

MINUTES OF THE MARTIC TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: May 2, 2016

PLACE: Township Building, 370 Steinman Farm Road, Pequea, Pa. 17565

ATTENDANCE: Beth Birchall, Duane Sellers, Carl Drexel, Charley Braught, Jr. and Don Snyder were present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER: Duane Sellers called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led with the Pledge to the Flag.

MINUTES & TREASURER'S REPORT

Don Snyder made a motion and was seconded by Beth Birchall to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2016 Supervisors Meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

Beth Birchall presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 1, 2016. With no questions asked, a motion was made by Carl Drexel and seconded by Don Snyder, to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed 5-0.

Talen Energy – closure announcement:

Duane Sellers began by reading excerpts from Res 10-04-14A the Meeting Conduct resolution. He then proceeded in giving a timeline of how the township found out about Talen closing the Holtwood Park and Kelly's Run trail access. The township found out that Talen had taken this step, when a news reporter from LNP contacted the chairman, Duane Sellers. The LC Conservancy was working to try and schedule a meeting with Talen. The Township has also contacted Talen, our state representatives, our Federal Congressman, Lancaster County officials and DCNR to see if a meeting could be arranged to discuss the situation. Duane Sellers stated that the property is owned by Talen and as private property they may place No Trespassing signs. He stated that very little is known at this point and everyone is encouraged to reach out to Talen.

Comments were heard from:

Barry Finberg 142 Deerfield- commented on eminent domain and asked if the township could consider leasing the property?

Laura Finberg 142 Deerfield- asked if Talen is tearing down the pavilions. The Township hasn't heard.

Conrad Miziumski 128 Pinnacle Rd – Asked if a demo permit would be required? Yes it would

Cathy Domaracki 810 Drytown Rd – commented that a lot goes on there. Duane Sellers commented on the history of the place, many people grew up playing ball there, family reunions, etc.

Carol Kerr 1997 Holtwood Rd – is a demo permit public record? Yes it is

Jerry Hess 76 McKelvey Ln – commented on what the neighborhood kids will do. He feels Talen has no connection with the community and PPL has taken away everything.

Sally Wilson 52 Raven Crest- Asked if it could be developed. Duane stated that as property owners Talen could, however we do have a Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance in place that they would have to follow. She asked if the township could take the land by eminent domain. The township has no jurisdiction to take privately owned land by eminent domain.

Helen Pike 1573 Holtwood Road – Asked how long will this take? Duane Sellers commented that nothing is going to happen quickly. There is no way to put a time-frame on this since it just happened.

Mark Clatterbuck- 550 Tucquan Glen Rd – asked about a contractual obligation by Talen to keep the property open to the public. He asked if the Township attorney could look into this. Duane Sellers commented that Kate Gonick w/ LC Conservancy has told him that numerous land searches have been done and she is more knowledgeable in this area. He is also aware that our Federal and State representatives were looking into it. He was told that the Conservancy feels very comfortable that this property is not attached to the power plant and any requirements that FERC would have mandated requiring the public land stipulation.

Wayne Murray 63 Bethesda Church Rd E. - commented on whether there is a federal requirement that the utilities must to maintain public land. Not since deregulation has occurred.

Andy Anderson 979 Susquehannock Dr. – commented on the importance of the area and the Conestoga trail. The economic impact such as the Susquehanna Super Hike and the Conestoga Trail Run will have on the community.

Conrad Miziumski commented on how these trails are considered the top of the line for hiking. He did contact Talon and said that they are aware of the impact. Duane Sellers commented that to his knowledge, when the Holtwood Power Plant was sold, Talen was told by FERC that they were too big and had to sell off some of the property. Brookfield then purchased only the portion that FERC required them to take. How and when it got broken down, he doesn't know that.

Barb Spiegelberg – 240 Steinman Farm Rd commented on keeping a record of this meeting and everything discussed. Duane Sellers stated that is what the minutes are for and the Board members were also making lists of the comments.

