

## MINUTES OF THE MARTIC TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**DATE:** May 2, 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 and a prayer was said.

### **MINUTES & TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beth Birchall made a motion, which was seconded by Carl Drexel to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2022, Supervisors Meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

Beth Birchall presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending April 30, 2022. A motion was made by Carl Drexel and seconded by Jay Kreider, to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed 5-0.

Charles Stouff made a motion which was seconded by Jay Kreider, to approve the bills for payment totaling \$41,401.45. The motion passed 4-0 with Carl Drexel abstaining in accordance with Section 1103(j) of the Ethics Act and noted that his public disclosure memorandum is on file in the township office.

Duane Sellers stated that he needed to comment on the information that an individual is spreading throughout the township. This individual is stating that the Township has 2 new trucks and does not think we need another new truck. This is false information as the Township currently has 6 dump trucks, ranging in years from 1997 – 2020. There has not been anything new bought since 2019.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Larry Graybill, 358 Steinman Farm Road, commented on the intersection at Steinman Farm Road and Hilldale Road. The tree located at 312 Hilldale Road is obstructing the site of oncoming vehicles. Carl Drexel stated that the property owner has been told about this previous and has stated he has no interest in trimming back his tree. Duane Sellers asked Dave Williams to contact the property owner again and make him aware that it is his responsibility to maintain the vegetation on his property, which is obstructing the motoring public's view of Hilldale Road looking south and if an accident were to occur there, he may be held liable.

Victor Ressler, 817 Susquehannock Road and RVFC President. He stated that their first chicken barbeque will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Also, he asked if the Board had any interest in attending a Public Safety Committee, which RVFC is considering forming. It would be 1 resident and 1 Board member from each Township they serve. Duane Sellers stated that yes, they would be interested and to keep them posted.

Larry Consylman, 644 Martic Heights Drive, commented on the site issues at Route 324 and Hilldale Road. The bank is too far out, and he feels it is a driving hazard. Dave Williams will contact PennDOT.

Scott Sellers, 306 Hilldale Road, commented on the scheduled Open House to view the plans. He asked about stormwater. Duane Sellers explained the Township is not at that point yet, these are just preliminary plan that were obtained from East Drumore. Sara Crill, 176 Hilldale Road asked if there will be an agenda. No, it is just an open house to let the residents see the current garage and the working conditions of the road crew. She asked if the office will be opened, no because it is open during the meeting and throughout the day for anyone to stop in and see. He explained that a feasibility study has already been done, and is posted on the website, and it is more cost-effective to rebuild then to try and

renovate.

### **RAIL TRAIL:**

A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel, to add to the Agenda Trestle Bridge/Amtrak lines update. The motion passed 5-0.

Trestle Bridge update – Jenn Leibig with JD Eckman stated that they are trying to schedule with Amtrak a day to have them shut down their lines so that they can have the 100' beams delivered, which will use 2 large cranes, with a 3<sup>rd</sup> one requested. She has asked for a 3 day notice. Unfortunately, Amtrak has not been cooperative in scheduling the outage. JD Eckman needs at least 8 hours of shut-down time, to get the beams unloaded. Also, JD Eckman has preemptively shaved off the bank which is needed for the delivery. This ramp will then be incorporated into the design of the crossing for the trail. Comment was heard from Victor Ressler, time of day this will take place. Ms. Leibig stated anytime, day/night or over the weekend, whenever it can be done. Jim Hearn, 137 Hollow Woods Dr and Rail Trail Committee Chair, stated that if she needs help with Amtrak, he is willing to reach out to our state representative, Bryan Cutler, and Senator Scott Martin.

A motion was made by Duane Sellers and seconded by Beth Birchall to add to the Agenda Rail Trail update. The motion passed 5-0.

Jim Hearn stated that both he and Carl Drexel have met with Bryan Cutler. Mike Domain with the LC Planning Commission has told him that the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) has elevated the rail trail to its highest priority. That means the County will be helping to get the trail open. Carl Drexel stated that the Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) was sent back signed today.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Road Department:** Dave Williams read the report for April.

