

MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
MARCH 1, 2021

The Penn Township Public Works Committee convened on Monday, March 1, 2021, via an online meeting, following the Public Safety Meeting at 7:20 p.m. Present were Vice Chairman Cromer, Commissioners Brown, Elksnis, and Heiland. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Chief Clouser, Township Engineer Bortner, Zoning Officer Smith, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Vice Chairman Cromer read a summary of the online public meeting guidelines.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the February 1, 2021 Public Works Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

PARK HEIGHTS BOULEVARD: Engineer Bortner reported he contacted Group Hanover Inc, on the status of the Park Heights Blvd project, he informed the committee that this is a joint permit due to the wetlands, they are waiting on a reply from the environmental consultant, but should be ready shortly. Engineer Bortner stated that there was a question as to whether it should be submitted as just the Bridge permit, or Bridge and road realignment permit. Engineer Bortner stated that if it should be submitted as the Bridge and road realignment to the DEP Army Corp of Engineers, because the bridge is contingent upon the road realignment, but would take more time. Engineer Bortner asked the committee for their thoughts on opening the road up to heavier vehicles without the road realignment and trying to resolve the safety issues. Engineer Bortner stated that GHI is not ready to submit the bridge permit, but the approval process should not take long and construction on the bridge could take place some time next year. After the bridge has been replaced, then the road realignment permit would have to be submitted due to the disturbance being greater than an acre. The committee was in favor of replacing the bridge first, then the road realignment at a later date.

OAK HILL PAVING PROJECT: Township Engineer Bortner proposed to place a scratch coat on the road to try to seal the road for more longevity. He will need to rent equipment if this is the route the committee wishes to take. Commissioner Brown stated there are three bad areas, and if patched as it has been done in the past it will not last. He suggested hot patch and rollers on the sections. Engineer Bortner expressed concerns with patching, that water has the capability of entering at the edges of the work. Engineer Bortner will meet with Commissioner Brown to go to the sites to decide what method of repair would be best suitable.

AQUAPHOENIX SCIENTIFIC WAIVER REQUEST: The committee received a request dated February 22, 2021, from GHI on behalf of AquaPhoenix Scientific for a waiver to Section 306.B.3 of the Stormwater Ordinance. Township Engineer Bortner reported the ordinance requires the retention basin slope bank be at a 4:1 ratio, and they are requesting the waiver to keep the ratio at 3:1. They will be extending, but will not be restructuring the basin. He added if a waiver is granted, they must address adding vegetation, in which they have done. Engineer Bortner has no issues with the request.

MS4 UPDATE: Manager Rodgers reported that she continues to try to fill the position.

EXTENSION REQUEST: Zoning Officer Smith submitted extension requests for SL20-07-Hanover Foods Freezer Expansion, SL20-08-Apple Honda of Hanover, SL20-09 Pero Farms and SL20-10 AquaPhoenix Scientific. The committee recommended approving the requests.

UPDATE ON 4 SCOTT STREET: Zoning Officer Smith reported he has been in contact with the social worker and was informed that the resident continues to disconnect himself from all contact and help, and will not go to his doctor's appointments. The resident is slowly adding items to the dumpster, and there have been no reports of additional rats, but they are inside of the home. He has disconnected the water meter on several occasions.

RECREATION – CREATIVE PLAYGROUND: An updated agreement was received by Play by Design for design of the new creative playground. There is a slight increased cost from last year. The committee recommended approving the agreement.

Commissioner Heiland has been approached by numerous residents regarding the fence pickets from the first creative playground. Commissioner Heiland stated that all efforts are being made to preserve the current pickets, and the intention is to use the old pickets in a legacy design in the new park. Commissioner Heiland added that approximately 450 new pickets will be available for a fundraiser. The committee agreed upon \$75 minimum donation for an Individual/Family, and \$125 minimum donation for a Company/Business.

Manager Rodgers reported that an agreement was received from JMT for assistance submitting the grant application. The due date is April 14, 2021. The committee authorized Manager Rodgers to sign the agreement for submission.

Commissioner Elksnis stated according to the contract, the township is responsible for providing fifteen skilled workers, and asked if the Public Works department was up for the work on the playground, Engineer Bortner and Public Works Supervisor Ortman had no issues. Commissioner Brown inquired as to the timeline on the project. Manager Rodgers reported that construction may be by possible by March, April, 2022, no money can be expended prior to grant approval, which will be approximately this October.

OTHER MATTERS: None.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney
Township Secretary