Ron Lefever 362 House Rock Rd- commented that the township has already reached out to the Federal, State, Talen and the Conservancy, feels the citizens should ban together to stop this.

Duane Sellers commented on the importance of staying on the right side of the law and not giving Talen any reason to not come to the table. The hope is that Talen will agree to begin talks to reopen this property.

A recess was called at 7:37 pm.

Duane Sellers reconvened the meeting at 7:42 pm

OTHER BUSINESS – PUBLIC COMMENT:

Catherine Mundy 64 Raven Crest, on behalf of the Quarryville Library wanted to thank the Supervisor's for the annual donation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Grader/mower trade-in for a new John Deere tractor/boom mower/plow/broom/snow blower. Tim Kiehl has been gathering information from Stephenson Equipment, to purchase a John Deere 6110M/4wd tractor, mower for \$145,695.00, snow plow for \$16,537.00, broom and blade for \$24,188.00, and a snow blower for \$10,463.00. The JD Grader that the township currently owns would be sold to Sadsbury Twp (Lanc Co) for \$95,000 and the New Holland tractor/boom mower will be a trade-in for \$10,000. The remaining total the township would owe would be: \$91,883.00. The decision to sell the grader was because it is rarely used. Comment was heard from Ron Lefever 362 House Rock Road who stated that the road crew does a really good job and he feels the township should take the deal. A motion was made by Don Snyder and seconded by Carl Drexel to accept the agreement with Stephenson Equipment. The motion passed 5-0.

Rail Trail crossing/safety issues and grant info:

Duane Sellers commented that there was a meeting at the crossing on Thursday, April 28 with representatives from Lanc Co Planning Commission, PennDot, Wilson Consulting and Martic. The purpose of the meeting was to review the existing crossing and decide on the best course of action to improve safety for both the trail users and motorist. Due to sight distances, the best placement for crossing is the current location but an emphasis needs to be placed on making the crossing more visible.

Carl Drexel read the proposed scope of improvements:

Trail (per DCNR Grant Scope)

- Eliminate the stone path on the west side of the intersection
- Form a trail for all users to cross SR 324 at one location at the existing cross walk
- Construct a trail alignment on the west side of the road to connect to the rail-bed/trail heading west
- Install trail traffic control signs and pavement markings (not in state right of way)

Red Hill Road:

- Extend the stop bar over to meet the white lane line
- Install a warning sign for vehicles on Red Hill Road of the trail crossing

SR 324:

- Change all existing signs from yellow to fluorescent green...to increase visibility
- Install advance trail crossing signs...fluorescent green
- Consider installing "Trail X-Ing" paint on the roadway in advance of the crossing...
- Install an overhead flashing beacon over the cross walk ...motion activation and solar powered)...identify the trail on the mast arm

All of this would need funding, which is not currently in place. The current trail improvements most likely won't begin until 2017 and the Township does not want the trail improvements done without safety improvements being in place. Cost estimates for the safety portion should be completed by late summer. Comment was heard from Sally Wilson 52 Raven Crest who felt the main issue is speed on Rte 324; she would like to see the speed reduced in this portion of roadway and wants Stop Signs on 324. John Strosser 123 Den Mar Drive commented that this is something the state should be paying for. This was their design and both Red Hill Rd and Rte 324 are state roads. Wayne Murray of 63 Bethesda Church Rd W would like to see the police sit there to deter motorists. Corp. Jamal Pratt w/ Pa State Police commented that yes they will be more present in the area; he logs complaint areas into a 'zone book' that other troopers use. Comment was also heard from Dave Walters 477 Martic Heights Dr.

