


Joint Workshop Recap February 10, 2014



Included below are the general notes, not official minutes, I took from the joint meeting. If you have additional comments or modifications you would like included to this recap, to be used for future reference, please contact me Brenda Moyer @ bpenn township@yahoo.com or at the township office at 570-374-4778. Appreciate that you took the time to attend! Please see the end for an additional note.

Those present included: Jon Payne, Jan Ritter, Tim Laubscher, Darwin Swope, Jennifer Elick, Tom Ferry, Ben Moyer, Bob Bickhart, Steve Bogush, Ryan Bogush, Derek Straub, Dan Kuruna, Shane Kerstetter, Mike Kuhns, Fred Ulrich, Brenda Moyer, Cornelius Heeren and Isaac Ramer.

General Penn Township Overview/Concerns:

- * Equipment storage was noted as needing improvement, some equipment remains outside in all weather.
- * Equipment needs, a large dump truck is on list for possible replacement (D-2)
- * Township building/office is not 'top shelf' but functional.
- * Noted was the possibility of enclosing the front of the building.
- * Areas in Twp sitting, where at one time development had been proposed, i.e. Breezewood, 18th Street and Harris Estates, Graysonview Expansion, and an area of development south of Wedgewood Gardens.
- * How can Penn Twp encourage development?
- * All roads will be evaluated over the next couple weeks, and 3-yr Seda COG grant for repaving of Bake Oven Hill was noted. Use of micro pave was mentioned as a possible product for use in twp.
- * Environmental topics were mentioned briefly concerning the river.
- * Bird watching very popular on Isle of Que.

Recreation and Open Space:

* Members of the rec board enlighten the group on all development in 2013. The major improvement was the completion of the modern restrooms. Work continues to secure funding for a second pavilion and trees will be added to the park. The board was awarded a \$750 park maintenance grant from KaBoom. Bleacher work and signage are on tap for 2014.

Agriculture:

- * @ 600 acres in Penn are forever preserved.
- * seems in general most are pleased with Planning and Supervisors with regard to Ag Preservation.
- * a comment was received from a past ag developer who thought planning/supervisors could all be more prepared and organized and limit the number of returns a developer must make with continued changes. Every return visit and month that goes by cost lots of money.
- * Noxious weeds from overgrown areas are a concern and were discussed. It was noted if lands are in CREP, mowed once a year for two years, then only spot mowed for 15 years, allowing noxious weeds to propagate.

Sewer and Water:

- * Infrastructure needs were noted as being in good shape and no capacity issues at this time.
- * Line maps are available for sewer and water, Mr. Ferry will get a copy for Penn Twp.
- * Snyder County will be contacted to see if a countywide hydrologic study has been completed.
- * Some improvements were made to well house. (chlorine dispenser)
- * Water and sewer crossed under 522 to connect the new construction of CUMC; this advance of the lines will hopefully collect other customers.

Stormwater:

- * County should also be contacted to confirm a county watershed study that may have been completed with grant money.
- * Stormwater retention adds a lot of cost to development.
- * Is our ordinance too restrictive?

Transportation and Roads:

* Maps of the thru way were provided by PennDOT.

* Empty business park was discussed and the large unused portions of the Selinsgrove Center. Todd Roup may be a contact for Selinsgrove Center.

Penn Valley Airport Authority:

* General disinterest.

* Airport is not that economically important to Penn Township?

Please provide feedback of your general take from the meeting. I've provided my own and will include any that I receive, via e-mail, from those in attendance.

Brenda Moyer – The meeting was most productive in the respect that it allowed the people who make up these groups and boards to meet in one place. It was a success in the fact that we covered all areas noted on the agenda within the allotted timeframe. I left thinking there wasn't anything that was in dire straits, except possibly there is NO new development. We do have an empty business park and housing developments previously proposed that are sitting. While I personally would like to see activity in both those areas, I think I am a believer in making what we have better or the best it can be before we focus on expanding.