

Minutes of the August 22, 2006 Meeting

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Gregor. Present were Supervisors: David Waybright, George Weikert and Barbara Underwood; Flo Ford, Carol Merryman, Sgt. Molloy, Mike Galassi, Aaron Jolin, Bob Sharrah, County Commissioners Glenn Snyder and Lucy Lott, approximately thirteen residents from Belmont Road, Meg Bernhardt from the Evening Sun and Scot Pitzer from the Gettysburg Times. Mr. Shealer was on vacation. The meeting was tape-recorded.

Chairman Gregor announced that the Board would be holding an Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue after New Business.

Mr. Weikert made a motion to approve the Minutes of the August 8, 2006 meeting as presented, seconded by Mrs. Underwood and carried.

Mr. Weikert made a motion to approve the bills list in the amount of \$17,343.61 from the General Fund, seconded by Mr. Waybright and carried.

No visitors addressed the Board and there was no Old Business.

Mrs. Ford gave a brief history of the events that led up to the Board closing Belmont Road due to the conditions of the bridge on that road. She explained that she has been working on this bridge since her first meeting in August of 2004 and in May 2005 the Board asked the township's traffic engineers, McMahan and Associates, to inspect the bridge due to safety concerns. McMahan also reviewed the inspection reports by the County's bridge engineer Pennoni and Associates. McMahan's report listed the bridge as fracture critical and they recommended monthly inspections of the bridge and a 3 Ton weight limit. After reviewing McMahan's report, the Board voted to close the road due to safety concerns with the bridge. Mrs. Ford added that PennDOT approved the closing of the road and the signage that is out there is done to their specifications. There have been meetings at the bridge since the roads closing and Mrs. Howe has been acting as the liaison between the homeowners and the Township. Mr. Gregor reiterated that all of the inspection reports are here and available for the residents.

Commissioner Snyder reported that he did speak with Mr. Cameron, engineer from Pennoni Associates, and it did take six to eight weeks to get the railroad's approval to re-inspect the bridge. He reported that an appraisal has been done for the right-of-ways, but since Federal money is involved in the project, a second appraisal is required. He reported that the right-of-way clearance could be done by the end of November. There is also an environmental clearance that has to be done that could take as long as six months to complete. The funding, which is under the control of ACTPO, could possibly be there in 2007, if not, it could be 2009 before it is available. Mr. Gregor added that the township does not own the bridge, but they are liable for the bridge. Mr. Snyder stated that it is an orphan bridge and the PUC ordered the County to take the lead on getting the bridge repaired/replaced.

Mr. Chris Entenman, 289 Belmont Road, asked that the road be reopened based on Pennoni's latest inspection report with quarterly inspections being paid for by the County. He cited the high cost of gas and the monthly cost of the signs being paid by the taxpayers.

Mr. Ken Howe, 255 Belmont Road asked about the status of the appraisals. Commissioner Snyder reported that the first appraisal has been completed, but because federal funds are involved they must have a second review.

Mrs. Kelly Hahn, 685 Belmont Road, stated that she has a Beauty Shop and it is hurting her business. She added that her two children work at Land of Little Horses and they have to travel Crooked Creek Road that is heavily traveled and has two old bridges on it and it is out of their way.

Mr. Chris Entenman stated that he feels that if a driver takes an overweight vehicle over the bridge and the vehicle goes through the bridge, the liability is on the driver of the vehicle, not the township. Mr. Gregor stated that the township has asked the PUC and the County for a letter indicating that the bridge should be reopened, but the township has not received anything. He added that a decision to reopen the road will not be made tonight because Mr. Shealer, Superintendent of Roads, is not present, but a decision will be made at the next meeting.

Mrs. Ruth Storm asked about the status of the design to prevent water from running onto their property at 35 Belmont Road and stated that they would not sign anything without that. Commissioner Snyder stated that Mr. Cameron is designing concrete curb to prevent the water from going on their property and they will see that.

Mr. Bill Hemler, 36 Belmont Road, asked about the appraisal that he got in 2000 because the price of land has gone up. Commissioner Snyder stated that the appraisals were just finished at the beginning of the year and Mr. Hemler has not received the current appraisal yet.

The funding was discussed again and Mrs. Ford explained that she and Commissioner Lott are on ACTPO and they are aware of the project and it is on the TIP. She explained that projects are moved around based on how far along they are. She stated that PennDOT told her to talk to them once the right-of-ways have been secured. She also explained that the County will need to ask for an extension at the end of the year and the PUC told her that at that time the township should send a letter stating that they do not want to continue with another extension and the bridge needs to be repaired now. Mrs. Ford stated that she will forward a copy of the letter to the homeowners.

