

Penn Township Supervisor Meeting

September 7, 2022

Chairman Jon Payne called the 9.7.2022 Supervisor Meeting to order at 6:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present included: Supervisors: Jon Payne, Isaac Ramer Jr. and Ross Smoker, Township Manager Julie Hartley and Jim Bathgate – Solicitor

Public Present: Bill Kline, Marvin Weaver, Shannon Rudy, Jim Grose, Brian Hipple, Kevin Hood, Greg Pysher, Kevin Raker, Chris Hennessy, Gene Kreamer, Mark Strawser, Jason Snyder, Chad Brandt, Tim Thomson and Les Dale

Minutes – On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to approve the August 17, 2022 supervisor's meeting minutes.

Persons Present to be Heard:

Shannon Rudy, SEDA COG – Shannon noted that the first item on her agenda is the 2020 Covid Relief funding for mortgage, rent and utility that she is requested to be moved to economic development micro-enterprise as one business has qualified.

On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to change the 2020 Covid Relief funding from Mortgage, Rent and Utility Assistance to the Economic Development Micro-Enterprise funding.

Shannon continued by letting the Board know that the grant started in 2021 for the park pathways will be administered through Snyder County for the 2022 portion of the grant. SEDA COG will remain the administrator for the 2021 portion of the funding.

On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to approve Snyder County to administer the DCED CBDG grant monies beginning in 2022.

Gene Kreamer, Riegel Land Development – Gene noted that the plans have been signed and notarized and both agreements have been recorded. He then requested that the plan receive conditional approval pending the DEP planning module approval.

On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to grant conditional approval to the Riegel Land Development Plan pending approval of the DEP Planning Module.

Jim Grose, Skinner Subdivision – Jim shared that all outstanding items have been met and that he is seeking final approval of the Skinner Subdivision. Notarized signatures are on the plans, the 1.7-acre vacant lot has been designated as a non-building lot and the boundary between the lots will be in the wetlands. The Light Barn has an on-site private sewage system and well and the new lot would be able to access public water and sewer.

On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to approve the Skinner Subdivision.

Marvin Weaver, Stormwater Revision – Marvin requested a waiver to use plastic pipe instead of concrete in his stormwater project.

On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Jon Payne, and Board acclamation to approve the modification to allow plastic pipe in place of the required concrete.

Marvin continued by noting the signature lines for Supervisors, notarized owner's signatures and the county review was completed.

On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Jon Payne, and Board acclamation to approve the amendment to Marvin Weaver's stormwater plan.

New Business:

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Bright Farms – Chris Henessy informed the Board of the ongoing efforts of Bright Farms to meet their sewage output limits and lower their nitrogen levels. He noted that the weekly clarifier cleaning is going well and that testing will continue. They are continuing to improve the sludge output and are slowing the pump volumes to help regulate the flow so PTMA pumps do not become overwhelmed. New meters have been installed on September 19th. Greg Pysker noted that several EDU level violations have occurred and that a solution needs to be in place before November. The Board noted that an extension letter for the Land Development Plans will need to be submitted and should have an expiration date of November 17th.

On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to extend Bright Farms's Land Development Plan until November 17, 2022 upon receipt of the extension letter.

PMRS Report for 2023 – **On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Jon Payne, and Board acclamation to approve the 2023 PMRS Report.**

Award of Concrete Deck Bid – Jason Snyder of GRS Design shared that the first bridge abutment is ninety percent complete. In two weeks, the pole on the other side of the stream should be moved by PPL. Isaac asked why the pole wasn't moved in the correct position originally. Jason said it is expected to be moved in two to three weeks. The Board also questioned why the deck bids were double the price of the estimate. Jason shared that PennDOT changed some of the specifications such as curbing, guide rail and the shape of the deck. Jason continued by noting if the project was self-funded instead of funded by a retro-reimbursement grant the flat deck would have been acceptable. Jon asked if different PennDOT districts have different standards. Jason answered that our district representative wanted curbs, structured guiderails and requested that the abutments be moved back behind original abutment. Moving the abutments also created a situation with the original PPL pole placement. District three also prefers that decks have an epoxy coating. Jason Snyder recommended that Kevin Raker Construction be awarded the contract for the concrete decking. **On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to award the concrete deck project to Kevin Raker Construction pending the contracts are signed, a certificate of insurance having the township named as insured, the payment and performance bond is received, the Solicitor review is complete and change orders are drafted for an epoxy deck.**

Handicapped Porta Potty at Comfort Station Location – **On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to allow the Andy Russell Foundation to temporarily place and finance an ADA Porta Potty at the Comfort Station construction site.**

Snyder County Convention Center – Jon Payne, Isaac Ramer Jr., Mark Strawser and Julie Hartley will attend the Snyder County Convention on October 5th at the Beavertown Rescue Hose Company.