Road Department:

Tim Kiehl read the road report for April:

- The week of April 3: checked roadways, tree removals, road sweeping
- The week of April 10: repaired road washouts, rail-trail repaired where people were accessing the trail from Trout Run, met and drove roads with our PennDOT rep, Scott Lehman, signage repair and replacement
- The week of April 17: Delineators installed, asphalt repairs throughout township and constantly checking roadways
- The week of April 24: tree removal; windy conditions, asphalt repairs/pot holes, worked on stone roadways; Clark Hill & West View

Tim Kiehl commented that a portion of Hilldale Road will be temporarily closed the week of May 9th from 8-3 pm to allow the road crew time to make base repairs. Also, Steinman Farm Road has work to be completed prior to its paving of Steinman Farm Road portion. He presented to the Board a list of supplies that he will need to use to complete those road repairs. Carl Drexel commented that all of the items listed are not over and above what has already been budgeted for.

Ron Lefever of House Rock Road commented on the road conditions on River Road at Tucquan Glen. Carl Drexel commented that the state had received permits to do this work. Reber Testerman w/ Congressman Bryan Cutler's office commented that state permits are time sensitive and sometimes they run out. Rep Cutler's office has been in touch with PennDOT on the status of when this project might be started, he is still waiting to hear back from them. Unfortunately, DEP is much slower than normal because they are short on help.

Brian Resh 1153 Marticville Road commented again on the water run-off from Martic Forge Loop Rd onto his property during the February rain event. Tim Kiehl apologized that he forgot to check into whether or not that road was paved to PennDOT specs. He would do so by the next meeting. Duane Sellers commented again that roads are built to allow water to sheet flow off of the roadways. Rolled edges are placed when the bank is higher than the road. Numerous roads in the township have been improved over the years from dirt to paved roadways.

Zoning Officer Report shows: 2 building permits, 2 stormwater management permits, 3 building use and occupancy and 3 zoning certificate of use permits were issued in April.

The SEO Report shows: 4 perc and probes, 1 inspection and 3 septic permits were issued in April.

April 2016 invoices: Carl Drexel made a motion which was seconded by Don Snyder, to approve the bills for payment totaling \$ 17,968.44. The motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

House Rock Road/LC Conservancy – parking issues: Cathy David 370 House Rock Road comment on people trespassing after dark, on the Conservancy property and the continuing issue of people illegally street parking. Previously she had placed sticks, debris and logs along the road to prevent the parking,

however the Road Dept has cleaned it up. She asked what can be done, since the weather is getting warmer and that is when more people start to visit the Conservancy property. Duane Sellers explained that by placing anything in the road right-of-way, the property owner could be held liable if there happened to be an accident. Corp. Pratt w/ PSP commented that prior to the BOS meeting; he met with Mrs. David and discussed the parking issues. He told her that the House Rock Road area has been placed on their high priority list and he will have more patrol cars in the area. He encouraged her to continue with calls to them. Ron Lefever 362 House Rock Road commented on his concern for Emergency Vehicles access to the Conservancy property. He would like to see more No Parking signage placed. Brandon Tennis w/ LC Conservancy said they are working on getting more signs. Mr. Lefever also asked for clarification from LCC, who did confirm that their policy is after hours if people are present, to call the police. Dave Walters w/ RVFC stated that they had 3 rescues on Conservancy owned property in an 8 day period and their rescues are always labor intense. He wanted it known that the Township is who foots the bill for these rescues. Duane Sellers commented that community awareness is vital for everyone's safety. After discussion, the Road Department will place delineators in the No Parking areas to help deter the parking.

364 Steinman Farm Road – rental fire update. Carl Drexel commented that on April 17th our rental unit had an electrical fire. The Fire Marshall deemed it accidental due to faulty wiring. The insurance company recommended Mammoth Restoration who was called in to secure the property and begin the dry-out process and demo of the damaged portion. The engineers are still accessing the damage to be able to put together a dollar figure for the insurance company. The township is covered for the loss of income, up to 24 months. The tenants are looking for a place to move to while the house is unavailable. We were given an estimate of 8-12 months for everything to be complete.

Wayne Murray 63 Bethesda Church Road asked if there is an ordinance in place to stop people from blowing their mowed grass on the roadways. There is none.

