

MINUTES OF THE MARTIC TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: February 7, 2022

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

ATTENDANCE: Beth Birchall, Duane Sellers, Carl Drexel, Jay Kreider, and Charles Stouff were present.

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

Beth Birchall made a motion, which was seconded by Carl Drexel, to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2022, Supervisors Meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

Beth Birchall presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2022. A motion was made by Carl Drexel and seconded by Jay Kreider, to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Carl Drexel and seconded by Charles Stouff, to move the Lanc Co Conservation District funds for the Horse Hollow Road stream bank repair, into a PLGIT account. The motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel, to move from the Ginnie Mae general account \$107,261.34 into its corresponding PLGIT account. The motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel, to move from the Ginnie Mae state fund account \$4,928.69 into its corresponding PLGIT account. The motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel, to move from the Ginnie Mae capital fund account \$5,035.82 into its corresponding PLGIT account. The motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel, to move from the Ginnie Mae trestle fund account \$639.26 into its corresponding PLGIT account. The motion passed 5-0.

Carl Drexel made a motion which was seconded by Charles Stouff, to approve the bills for payment totaling \$ 42,706.32. The motion passed 5-0.

RAIL TRAIL:

Trestle Bridge update was given by Jenn Leibig, Project Manager and Ray Caldwell of JD Eckman. She explained that things are going much better. The communication issues between them and Wilson Consulting Group has also gotten better. They still have not gotten to the 7th span, which is where the metal was damaged by the fire. The additional funding from DCNR, should cover any additional costs. They did Pack Rust remediation to remove the rust damage that happened over time. This should help with maintenance issues for many years. The original completion date was for August 2022, however that most likely will need to be pushed back.

324 Crossover update: John Ulaky, 190 River Road commented that Mark Wilson stated that permits may be needed, however per Mike Domain w/ Lanc Co Planning Commission, a study was conducted by the County and no HOP will be needed. We need to get a set of the plans into PADot's hands for their review. This is their roadway, and it needs their approval. Regarding funding for the project, Beth Birchall stated that there is a foundation network for grants that she will be looking into. Carl Drexel stated that we need to see the completed drawings, so he will reach out to Mark Wilson to get them, so they could be shared with PADot. Comment was heard from Jim Hearn, 137 Hollow Woods Drive that he will contact Scott Martin's office regarding grant funding for the project.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Steve Lehman, 561 Martic Heights Drive – commented on the sign at the Zoning Officers house, for his

Puttzin Store. He feels he is in violation of not getting a permit for the sign. Duane Sellers stated that he will check into it and if needed the Township would look into hiring a 3rd party to investigate.

Amber Martin, 430 Red Hill Rd commented that Senator Scott Martin's office could help with the 324 Crossover issues, he advocates for the Townships. Jim Heard stated that we need to follow protocol and that begins with PADOT and if that comes to a 'dead-end' we then should ask our congressmen to step in.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Road Department: Dave Williams read the report for January.

Week of January 2nd

Road check following heavy rain. Clean loose stone off House Rock, Tucquan Glen, Pencroft North, Pencroft South and Magnolia. Open runoff area on Pencroft North. Take T-04 to shop for repair of leaking transmission cover. Open pipe on Deer Lane. Clean gutters and open pipes in Lakewood. Get big truck spare tire mounted. Pick up T-04 from shop. Put chains and plow on T-04. Pick up replacement snowplow bars. Plowing and salting on multiple days. Push drifts back. Repair flat tire on T-04.

Week of January 9th

Salting for freezing rain event. Spread anti-skid on gravel roads. Check roads for icy spots on multiple days. Empty trucks and inspect for any mechanical problems. Remove excess snow from drift areas on Tucquan Glen and Hilldale. Mix salt and anti-skid. Cut trees on Ridge and Deer Lane. Take backhoe to shop for rear tires. Repair snowplow on T-84. Prep trucks for upcoming storm.

Week of January 16th

Plowing and salting on multiple days. Road check to salt icy spots on multiple days. Take T-04 to shop for repair of loss of power steering. Pick up T-07 from shop after inspection. Take delivery of anti-skid and salt. Repair tire chains. Spread anti-skid on gravel roads.

Week of January 23rd

Salting for minor event. Road check to salt icy spots on multiple days. Cut trees on Frogtown and Street. Repair speed limit sign on Pencroft North. Investigate mailbox damage complaint. Move old salt to front of salt bin. Measure roads for seal coat project. Wash T-90. Repair tire chains. Pick up T-04 from shop. Put chains and snowplow on T-04. Remove deer from Steinman Farm. Prep trucks for upcoming storm. Plowing and salting on multiple days. Push drifts and salt icy spots on multiple days

Horse Hollow Road repair update: Dave Williams gave an update regarding the latest notice from the Lanc Co Conservation District. We began this process to repair the bank along the Pequea Creek which is undermining Horse Hollow Road. He was originally told by LCCD, that this project would need no permits, as we would not be working in the creek and there is no wetlands or aquatic life on the steep bank. We applied for and were approved for a grant from the LCCD, and they have already sent us half the funds. The township put the project out to bid and awarded the project. Martic was to contact LCCD once we were scheduled to begin the work. When Dave Williams contacted them, they put a stop to the project stating that we now had to get a GP-3 permit from the LCCD – E&S division. We again submitted all documents to the E&S division, and on January 24th, the Township was denied the permit. While it took LCCD months to review our plans, their incompleteness letter gave us two weeks to get them more information, which included us downsizing the height of the proposed pinned wall. Amber Martin recommended Dave contact Lisa Hauldy w/ Senator Martin's office who would be able to help.