Selinsgrove Halloween Parade – **On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to allow the Selinsgrove Halloween Parade on Penn Township roads.**

LED Lights for By-Pass – TRA Electric will be removing used LED lighting from the new by-pass bridge and offering them to the township to replace by-pass lighting. Julie will reach out to Toby at TRA to ask for a quote to possibly purchase the used lighting.

Birch Tree Removal at 44 & 46 Graysonview – **On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker to allow the residents at 44 & 46 Graysonview to have a professional arborist trim the birch tree on the township's property at their cost.**

VFW Extension Letter – **On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to grant an extension to the VFW/RiteWay Subdivision until December 7, 2022.**

Jack Hammer Piling Driver Kit – More research needed. Item tabled.

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Old Business:

Harris Estates Stormwater – **On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker and Board acclamation to table until September 21, 2022 meeting.**

Employment Application – Tabled until next meeting to allow for revisions.

DH&L Ambulance – Brian Hipple reported that there were one hundred and seventy-three calls with forty-five being within Penn Township. He continued by noting that the ambulance that had a drive line issue will be covered by their insurance. He informed the Board that a DH&L ambulance will no longer be posted at the Fremont Fire Company. The Board asked about incidents where a medic requested an ambulance from DH&L rather than the closest ambulance. Brian said that he will check into these calls and respond. Jim Bathgate noted that safety of the citizens is the township's number one priority.

Executive Session – An executive session was called at 7:15 pm.

Jon Payne called the 9.7.2022 meeting back to order at 7:34 pm with no decisions made during the Executive Session.

DH&L Ambulance Continued – Brian Hipple addressed the Board about some of the calls in question. The call on August 22nd the ambulance did not actually get called in and on August 11th he had no record that Ambulance Company 82 assisted. Jon Payne stated that he believed there is a communication issue and directed that Jim Bathgate write a letter to both parties involved. **On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to have Jim Bathgate draft a letter to be sent to Kreamer and DH&L Ambulance.**

Zoning Violation – Jim Bathgate explained that there is a zoning violation of poultry being kept in a residential district in Harris Estates. An enforcement was delivered and was not complied with. Jim explained that the next step is a letter by him to the resident. **On motion by Jon Payne, seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to have Jim Bathgate send a letter to the resident that is in violation of the zoning ordinance.**

Personnel – **On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation to accept the verbal resignation of David Gilbert on August 15th to Roadmaster Mark Strawser.**

Filter System for Restrooms – Isaac suggested that filters should be placed on the water line at East Snyder Park to help stop corrosion which is what is causing the urinal handles to keep sticking and wasting water. Mark Strawser will check on a filter system.

Approval of Accounts Payable (State and General Funds)- **On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation, to pay bills.**

Executive Session – An executive session was called at 7:55 pm.

Jon Payne called the 9.7.2022 meeting back to order at 8:05 pm with no decisions made during the Executive Session.

On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., second by Ross Smoker, and Board acclamation the September 7, 2022 Supervisor's Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Reports:

Julie Hartley, Manager

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∞ Written Report Provided and photos of the culvert rehabilitation at Hill End Road were shared.

Mark Strawser, Roadmaster

∞ Written Report Provided

Julie Hartley, Zoning Officer

∞ Written Report Provided

Fred Ulrich, Emergency Management Coordinator – No report

Jim Bathgate, Solicitor – No report

FYI:

- ESCRA July 20th Meeting Minutes
- PTMA Sept. 1 Agenda and Aug. 4th Minutes

Land/Subdivision:

- Bright Farms – Final LD, filed 6.17.20, due 10.1.22
- VFW Subdivision, filed 1.5.21, due 12.7.22
- Skinner Subdivision, filed 7.18.22, due 10.14.22
- Riegel Land Development, filed 7.27.22, due 10.25.22
- Wayne Brouse, add on Subdivision, filed 7.29.22, due 10.27.22
- Keystone Real Estate Cond. Use, filed 8.15.22, due 10.14.22, hearing 9.21.22 at 6 pm
- Marvin Weaver Stormwater Revision, filed 8.22.22, due 11.21.22

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Hartley
Manager