



The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Rodi at 515 Millers Run Road, Morgan, PA 15064

PRESENT: DERNOSEK, SRAY, RODI, MALOSH, HOROWITZ (on phone)

ALSO PRESENT: Township Solicitor: Robert Garvin; Township Manager: John M. Barrett; Township Executive Assistant: Peggy Patterson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patty Kaupinis, 75 Campbell Avenue, National Hill spoke about the access bridge between Allegheny and Crest Avenues that leads down to Millers Run Road being removed. She said it is a safety concern for everyone and an access issue for those who don't drive.

Butch Truitt, Public Works Director, said the railroad company took the bridge down because of liabilities.

Commissioner Malosh asked if we could write a letter to the railroad asking if there is something they can do or something they will allow us to do.

There was further discussion regarding this topic.

Candace DeYoung, 727 Augusta Drive spoke about the installation of "No Parking" signs on her street. She said residents, workers and delivery people need to park on the street. She talked about the hardship of the "no parking" being enforced. She also stated that it may affect property values.

Mr. Barrett – I don't believe our police are enforcing it that vigorously. The signs were installed because we were having prolonged periods of parked cars and driveways being blocked. We looked at our ordinance and this was one of the streets listed in the "no parking" ordinance.

Commissioner Malosh – I agree that putting the "no parking" signs up is not the answer.

The board discussed having a public hearing to hear residents' concerns regarding the parking issue. There was further discussion regarding this topic.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A. OAK RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT
- B. SOUTHBRIDGE EMS REPORT
- C. CROWN CASTLE WITHDRAWAL LETTER
- D. LETTER FROM THE TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 205
- E. REQUEST FROM PITTSBURGH GROTTO

Mr. Barrett – We have our report from Oak Ridge Volunteer Fire Department and the monthly EMS report. Communication came through from Crown Castle regarding the legal matter involving the township that has been withdrawn. The Teamsters have sent a letter about starting the bargaining process. We also got a letter from Pittsburgh Grotto regarding the cave in Fairview Park, but I am concerned about the liability. The board agreed that there were liability concerns.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by SRAY to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2022, regular meeting. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

- B. PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by DERNOSEK to pay the June 2022 bills. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

- C. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- D. BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES

Mr. Barrett – These reports are for transparency.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. BUILDING PERMITS REPORT

Mr. Barrett – It was a strong residential month. On pace to be right where we were, or a little higher, than last year.

B. COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Andrea Iglar, Director of Communications & Community Development – The summer issue of the magazine was published in June. It was our longest one ever, with over \$14,000 worth of sponsorship ads. In addition to mailing the magazines to the addresses in the township, we manually deliver magazines to over 20 locations throughout the community. Digital distribution is ongoing, with over 15 mobile-friendly articles distributed through social media.

I advertised job openings with Public Works and promoted July and August events coming up with Parks & Recreation. I have also been working on Community Day planning.

I have decided to delay the website update until we open the new building since we will have new pictures and an address change.

July 30 is the community paper shredding event here at the township building.

On the quarterly report, I was surprised to see that the sponsorships related to our magazine ads already total \$10,000 more than our highest year. The businesses are taking advantage of our advertising sponsorships and the opportunity to be involved with the township.

We have had more website visits that we had in all of 2021. There were 181 request tracker items submitted over the last quarter, the majority being trash and recycling issues.

Users visit our mobile app twice a week on average. Looking at Facebook, our top five topics last quarter were all transportation related. More community-oriented topics were big on Instagram, and on Twitter, it was mostly job topics and recreation. Our LinkedIn connections have increased in this quarter. We had a huge response to a video on LinkedIn showing Tesla being built at Newbury Market.

C. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jason Paulovich, Division Manager, Gibson-Thomas Engineering – The 2022 paving project is set to begin in a couple weeks, and we had a preconstruction meeting with the contractor, and they were shooting for mid-July.

Our MS4 staff has been working with the township staff on the submittal for the report, which is due in September.

Our design staff is working with the architect on the community center project to finalize the grading plan.

The restrooms at Boys Home and Preservation Park are nearing installation and the utilities associated with that project also.

We just completed the Parkes Farm development stormwater modification project that was performed by Kosky Contracting.

The Coal Pit Run bridge is on the agenda tonight and we are proposing some minor modifications and repairs to make that structure last another ten to twenty years.