26 Wendy Drive / icing issues: Dave Williams stated that the property owner has placed a wood 'dam' in the road right-of-way, which is causing water to flow onto the roadway. On Wendy Drive, the ROW is 50'. He also had his driveway repaved last year, which is higher than the roadway, this too is causing water to flow out and onto the roadway. Dave spoke to the gentleman last year, prior to his repaving, and the homeowner stated that he would be removing the dam. To date it is still there. He has left the owner several voice messages to contact him regarding the problem and his messages are going unanswered. Unfortunately, the Township has had to put a lot of salt onto Wendy Drive, this year, due

to the situation. The Board suggested sending the homeowner a letter, giving him 60-90 days to rectify the problem.

2022 Proposed Road Work: Unfortunately, the information for the proposed Paving for 2022, was only received earlier in the day, by the Township and Dave Williams has not had an opportunity to review the numbers. He provided a copy of the proposal to the Board and ask them to ride around and ask him any questions they may have. He also gave them information he received for proposed Tar & Chip. Further discussion was tabled until the March meeting.

Zoning Officer Report: 6 building, 2 zoning permits were issued; along with 7 Use and Occupancy and 4 Certificate of Use permits

Sewage Enforcement Officer Report: 1 permit was issued

RAWLINSVILLE FIRE COMPANY

2021 recapped: Victor Ressler, RVFC president, gave their annual report to the Township. Two things that they always will need is funding and volunteers. They are always looking for help with either the chicken barbeques, mud sale, raffle, etc. He stated that all you have do is just show up and they will put you to work. Also, he stated, regarding the funding (ARP) that the Township received, he requested that the Board put it to use in the Township somewhere, because if you do not spend it will have to be returned.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

American Rescue Funds (ARP) update: Beth Birchall explained that the Township received federal funds from the American Rescue Plan to help deal with pandemic-related and other allowable expenses. We received final rules for the ARP funds, and they have created a revenue loss category and if declared as such, the money may be used however the Township wishes to use it. A budget for the funds needs to be created and she asked the Board to think about how to use the money and to bring those ideas back to the March meeting so that a budget may be created. Duane Sellers commented that whether it be used for roads, crossover, fire company, ambulance, library, etc. everybody present probably has an idea as to the best way to spend it. The money must be allocated by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026. Comment was heard from Jim Hearn.

NEW BUSINESS

Adding prayer to the Supervisor's agenda: Charles Stouff commented that one need he sees for the Township would be to instill a prayer prior to the Pledge during the Township Supervisor meetings. Pastor Chandler Evans, Mt. Nebo UMC and Pastor Dave Ryan, Bethesda UMC, were in attendance. Pastor Evans commented that he used to provide the prayer at the Quarryville Borough meetings, when he was a counsel member. Pastor Ryan commented that he feels it is a good thing to have. Carl Drexel commented that it is allowed and legal to do and he feels a Resolution with specific guide-lines, that our solicitor would draft, would help to protect the Township. He feels an invocation would help to support the decisions that might need to be made at the meetings. Jay Kreider asked as to what religions would be allowed. Charles Stouff recommended having churches, within Martic, being asked to offer the prayer. Jay Kreider stated that he feels by offering a prayer could potentially be opening the Township, up for a lawsuit. He would be more in favor of a moment of silence, as some of our neighboring townships do. Beth Birchall commented she too is in favor of a moment of silence, verses limiting the prayer to local houses of worship. She feels if someone cries discrimination, Martic could be looking at a civil liberties issue. Duane Sellers stated as he was in the military, they offered prayer. Comments were heard from Keith Kauffman, 215 Frogtown Road, Amber Martin, 430 Red Hill Road and Kerry Garber, 287 Tucquan Glen Road. After more discussion, a motion was made by Carl Drexel and seconded by Charles Stouff to ask the Township's solicitor to draft a Resolution on adding prayer to the Supervisors meeting agenda. The motion passed 3-2.

Zoning Officer – requested to attend continuing education classes.

February 18, 2022 Berks County Seminar \$50.00

April 24, 2022 PAAZO Spring Forum \$125.00

A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Jay Kreider to send the Zoning Officer to these continuing education seminars. The motion passed 5-0.

The next meeting of the Martic Township Board of Supervisors is scheduled for March 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D. Sellers
Martic Township Manager