffer  
Tony Haws  
Ty Zerbe  
Manager: Steve Sawyer  
Admin Assist: Jennifer Carvell  
Engineer: Jim Caldwell  
Police: Chief John Petrick

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clark Stauffer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to close the Public Comment Period. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Tony Haws to dispense with the reading of the May 3, 2022 Supervisors' minutes and to approve them as presented. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

**Ephrata Crossing – SWM Revision.** Dave Bittner of RGS Associates and Rick Stauffer, Developer of Ephrata Crossings was in attendance. The Board of Supervisors received a letter from RGS Associates dated May 13, 2022 and an email response from Jim Caldwell of Rettew Associates dated May 16, 2022 for their review prior to the meeting. Modifications to the approved Storm Water Management Plan as part of Phase 4 of Ephrata Crossing is being requested for Section 406.9 – Basin Dewatering and Section 409 – Volume Control. Dave Bittner of RGS explained that the developer encountered bed rock when trying to complete the construction of the approved storm water manage facility. Jim Caldwell of Rettew Associates provided the Township with his concerns and recommendations in his May 13, 2022 email and recommended conditional approval of the SWMF-6 revisions based on the applicant addressing his comments in the May 13<sup>th</sup> email and written confirmation from the LCCD that the proposed changes to the NPDES permit are approved.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to conditionally approve the proposed Storm Water Management modifications for Ephrata Crossings Phase 4 subject to the applicant addressing the comments contained in the Township Engineer's email dated May 13, 2022 and written confirmation from the LCCD that the changes to the NPDES permit are approved. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

#### STAFF REPORTS

##### **Police Department – Monthly Report.**

Chief John Petrick provided the Supervisors with a summary of the calls for service within Ephrata Township for the month of April totaling 320 incidents. There were 3 arrests and 7 traffic citations. In addition, Chief Petrick discussed mental health - disturbance calls. The Department has been attending mental distress training to better handle these types of calls which has been beneficial. The monthly report was provided to the Township and will be kept on file in the office.

Chief Petrick also reported that the body cameras are now in service and being used in the field.

##### **Manager Steve Sawyer**

- **Michael Petrosky – Park Request.** At the May 3, 2022 meeting, Michael Petrosky was present as a follow up to an email that was sent to the Township concerning a multi-state northern snakehead kayak fishing tournament being held on June 25, 2022 and July 30, 2022 for qualifiers. Mr. Petrosky has entered the event and is requesting permission to fish the Park Lake with a kayak on these dates. Manager Sawyer stated that his main concern is that the current Ephrata Township Park Rules do not allow any type of boats or kayaks to be used at the Ephrata Township Community Park. The Township has discussed the possibility of changing this rule in the future but decided to postpone any possible rule changes until additional clearing of the southern shoreline. The Township recently received bids for this project and all bids were rejected due to the cost being much higher than anticipated. Ty Zerbe stated that if there are snakehead fish in the lake as Mr. Petrosky has indicated, the Township should consider allowing the use of kayaks for this one-time event to hopefully remove some of the snakehead fish from the lake. Manager Sawyer suggested tabling action of this request so that staff could do additional research and contact the Fish and Boat Commission for input. Supervisor Zerbe stated that he contacted the PA Fish and Boat Commission and they do not object to the Township allowing this type of event but suggested that the Township require all participants to report their catches to the Commission.

A motion was made by Tony Haws approving the use of kayaks at the Ephrata Township Community Park for June 25, 2022 from 5am to 3pm only. Anyone wishing to use a kayak on the lake must be registered in the Snakehead Fishing Tournament and meet all of their requirements along with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations for kayaks and canoes. Participants must also

report snakehead catches to the PA Fish and Boat Commission and be registered with Ephrata Township for the use of kayaks on the lake which will be limited to the first 10 participants. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

- **Cocalico Creek Restoration Project – Authorization to Sign.** The Board of Supervisors awarded the bid for the Cocalico Creek Restoration Project to Flyway Excavating at a prior meeting. Manager Sawyer requested that the Board of Supervisors authorize him to execute the contract and all documents required for the project.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to authorize Manager Steven Sawyer to execute the necessary documents between Flyway Excavating and Ephrata Township to complete the Cocalico Creek Restoration Project. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **Mohler Church Road Bridge – Truck Turning Templates.** The Board of Supervisors were provided with an email from David Hoglund of Rettew Associates dated May 8, 2022 regarding the possibility of making improvements to the Mohler Church Road Bridge due to the number of tractor trailer accidents. Mr. Hoglund reported that his findings were that a 15' tractor and 53' trailer could not cross the bridge in the southbound direction. Based on the truck turning templates, the largest trucks that can pass through the bridge were noted to be a 15' sleeper cab with 48' trailer and the Modified 7.5' cab with 53' trailer. Manager Sawyer contacted Denver Wholesale Foods which generates the majority of the truck traffic and they reported that most of the trucks coming and going from their facility are the 15' sleeper cabs and 53' trailers. The local drivers appear to be able to navigate their tractor trailers through the bridge but the contracted drivers from out of the area are having difficulty. Jim Caldwell stated that he feels there are improvements that can be made that may reduce the number of times the bridge is hit. Staff will explore options such as widening the roadway, installing a truck curb close to the bridge and additional signage. Staff will research and provide additional information to the Board at a future meeting.
- **Mohler Church Road Bridge – No Parking Zone.** Road Superintendent Randy Groome recommended placing "No Parking" signs at the concrete area to the north of the bridge. The tractor trailers need this area to safely navigate the bridge. Allowing fisherman to park in this location will most likely cause more accidents. Township Manager Steve Sawyer and Engineer Jim Caldwell agreed that the Township should make this area a no parking zone and post the appropriate signage.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to approve a no parking zone north of the Mohler Church Road Bridge and authorized staff to install "No Parking" signs at this location. Staff was also directed to get additional information for widening the road surface, installing a truck curb and additional signage. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

**Township Engineer Jim Caldwell** reported that the following plans/projects are in the review process:

- Lincoln Heights Avenue – Sketch Plan
- Hoover Subdivision Plan
- Tommy's Carwash – Site Inspections
- Keystone Mills - Storm Water Management
- Daniel Glick – Storm Water Management Plan
- CB Burkholder – LD Plan

**Road Superintendent Randy Groome**

- **Seasonal Employee.** Randy Groome reported to the Board of Supervisors that the Township is in need of hiring a new Seasonal Employee. The Township received an application from Brock Crills who is graduating from Ephrata Area High School. Randy requested authorization from the Board of Supervisors to offer the Seasonal Maintenance position to Brock Crills at the rate of \$15.50 per hour.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to approve hiring Brock Crills as a seasonal maintenance worker at a payrate of \$15.50 per hour. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

- **Dump Truck Purchase.** Randy Groome prepared a list of trucks by age and model currently owned by Ephrata Township for the Board of Supervisors to review prior to the meeting. The oldest truck is 20 years old and due to rust issues should be the next truck replaced. Randy contacted different dealers participating in the Co-Star program for pricing and availability. A summary of the different trucks and availability was also provided to the Board of Supervisors for their review prior to the meeting.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe authorizing the purchase of the 2022 Freightliner with alternate spreader controller from Lancaster Truck Bodies in the amount of \$159,542.88. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to accept the list of checks written and to pay any bills pending. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Tony Haws stated that he did not have anything to add to the meeting.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 A.M. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

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Clark R. Stauffer

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Anthony K. Haws

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J. Tyler Zerbe