

LOWER HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2017

The Lower Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting at the Township Building, 720 Brownsville Road, on the above date. Present were Chairwoman Cheryl Johnson, Vice-Chairwoman Deborah Scull, Member Michael Keltz, Township Solicitor Andrew Bellwoar, Township Engineer Ryan Rhode, Township Engineer Pamela Stevens (SDE), Code Enforcement Officer Glenn Kraft. Police Chief Thomas Deiterich, Road Foreman Matthew Clay and Township Secretary/Treasurer Theresa Conners.

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Johnson at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Johnson led the pledge to the flag.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 20, 2017 Regular Meeting and the April 12, 2017 Work Session were distributed for review prior to the meeting. **On Motion** by Ms. Scull, seconded by Mr. Keltz, to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2017 Regular Meeting and the April 12, 2017 Work Session as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Open to the Public

Ms. Johnson asked for public comment. Nathan Tiedeken of 146 Connecticut Avenue addressed the Board regarding speeding motorists on Connecticut Avenue. Mr. Tiedeken requested the Township install speed bumps on Connecticut Avenue. Discussion followed involving children playing in front yards rather than back yards, adults who walk in the street instead of on the sidewalk and winter maintenance issues when speed bumps are installed. Also discussed were temporary, removable speed bumps and closing the bridge on Connecticut Avenue. The Township has attempted enforcement and has placed the speed box at that location. No consensus was arrived at; Mr. Rhode will investigate alternative options for traffic calming.

Donald Koch noted that there is a lot of loose trash blowing around on trash and recycling days; a notice should be placed in the newsletter asking residents to cover their cans.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Conners noted that the Tax Collector turned in \$211,987.50 for the month of March. Ms. Conners presented the list of bills and the March Treasurer's Report for the Board's review. **On Motion** by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Keltz, to approve the Bill List and the Treasurer Reports as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Bar-B-Q Pit 4741 Penn Avenue

Hippocrates Deligiannis, owner and Socrates Georgeadis, attorney, addressed the Board regarding a fence permit application for the Bar-B-Q Pit restaurant at 4741 Penn Avenue. The applicant is in the process of obtaining approval from the PA Liquor Control Board (PLCB) to expand the serving area to an outside area that would be enclosed by the proposed fence. The serving area would be a 24' by 49' concrete patio on a section of the current parking lot.

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There was discussion regarding deletion and addition of parking spaces, with Mr. Georgeadis explaining that four spaces will be deleted, but 4 more will be added, along with 10 motorcycle spaces. The PLCB needs to see Township approval of the fence permit before they will issue the expansion of the liquor license.

Solicitor Bellwoar noted that the Board of Supervisors does not grant approval for permits; Mr. Georgeadis explained that he thought the Board's input was needed for the approval process. Discussion ensued as to whether a change to the approved plan, in this case changing the outside seating area and adding the fence, might constitute a land development. Mr. Bellwoar, Mr. Kraft and Mr. Rhode will confer regarding this issue and will contact the applicant with the results of the discussion.

Fire Commissioner's Report

Jared Renshaw presented the monthly activity report for March. There were a total of 72 total calls for the month of March, 7 of which were in Lower Heidelberg Township. Staff completed the response area canvassing to compile information to start a pre-plan program. Western Berks in conjunction with Spring Township hosted a nationally known speaker, Dr. David Griffin; over 75 people attended the presentation. Filming has begun for a recruitment video being done by technology students at Conrad Weiser High School. The department will begin going door to door in Lower Heidelberg Township on May 6th to install smoke alarms; the program is funded by a grant. Chief Deiterich thanked Mr. Renshaw for his recent assistance to Officer Lawless who was in need of a SBCA; Mr. Renshaw was able to help him out by giving him a quick rundown and he was able to complete the class.

Western Berks Ambulance

Ed Moreland presented the March activity report. There were 40 calls for the month for Lower Heidelberg Township. There were two instances of Narcan administration. Western Berks continues to work with the County overdose task force and is working on layer mapping to see where the greatest needs are. WBA has a team competing in the international EMS games in Salt Lake City. The squad will be receiving the Gold Award from Mission Lifeline for heart attack care. The National MS Memorial bike ride will be coming through Berks County on May 16th; the ride recognizes EMS members who have MS. Mr. Moreland rides with four other members from Berks County; the ride starts in Boston and ends in Washington DC.

Planning Commission

Ms. Johnson noted that there was no Planning Commission meeting held in April.

Building/Zoning Report

Mr. Kraft reported that there were 14 permits issued in March for a total construction value of \$1,113,103 dollars. Permit fees were collected in the amount of \$15,127.67 dollars. There were no property maintenance issues in March. His office continues to work on the rentals; more than half are now inspected.

Kraft Engineering Report

Mr. Rhode noted that he was authorized by the Board at the April 12th work session meeting to begin preparing the contract specifications for the 2017 Street Work project. He anticipates that the project should be ready to advertise by May 15th. His office has received a complaint relating to a drainage issue between two homes in Phase 1 of the Timberlake development. He will work with Kraft Codes to review the issue with the two property owners involved.

