

EPHRATA TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS' MEETING

September 18, 2018

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

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

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 September 4, 2018 Supervisors' minutes and to approve them as presented. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Manager Steve Sawyer

- **Community Block Party.** Emily Patterson of Autumn Hills Development was present. Emily emailed the Township on September 6, 2018 requesting the permission from the Township to close Red Sunset Run on Saturday, October 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a Community Wide October-fest Block Party. In the past the event was held on an empty lot but due to the amount of rain the empty lots available are too muddy. There was discussion with concerns of blocking access to residents' driveways and emergency vehicles. Manager Sawyer stated that Phase 3 has not been dedicated to the Township and may have an area with empty lots that would not impact residential access. There was then a concern of electric access for crockpots, etc. The Supervisors asked that Emily contact all of the residents that would be affected on Red Sunset Run and have them sign an Acknowledgement agreeing to the road closure and event. At that time, safety concerns would need to be address as to where tables and children events would be located. Lieutenant Shumaker was also in attendance and stated that he could do some research and also help with the safety concerns.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to table a decision to allow Red Sunset Road to be closed for a Community Block Party until such time approval has been provided from all residents on Red Sunset Run. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **Capital Purchase – Police Dept. Radios.** The Ephrata Police Department has been experiencing significant issues with the hardware of their Rhelm Police Radios. Lieutenant Shumaker was present and stated that the Rhelm warranty will run out the end of 2018. He has contacted Motorola for their pricing and they have provided a contract to them. The contract would provide them with a radio for each officer and a three (3) year warranty. The County has only approved the use of radios from Rhelm or Motorola at this time. Currently each officer has their own radio which identifies who they are at Countywide. With the constant hardware issues, officers have had to share radios which is misidentifying the officer. Motorola has agreed to provide the Ephrata Police Department with radios the beginning of 2019 but defer payment until 2020. Interest will be added to price during the deferral period. Motorola is requesting commitment from the Ephrata Police Department by October 4, 2018. The Township's current Police Contract will run out the end of 2019 and they are currently working on a future 5 year contract beginning 2020. The Township's actual percentage in 2020 is currently unknown. It was discussed that if the Police radios only have a 3 year warranty and will need to be replaced more frequently than in the past that it may be wise to begin having them as an operating budgeted item instead of a capital purchase. The amount of interest that will need to be paid for deferring the payment was also a concern. Lieutenant Shumaker requested that the Township prepare correspondence to Bob Thompson, Ephrata Borough Manager to help him address their questions and concerns. The Board of Supervisors directed staff to contact Bob Thompson with their questions and concerns to obtain more information prior to agreeing with the proposed contribution to the capital purchase of Motorola radios.
- **Signature Custom Cabinetry.** A letter from Jim Caldwell of Rettew Associates was presented to the Board of Supervisors dated September 7, 2018 notifying them that Signature Custom Cabinetry, Inc. is requesting full release of their financial security in the amount of \$17,106.65 plus accrued interest. Rettew Associates recommended the full release of the Financial Security for this project.

A motion was made by Ty Zerbe to approve the release of Signature Custom Cabinetry's Financial Security in the amount of \$17,106.65 plus accrued interest. The motion was seconded by Tony Haws and carried unanimously.

- **Eastbrooke Lot.** The Board of Supervisors were presented with a letter dated September 12, 2018 that was sent to the two (2) neighboring property owners on either side of the vacant lot in the Eastbrooke Development. The letter stated that the Township is considering selling the property to Gerry Horst who is the original owner and would like to be contacted to receive input prior to any decision being made by the Township. To date the Township has not received a reply from either homeowner.

- **Rail Trail Bridge Project - Update.** DESCCO has recommended removing the railroad ties and replacing them with plywood shims. A credit will be issued in the amount of \$31,718.50 and has been reviewed and approved by Wilson Consulting. In addition, it was recommended that the grit be vacuumed out by a certified technician and disposing of the material to meet federal law. This cost will be \$3,540.00. If the change is approved by Warwick and Ephrata Township a formal change order will be provided to each Municipality.
- **EMC Update.** Paul Miley has submitted to the Township a formal resignation letter and Manager Sawyer is researching the necessary steps needed to appoint William Howard.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to accept the resignation of Paul Miley and directed staff to move forward with the necessary process to appoint William Howard as the Township's EMC. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

- **Improvement Agreement – Creek Corner Heights.** Manager Sawyer presented to the Board of Supervisors an Agreement prepared by Attorney Sisko of Morgan, Hallgren, Crosswell & Kane for their review and approval. PennDot is requiring Ephrata Township to be the Permittee for the Highway Occupancy Permit to install the Improvements within their right-of-way along Meadow Valley Road and Route 272. Ephrata Township is willing to be the permittee of the Hop if the Developer, for itself, and its successors and assigns, agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Township against all claims which may relate to the Improvements.

A motion was made by Tony Haws to approve the Agreement as presented by and between Creek Corner Heights, LLC and Ephrata Township indemnifying the Township against any claims which may relate to the Improvements identified in the PennDot HOP. The motion was seconded by Ty Zerbe and carried unanimously.

Road Superintendent – Randy Groome

Randy Groome gave the Board of Supervisors a summary of the work that the road crew completed this summer and the work remaining. The rainy weather has made some of the projects difficult to schedule and complete. Randy also stated that the Spotted Latern Fly has been spotted at the Ephrata Township Community Park and has been reported to the Department of Agriculture.

Engineer Jim Caldwell reported that there are several plans in the review process.

Ephrata Crossing East
501 Alexander Drive
Creekside Corner Heights
Lakeside Villa
Dave & Rhoda Martin
MS4 Annual Report

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 reported that there was no additional correspondence to report at this time.

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

Clark R. Stauffer

Anthony K. Haws

J. Tyler Zerbe