We are also working on the Mohawk Road realignment to connect that to Battle Ridge Road to eliminate that unsafe intersection with Millers Run Road.

We got a whole list of development-related projects that we are either inspecting or anticipate starting here soon.

Commissioner Rodi asked about the paving and if Mr. Paulovich thinks it will be done and done properly. Mr. Paulovich stated that he believes it would be done correctly and in a timely manner.

D. PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

Paula Willis, Parks & Recreation Director – Some of our new signs have been installed at Fairview Park. The light poles have been installed on Fairview B, and Public Works has been working on getting the power to them. The Mayview entrance is moving along, and we are hoping to have the parking lots paved by the end of July.

DCNR just informed me that they will be shifting our funding for the splash pad grant, and we won't have to wait for the National Park Services. I will have more details regarding this next month.

I have had communication with DCED about the submitted grant application and we have over \$1.5 million in grants pending.

We had some of the ballfields at Fairview Park and Morgan Park laser graded and edged.

We have been booking entertainers and vendors for Community Day. We also have Touch- a-Truck and Concert in the Park coming up at Fairview Park.

I have been working on updating policies and procedures, and I would like to update the fees associated with pavilions and fields. We have added new playgrounds and are adding new restrooms, and I would like to change the field rentals to hourly rentals.

Commissioner Dernosek asked when the road from Fairview Park going down to Mayview Road was going to be paved and was told by Ms. Willis that the goal is after Charter Homes gets their work done.

Commissioner Rodi asked about the fireworks contract and expressed that the fireworks were disappointing this year. Ms. Willis told her we just renewed, and we are locked in for 3 years.

E. POLICE REPORT

Lieutenant John Leininger – Our newest officer, Nick Walter, is doing a great job. He will be finishing up field training around August 5 and will be in his own car without a training officer. Starting on August 5, another officer will be added to the traffic detail, which will address traffic complaints and ongoing traffic issues in the township. That is in addition to the regular patrol officers addressing traffic problems.

We have two new police SUVs, one of which is being outfitted with the camera system now. The cars have a slightly different decal from previous cars. Once that first car is on the road, we can take some of the equipment from the car it is replacing and put it into the other new car.

We are continuing with the Jiu-Jitsu program that we started training on last year.

F. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Mr. Truitt, Public Works Director – We are still cutting grass, and we had 221 One Calls last month.

Public Works hit a water meter on Hickory Grade Road and had to repair it.

The department is still taking care of storm damage.

We had a water discharge issue in Cannongate that we started taking care of earlier this year and finished up recently.

The crew did a curb by hand on Fifth Avenue because the salt runoff was killing the resident's grass. We did the same thing on National Hill.

We patched about five miles of Cecil Sturgeon and Cecil Reissing in anticipation of seal coating in the next month.

Our mechanics work on all the police cars and all of our trucks and save the township a substantial amount of money. We were going to buy a new hand roller until we found out they were \$20,000. Michael Cardillo, township mechanic, ripped it apart completely and repaired it for around \$500.00.

Mr. Truitt went on to explain the different issues within the parks that Public Works has worked on and the ongoing grass mowing. He ended his report with a picture and story of how a Public Works employee saved some baby ducks that were caught in a storm inlet.

G. REQUEST TRACKER REPORT

Mr. Barrett – One trend that we are seeing more of is that people moving into existing homes are not being left a recycling bin, so we have been providing them. Other items on the report are trash and recycling and some property maintenance. A few stormwater and speeding concerns.

Commissioner Malosh – I don't see anything about parking on there.

There was additional discussion regarding the use of the request tracker. Commissioner Malosh stated that she wants to see everything reported on there even if the township cannot do anything with the request, for instance, requests related to state roads.

H. ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Barrett – Pat Catena is off tonight. Most of his work this month has been with the escrow process. We are also starting to have initial discussions about the 2023 budget and the capital improvement program.

I. MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Barrett – We will work on some type of meeting regarding the “no parking” signs.

We have an item on the agenda regarding the advertisement of a PED zoning revision. That process still has a few more steps. Bob Garvin and I worked with an Environmental Planning and Design planner to review this, and she did give us some good suggestions. We can schedule the public hearing this evening, but since we will have to get some feedback from Allegheny County, we are going to plan the public hearing for September.

Our satellite salt storage facilities are being built in Fairview Park and Boy Home Park. There are some deed restrictions at Boys Home, but we are looking into that.

