

EPHRATA TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING

May 3, 2022

The Ephrata Township Supervisors met this date at 7:00 p.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
Solicitor:	Anthony Schimanek

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 to close the public comment period was made by Ty Zerbe. 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 April 19, 2022 Supervisors' Minutes and to approve them as presented. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Manager Steve Sawyer

- **Michael Petrosky – Park Request.** The Township received an email from Michael Petrosky dated April 19, 2022 notifying the Township that there is a Multi-state Northern Snakehead kayak 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. Mr. Petrosky was present to answer any question and address any concerns from the Board of Supervisors. 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 fishing 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. The Township could advertise the event so that others could participate as well. Mr. Petrosky was not opposed to the idea and stated that he could provide the Township with more information. Manager Sawyer suggested tabling action of this request so that staff could do additional research and contact the Fish and Boat Commission for input. After discussion, Chairman Stauffer notified Mr. Petrosky that more research was needed to make a decision and it would be discussed again at the next Supervisor's meeting on May 17, 2022 at 7 am.

- **Holding Tank Maintenance Agreement – 48 East Mohler Church Road.** Manager Sawyer reported that the property owner of 48 East Mohler Church Road is requesting permission to install a temporary holding tank due to needing to obtain a DEP Permit to cross a small stream to be able to connect to public sewer. The Sewer Authority has issued a Sewer Permit for the new single-family dwelling when the building permit was issued. At that time, it was not known that the sewer main was located on the opposite side of a stream located within a sewer easement for this property. Diehm & Sons, on behalf of the property owner, has submitted an application to DEP for a permit to cross the stream with the sewer lateral. Manager Sawyer stated that the Holding Tank Maintenance Agreement requires the property owner to provide \$500.00 to the Township to cover any maintenance and is required to hook up to public sewer within twelve (12) months from the date of the Agreement.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to approve the Holding Tank Maintenance Agreement for 48 East Mohler Church Road as per the justification provided. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **Pleasant View Truck Traffic Issue.** The Township received a form letter that was submitted and signed by three (3) residents that live along Pleasant View Drive. The reason for the letter was to express their concerns regarding the amount of truck traffic using their street. The three (3) residents are requesting the Township post the road “No Truck Traffic”. The Board of Supervisors tabled action regarding this request and directed staff to obtain more information. Staff sent letters to the three property owners requesting that they contact the Township with additional information as to the type of trucks using the road, the frequency of the truck traffic and possible business identification on the trucks. The Township received one phone call from one resident out of the three and that resident requested to rescind his participation in the “No Truck Traffic” request. Manager Sawyer stated that his recommendation is to take no further action since there has been no responses to the letter sent by the Township to provide any additional information as requested.
- **Update – East Main – Pleasant Valley Traffic Signal Modifications.** The Township has received multiple complaints regarding left turn movements into Ephrata Marketplace at the Route 322 / Pleasant Valley Road traffic signal. The current PennDOT signal permit does not allow left turns on a flashing yellow arrow during the daytime hours. The Township has submitted a formal request and traffic count data to PennDOT to allow additional permissive left turns at this

intersection. Manager Sawyer reported that he is hopeful that formal approval will be received in the near future.

- **Mohler Church Road Truck Accident.** Manager Sawyer sent a letter and invoice to Yare Trucking concerning damage to the Mohler Church Road Bridge as a result of an accident on January 5, 2022 by Certified Mail as directed by the Board of Supervisors. The letter and invoice were received and signed for on April 5, 2022. There has been no response from Yare Trucking to date. Manager Sawyer and Tony Schimaneck recommended authorizing staff to proceed with filing a Civil Action with the local Magistrate.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to direct staff to proceed with filing a Civil Action Complaint with the local Magistrate against Yare Express, LLC. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

Solicitor – Tony Schimaneck

Tony reported that his office has been working on the Holding Tank Agreement and East Mohler Church Road Subdivision Agreements.

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

- Ephrata Crossing East Phase 4
- Hoover Subdivision
- Daniel Glick – SWM Plan
- East Mohler Church Subdivision
- Tommy's Carwash – Site Inspections
- Keystone Mills – SWM Plan
- Lincoln Heights Avenue – Sketch Plan
- Concept Excavating – Retaining Wall

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 there was no additional correspondence that has not already been discussed.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

Clark R. Stauffer

J. Tyler Zerbe

Anthony Haws