Week of April 4th-Cut trees with tree cutter on Stump. Take delivery of pipe. Repair township garage roof. Road check. Clean rain gutters on township garage. Clean up township yard for mowing. Rake, seed, and mulch township lot where stump was removed. Clean loose stone off intersections on Tucquan Glen and Pencroft South. Blow leaves and open grates in Lakewood. Repair sideboard on T-90. Take T-04 to shop. Clean gutters on Douts Hill and Old Holtwood. Push fallen trees off right-of-way on New Village. Open pipe on Old Holtwood. Clean loose stone off Hilldale. Grease T-91. Take plows off T-91, T-06 and T-84. Check pipes and drains during rain event.

Week of April 10th-Pick up replacement knives for mowers. Get cold patch. Patch multiple roads. Repair curb on Hollow Woods. Clean loose stone off of Magnolia and Old Holtwood. Open water runoff on Pencroft North. Trim trees on township lot for lawn mowing. Cut trees with tree cutter on Stump for 2 days. Cut dead tree on Conservancy property on Ridge. Clean gutter on Stump. Put stone in gutter on Stump. Put modified in low shoulder area on Stump. Put stone in pipe outlet on Stump. Grease backhoe.

Week of April 17th-Check pipes and grates due to heavy rain forecast. Clean loose anti-skid off of intersections on multiple roads. Cut dead tree at park entrance. Spread modified on Clearview. Investigate complaint of damaged curb on Frogtown. Cut tree on road on Brady's Hill. Put stone in gutter on sections of Hilldale and Steinman Farm. Dig out and haul away stumps on Clark Hill. Wash T-90 and T-84 spreaders. Repair pressure washer. Post Pennsy for closure for tree cutting. Repair curb on Frogtown. Patch Rail Trail. Drag Rail Trail. Take spreaders off T-90 and T-84. Wash T-91 and T-07

Week of April 24th-Cut trees with tree cutter 2 days on Pennsy. Spread modified on Clearview. Service chipper. Put summer tires on T-90. Pressure wash winter tires from T-90 and put in storage. Meet with Western Star salesman. Put modified in low shoulder areas on Steinman Farm. Open pipe and clean gutters on Old Holtwood. Put modified in low shoulder on Old Holtwood

Charles Stouff asked if he had heard anything on the status of the grant funds for the truck. Dave Williams commented that this could take some time. He will make a phone call to see if he can get an update. Comment was heard from Sara Crill.

The Lanc Co Conservancy had a dead tree on their property along Ridge Drive, but outside of the Road Right of Way. Dave Williams had contacted them in 2020 about getting the tree removed but nothing ever happened. He has contacted them several times since about the tree. They marked the tree with a ribbon, which the Township never does, as it only opens us up for a liability suit if it were to come down and cause injury. Our policy is, if we see a tree in road right-of-way or on our property, to get it removed immediately. We do not mark trees. On April 13, 2022, the tree trimmer was doing work for the Township and after contacting Eric Roper with LCC, who gave permission to take down the tree. The LCC owes reimbursement to the Township for removing their tree. A motion was made by Duane Sellers and seconded by Beth Birchall to have Dave Williams contact the Conservancy and ask them to either reimburse the Township for the cost to remove the tree or ask them to donate to the RVFC, which they have not done since 2019, their choice. The motion passed 5-0.

**Zoning Officer Report:** 5 building, and 6 zoning permits were issued.

**Sewage Enforcement Officer Report:** 2 perc and probe and 3 permits was issued.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel to add to the Agenda, ARPA funds. The motion passed 5-0.

Beth Birchall stated that previously it was discussed and approved that the employees would receive a bonus from the ARPA funds, however it was never discussed as to when those funds would be distributed. Beth Birchall made a motion, which was seconded by Carl Drexel to pay those bonuses with the next payroll. The motion passed 5-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

188 Hilldale Road – Christopher and Betsaida Reading / Holding Tank Agreement. A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Jay Kreider to sign the Holding Tank Agreement. The motion passed 5-0.

Employee Handbook update: Beth Birchall explained that when our last employee left employment, she realized that we should have something in writing as a termination policy, with regards to vacation time. After discussion, she will contact the Township's attorney to ask for guidance. Further discussion was tabled until the June meeting. Comment was heard from Sara Crill.

Open House – Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 1-3 pm – discussion was held earlier in the meeting.

It was announced that an Executive Session would be held directly after the meeting, to discuss Employee matters.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

The next meeting of the Martic Township Board of Supervisors is scheduled for June 6, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D. Sellers  
Martic Township Manager