The developers at Newbury plan to install the poles for the traffic signals at the Presto-Sygan/Millers Run Road intersection and Presto-Sygan/Thoms Run Road. The actual signals won't be on them for a while. They are required to install three, with the third one being at Newbury Highland and Presto-Sygan. Those poles have not been delivered yet.

Commissioner Rodi asked if Charter Homes has completed the work on Mayview Road and was told by Mr. Barrett that they are continuing to work on it, but it is not complete yet.

There was additional discussion regarding this issue and the fact that we are not issuing building permits until it is complete.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Barrett – This would be for September 14, 2022.

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by SRAY to approve a motion to advertise a public hearing for a mixed-use development. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

B. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADVERTISE ORDINANCE 2022-03, MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Barrett – This would be the ordinance that would go with that public hearing.

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by MALOSH to approve a motion to advertise ordinance 2022-03, mixed use development. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

C. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADVERTISE ORDINANCE 2022-04, CUDDY LANE DEDICATION

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by DERNOSEK to approve a motion to advertise ordinance 2022-04, Cuddy Lane dedication. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

D. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2022-14, VOLUNTEER FIRE TAX CREDIT

Mr. Barrett – This is a resolution to give our volunteer firefighters a tax credit.

It was moved by SRAY and seconded by MALOSH to approve Resolution 2022-14, Volunteer Fire Tax Credit. All members present voted AYE to the motion except for DERNOSEK, who abstained.

E. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADVERTISE COAL PIT RUN CULVERT REPAIRS

Mr. Barrett – We had a grant from the Conservation District to replace this culvert. We ended up walking away from that grant because the cost of the replacement was too high for the road type. We are just going to make repairs to the bridge, install some guide rails, and do some paving.

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by MALOSH to approve a motion to advertise Coal Pit Run culvert repairs. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

F. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TAX REFUNDS

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by SRAY to approve the tax refunds. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

G. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A TAX REFUND REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$113.19 FOR 7014 CLUBVIEW DRIVE

Mr. Barrett – This is a request from a resident who is requesting relief of penalty, interest, and fees related to a late payment.

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by MALSOH to DENY a tax refund in the amount of \$113.19 for 7014 Clubview Drive. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

H. DISCUSS CHANGES TO FEE SCHEDULE FOR PARKS & RECREATION

Mr. Barrett – Paula Willis would like to change some of the fees for the Parks & Recreation rentals. We do a larger fee schedule resolution every two years, but this would just be for Parks & Recreation items.

Mr. Garvin – If you are OK with the fees, you would have to have a new resolution.

Ms. Willis – It is just a \$10.00 increase. All the facilities got a new playground, restrooms are going in, the new pavilion will be going in and the fields are going from a half day or full day to hourly rates. We also took out the fees for the dog permits because the new dog park at Fairview will not have fees.

There was more discussion regarding when the new fees would go into effect.

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by SRAY to approve proposed fee changes for Parks & Recreation. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

BOARD DISCUSSION - Commissioner Rodi – The township was successful in winning the lawsuit to stop the bridge tolling on I-79.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Garvin – The developer's agreement for Alpine Point, lot 2, was completed.

We filed a bond claim as a result of road damage that we believe was done by Walsh Construction. There was a site meeting with township officials and Walsh Construction people. Walsh seemed to be interested in remedying this rather than having us pursue the bond claim, so we are monitoring that.

Mr. Barrett – The damage is on Parks Road, beyond the farmer’s market. We haven’t gotten the final response from them yet. We presented them with a dollar value, and it sounds like they would prefer to give us a check instead of doing the work.

Mr. Garvin – I have been in contact with the insurance company and told them about the discussions trying to resolve the issue.

I just wanted to make a comment regarding the proposed tolling of I-79 by PennDOT through the P3 Board with a convoluted resolution. We started communication with solicitors from other communities and additional representatives. The South Fayette Board of Commissioners made a courageous, difficult, ultimately expensive decision to initiate litigation from outside counsel, with a little help from me. We sued the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the executive director and the P3 Board. We got the opinion on June 30 and the Commonwealth Court agreed that the resolution adopted by the P3 Board was defective and it was voided.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by DERNOSEK to adjourn to executive session, not to return. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

John M. Barrett, Township Manager

Gwen A. Rodi, President

Date

Date