Systems Design Engineering Report

Ms. Stevens reported that she has prepared the invoicing to the City of Reading for the Legacy development for the first quarter of 2017. A second meeting will be needed for the developer of the Longview property; they have indicated that they will be using an on-lot system to handle the sewage. Issues are developing with the line on North Church Road; tree roots are invading the lines. The Township has already paid one bill for clean out and the problem will only continue; pictures should be taken to get a better idea of the scope of the problem.

Recreation Board Report

Ms. Scull reported that 245 children attended the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 8th at St. John's Hain Picnic Grove. Family Movie Night will be held on Saturday, May 6th and will feature a Star Wars theme. The Reading Phils game on Sunday, June 25th is "sold out"; a list has been created of those who would like to be on stand-by if any tickets become available. Planning continues for the 175th Anniversary Celebration to be held on Saturday, September 9th at the Green Valley Swim Club. The planning committee meets twice a month and still needs volunteers to help with coordinating the event. There will be a fireworks display and a drone photographer is being engaged for township wide photography and a "township residents group shot" on the day of the event. Ms. Stevens reminded Ms. Scull and the Chief that the photographer will need to begin the employee photos soon.

Police Report

Chief Deiterich reported that for the month of March there were 1,928 service hours, with 155 calls answered. Of those, 10 were criminal complaints and 9 were motor vehicle accidents. The Chief noted that two weeks ago NARCAN was used to bring someone back to life. The 2007 Ford Crown Victoria is now decommissioned and will need to be sold. **On Motion** by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Keltz, to authorize an advertisement to bid the sale of the 2007 Ford Crown Victoria. Motion passed unanimously.

Road Foreman's Report

Mr. Clay reported that during the last month two vehicles were inspected. The crew performed cold patch and cleaned road shoulders. The sink hole at 85 Virginia was opened up and capped with concrete. Tyler Balthaser has passed his CDL driving test. The crew attended a training class in Oley. The new truck and roller have come in and are in the parking lot for the public's inspection this evening.

Secretary's Report

Ms. Conners noted that with the appointment of Kraft Engineering LLC as the Township Engineer, the Fee Schedule originally adopted at the beginning of the year needs to be updated to include the rate schedule for Kraft Engineering LLC; the updated resolution has been prepared. **On Motion** by Ms. Scull, seconded by Mr. Keltz, to adopt Resolution 2017-13 amending the 2017 Township Fee Schedule in the form as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Conners reported that the plan sets stored in the archives have been thoroughly examined by both Andrew Kraft and Ms. Scull and many duplicates and unneeded plans have been purged. Staff have also continued with purging the administrative records, including the 2009 financial records; a shredding resolution has been prepared. **On Motion** by Mr. Keltz, seconded by Ms. Scull, to adopt Resolution 2017-14 approving the secure shredding of non-permanent records as itemized. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Bellwoar reported that both the Township Planning Commission and the Southwestern Berks Regional Planning Commission recommended approval of the zoning amendment for the rear yard/reverse frontage lot provisions. The draft has been forwarded to the Berks County Planning Commission for its review and the proposed amendment is ready for advertisement. **On Motion** by Ms. Scull, seconded by Mr. Keltz, to authorize the advertisement of a public hearing on June 19, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., for an amendment to the Southwestern Berks Regional Zoning Ordinance in order to address the rear yard/reverse frontage lot provisions as recommended by the Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Bellwoar noted that zoning for medical marijuana facilities was discussed at the Southwestern Berks Joint Planning Commission meeting held on Wednesday, March 22nd; a draft ordinance amendment has been circulated for the Joint Planning Commission's review.

Mr. Bellwoar reported that the Township must submit an application under the MS4 program for the renewal of the PAG-13 General Permit, which will expire on March 15, 2018. As part of this process, the Township must submit a Notice of Intent no later than September 16, 2017. It is expected that Great Valley Consultants will continue to handle the MS4 permit renewal. The solicitor of Wernersville has reached out to inquire whether Lower Heidelberg would be interested, along with South Heidelberg Township, in pursuing Inter-municipal planning for the MS4 permit. Mr. Bellwoar will respond to Wernersville that Lower Heidelberg would be interest in a discussion of a possible Inter-municipal partnership.

Two development plans have been received for review. Glen Gery has submitted a preliminary plan; Mr. Rhode will begin the review of the project. The solicitor will meet with Mr. Rhode and Ms. Stevens to review the plans; once Mr. Rhode and the applicant's engineer complete the review, the plan will be presented to the Planning Commission for its review. A subdivision plan was received today for Timberlake Lot 20 for the existing parcel to be subdivided into two lots.

Mr. Bellwoar requested an executive session to discuss potential litigation; no action will be taken.

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Personnel

There were no Personnel issues.

Old Business

Ms. Scull updated the Board on the repair of the traffic signal at Route 422 and Green Valley Road. Telco reported that the junction box is completely gone; they will need to dig up the road again to find the conduit. She has informed the insurance company that additional costs will be involved. She also noted that the sewer line was clearly marked by the road crew; Mr. Bellwoar noted that there are two lines in that location. Ms. Scull will follow up with Mr. Clay to investigate the PA One Call notice.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Comment

Ms. Johnson asked if there was any public comment. There was no additional comment.

Adjournment

On Motion by Mr. Keltz, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Theresa Conners, Township Secretary/Treasurer

Approved: May 15, 2017