Mrs. Gail Fournier, 85 Belmont Road, stated that it does not sound like the bridge is going to be fixed in the near future and she asked if there was some way to get the bridge opened before that time. Mr. Gregor stated again that the Board will make a decision on that at their next meeting.

Mrs. Bonnie Keller, 669 Belmont Road, asked if the bridge is reopened isn't there some way to stop the heavy trucks from crossing the bridge? Mr. Gregor stated that a policeman would have to be there at the time the heavy vehicle crosses the bridge. She suggested something such as an arch to prevent the trucks from going over the bridge.

Mrs. Underwood asked where this project was on the TIP. Commissioner Lott reported that she was told that as soon as the right-of-ways are secured and the environmental study is complete they will find a way to get the project on the TIP and get the funding.

Mr. Weikert stated that he and Mr. Shealer were under the bridge in 1996 and there was a crack in the abutment that has gone from ½" wide to 3" wide and the erosion under the abutment has gone from 6" to about 18" currently and the chance for a catastrophe is in the bridge abutment, but there are also other issues with the deck of the bridge. He stated that the wood is deteriorating because the blacktop does not allow the wood to breathe. He stated that there is a chance that a car could go through the deck as well. Mrs. Storm asked, if the bridge is in this bad of shape, why hasn't something been done about it before now?

Mr. Gregor stated that the weight limit has been lowered twice and the township has been working with previous administrations at the county. He reiterated that the Supervisors will make a decision on whether the road will be reopened at their next regular meeting. He added that all of the inspection reports are available.

The next item on the agenda is a Resolution for Final Plan Approval for Patriot's Choice, Phase II. The plan consists of 51 single family detached dwellings on 32.071 acres on Biglerville Road. Mrs. Ford reported that all of the conditions for final approval have been met and approval is recommended by the township's engineer. **Mr. Waybright made a motion to adopt Resolution 06-15 Final Plan Approval for Patriot's Choice, Phase II. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weikert and carried.**

Mr. Sharrah presented a Planning Module for The Ridge, a condominium community to be located on Old Mill Road. Mrs. Ford added that this is an administrative issue and the Board is just passing this on to PaDEP for their approval since there is capacity in the sewer plant. Mr. Sharrah added that this is presented as a Planning Module rather than a Planning Exemption because there is an interim pumping station involved. **Mr. Waybright made a motion to adopt Resolution 06-16 for Plan Revision for New Land Development for The Ridge seconded by Mr. Weikert and carried.**

Chairman Gregor acknowledged a letter from Bernard Yanetti, on behalf of Kathy Lowe, to withdraw her subdivision plan from consideration at this time. Mr. Sharrah reported that she will be waiting until a sewer line from The Crossings is closer to her property and then she will resubmit her plan.

Chairman Gregor reported that the township has received two Requests for Extension from Joseph Tripi and Graphcom. He added that an extension has previously been granted for the Joseph Tripi plan, but there are extenuating circumstances that the Tripis are working through. Mr. Aaron Jolin of William F. Hill and Associates updated the Board on the status of the Tripi plan. He reported that they are waiting for a structural detail and state permits including the NPDES, GP-7 and GP-5 for streams and wetlands. **Mr. Weikert made a motion to approve the request for extension for the Joseph Tripi plan for an additional 90 days seconded by Mrs. Underwood and carried.**

Mr. Sharrah presented a request on behalf of Graphcom, Inc., to extend the review period for their land development plan for expansion of their commercial printing facility until November 1, 2006. **Mr. Waybright made a motion to approve the request to extend the review period until November 1, 2006 seconded by Mrs. Underwood and carried.**

At 8:23 p.m., Chairman Gregor adjourned the regular meeting for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

At 8:28 p.m., Chairman Gregor reconvened the meeting.

Mrs. Ford reported that she is working on the RFPs for the Pension Plans. She also reported that the Authority denied sewer service to Cornerstone Development in Butler Township and she met with John Lawver from Gettysburg Borough to discuss traffic signal specifications and they will be getting a quote for that from McMahan and Associates and the cost will be shared among Cumberland, Gettysburg and Straban. She added that this will help keep everything standard for all developers.

Mr. Weikert reported that they will be meeting with the Police Association on August 30, 2006 to work on the contract. He also reported that the PLGIT Term account has been reinvested until December 1, 2006 at a rate of 5.26%

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m. by motion of Mr. Weikert, seconded by Mrs. Underwood and carried.

Carol A. Merryman, Asst. Secretary

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