GovDeals – Charlie Braught, after attending the PSATS conference, asked if the township has ever heard of this online auction site called GovDeals, as he feels this would be a great resource, in the future if we are ever looking to buy or sell equipment. Duane Sellers stated that in the past we have used Municibid, which is also an online auction site.

The elected Auditors have requested permission to attend an auditor's training course on May 6th and will cost \$80/each. Beth Birchall commented that Judy Duke will not be able to attend, due to a conflict with her schedule. A motion was made by Carl Drexel and seconded by Beth Birchall to reimburse the auditors for their registration fee. The motion passed 5-0.

The Zoning Officer has requested permission to attend a Lanc County Zoning & Building Association training course on May 17. There is no fee associated with this course; however it offers continuing education credits, which he is required to obtain. A motion by Beth Birchall and seconded by Don Snyder to allow the ZO to attend this class. The motion passed 5-0.

Constable Troy Hatfield made a request to purchase a township radio for safety purposes. If the township would purchase it, the township would then own it for any future needs. A radio is an important tool for backup. He has received a quote from RELM wireless for \$1610.97, which includes the programming. This radio would have a channel for emergency management, a channel for our road crew and a bridge patch for the state police. Charley Braught asked what percentage of township constables typically need and use them. Constable Hatfield estimated approximately 50%. Beth Birchall commented that the elected position of Constable is for a 6 year term. Comments were heard from Dave Walter w/ RVFC and Corp Pratt w/ PSP. A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Don Snyder to purchase a radio for the constable and take the money from what was budgeted for emergency management. The motion passed 5-0.

Worker's comp notifications and recognitions:

The RVFC Police notified the Township that they will be helping on May 21st at Rawlinsville Camp meeting 5K run and on June 25th at the Refton FC mud sale.

The RVFC auxiliary will have a food truck at Climbers Run on May 17th.

The RVFC will be involved with the truck convoy on May 8th.

Lydia Martin with the Lanc Co Conservancy commented that on Tuesday, May 17th there will be a program at Climbers Run recognizing the new education center. She welcomed everyone to stop by and look around. There will be various individuals and organizations attending, such as; DCNR, Trout Unlimited and the County Commissioners to name a few. She is hoping that one of the Board members can attend to say a few words. Duane Sellers commented that they will have to check their calendars, but hopefully someone can attend.

Corp. Pratt with the PA State Police, offered to give the annual report, since he was here. He commented that Martic's incident statistics show for 2014 simple assaults and harassments seem to be the biggest crimes reported. There was 15 burglaries, 1 crash reported, 47 thefts, which are mostly from unlocked vehicles. He finds in the southern end of the county, most people don't feel the need to lock their vehicles and these thefts are a crime of opportunity. There was also 1 DUI arrest made. In 2015, thefts went down to 21, 4 DUI arrests were made and 2 fatalities were reported. Dave Walter commented on the drag racing along Martic Heights Dr. Corp Pratt stated that the individuals involved have been identified. It took a little while, because every time someone called in, they offered a bit more information, which finally helped to identify the parties involved. The traffic issues raised, regarding Pennsy Road, Rt. 324 and the rail-trail entrance, will be added to their list of problem areas to patrol more frequently. Brian Resh commented on Rt. 324 speed issue. Duane Sellers commented on what the DA spoke on regarding the heroin epidemic. Is this some of what we are seeing here, in regards to the thefts? Corp Pratt gave a brief history that goes back approx 4 years. The distribution is coming up from Conowingo and unless the distributors feel pushed, which drives them into Lanc Co, they tend to stay in their comfort zones. Lanc Co has a problem with heroin and meth. The vehicle thefts are contributed to crimes of opportunity, for drug users, where items can be sold for quick money. As in the past, everyone is encouraged to write down anything you might see, no matter how trivial you may think it is. Every little bit helps.

The next meeting of the Martic Township Board of Supervisors is scheduled for June 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

They're being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm by a motion made by Beth Birchall.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D. Sellers
Martic Township Manager