

MINUTES OF THE MARTIC TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: December 5, 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 Charles Stouff, to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2022, Supervisors Meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

Beth Birchall presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 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.

Carl Drexel made a motion which was seconded by Charles Stouff, to approve the bills for payment totaling \$44,667.90. The motion passed 5-0. It was noted that these invoices did not include a payments to Crilon and two invoices to Wilson, which were specific to the 324 crossing project.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jim Reynolds, 36 Deerfield, commented that he was disappointed with the October minutes. He commented on the letter the Township Road Foreman sent to him dated October 17, 2022, which stated that he may keep the rocks that he has placed in the ROW, but if the rocks begin to cause water to divert onto the roadway, or if fallen leaves build up, causing a dam which would divert the water, then the rocks would need to be removed. Dave Williams also commented that his letter does not state that the current rocks would be an issue for snowplows but cautioned to not build them higher than the roadway. He stated that at this time, the right-of-way along Deerfield will be maintained by the Township, the same as the rest of the other Township roadways.

SUPERVISORS REVIEW:

Planning Commission met on November 17, 2022 and recommended to the Supervisors that they consider adopting the Southern Lancaster Co Comprehensive plan. A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel to move forward with the adoption process. The motion passed 5-0.

RAIL TRAIL / TRESTLE BRIDGE / 324 Crossing:

Jim Hearn gave an update regarding the Trestle Bridge. A final walk through will take place after JD Eckman finishes the trail resurfacing. Carl Drexel commented on the invoice the Township received from CriLon and Wilson Consulting Group. He gave a timeline of the project and unfortunately the project is not completed correctly. The pipe has been set 9" too high. There is issues with the asphalt. Too many problems to grant payment. Duane Sellers stated if we don't pay, we hold leverage over them to get it done correctly. Jay Kreider asked if the subbase was done correctly. Dave Williams stated that it is not graded smoothly. The Board feels that Wilson has culpability as they okayed it for paving. After further discussion, Carl, Duane, Jim and Dave will meet to go over the list of what was completed and decide on the amount to pay based on that. Comment was heard from Scott Sellers. Carl Drexel also stated that the trail has been well received. There seems to be an issue where people are climbing out over rocks to get a picture of the bridge. JD Eckman has offered to place trail mix on a flatter, safe spot, so people can step out to the side to view the bridge. Jim Hearn stated that donations are coming in for the trail. Beth Birchall commented on Manor Township holding a 'Midnight' trail ride and included Martic's portion inadvertently, without asking Martic first. Jim Hearn said he has spoken with Manor Township and made them aware that Martic was not pleased. He stated that if they plan to do anything similar in the future, they will contact us first.

Carl Drexel also stated that the Township has received a grant writing proposal from Lydia Martin. She has been working with Jim with regards to the bridge opening. The future plans are to add a pedestrian bridge over 324, thus eliminating the need for trail users to be on the roadway. The cost of the bridge would require grant funding. That, along with any future projects, Lydia Martin has had extensive experience researching, writing and applying for grants. After discussion, a motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Jay Kreider to hire Lydia Martin as our grant writer. The motion passed 5-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Road Department: Dave Williams read the report for November Week of October 30th

Mowed Creamery, Clark Hill, Douts Hill and Pennsy. Installed new delineators on Clark Hill. Meeting at Trail. Install new signs and place boulders on Rail Trail Crossing and Trestle Bridge. Pick up filters for and perform service on John Deere 6110. Weld plow frame on John Deere 6110. Meet contractor to look at Horse Hollow Project. Dave had two days of training.

Week of November 6th

Cut small trees and clean gutter on Debbie. Put stone in low shoulder on Street. Blow leaves off of entrance and parking lot at Township Park. Cut trees with tree cutter for two days on Debbie, Hilldale and Old Holtwood. Install chains and snowplow on John Deere 6110.

Week of November 13th

Road check. Install new speed limit sign on Bradys Hill. Install salt spreaders on trucks and check for proper working condition. Clean loose stone off roadway at Intersection of Park and New Village. Clean gutters on Crystal, Old Pinnacle, Old Holtwood, Songbird, Oak Glen and Ridge. Install new Ridge Drive sign. Installed new delineator on Street. Repair T-05. Take T-06 to shop. Cut tree on Raven Crest.

Week of November 20th

Take T-05 to shop. Road check. Cut trees on Stump. Repair chainsaws. Put chains on T-04. Pick up T-06 from shop. Put chains and snowplow on T-06. Cut tree on New Village. Pick up supplies from Gemmills. Install new mile marker sign on Trial. Blow leaves off multiple roads. Pick up filters for Volvo loader. Pick up T-05 from shop. Observe Thanksgiving holiday.

Week of November 27th

Road check due to high winds. Mow Hilldale, Street and New Village. Clean gutters on Loop, Pencroft North and Tucquan Glen. Cut trees with tree cutter on Tucquan Glen, Douts Hill, Hilldale, Sellers and Frogtown. Service Volvo loader. Put stone in low shoulder on Pencroft South. Call out for fallen tree on Frogtown. Road check due to high winds. Install new stop sign and road name signs on Loop. Open pipe on Hilldale. Cut trees on Hilldale. Patch holes on McKelvey. Open plugged water runoffs on Hilldale. Put stone in low shoulder on Hilldale.

Horse Hollow Road project- Dave Williams has heard back from the Lancaster Conservation District regarding the grant we were awarded through the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Project. They have increased the award amount to \$96,200.00. Dave Williams has contacted the contractor who has now informed him that the project cost will be \$99,000. After discussion, Duane Sellers made a motion, which was seconded by Carl Drexel to contact the contractor to see if they would accept the awarded grant of \$96,200 and if not to pay the addition cost to get the road bank stabilized. The motion passed 5-0.

Tractor: Dave Williams commented that during the budget discussions, he noted that it was time to upgrade one of the mowing tractors. He received a quote from Messick's for \$98,548.48 and they currently have two ordered and are expecting delivery in July. Neither are spoken for yet. After discussion, The Board requested that he get another quote to determine if the Messick's price is better than from another dealer.

Zoning Officer Report: 6 building, and 2 zoning permits were issued.

Sewage Enforcement Officer Report: 1 permit were issued, and 2 perc and probes, along with 1

inspection was done.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Adoption of the 2023 Budgets: General Fund and Liquid Fuels. A motion was made by Charles Stouff and seconded by Carl Drexel, to adopt the 2023 General Fund budget in the amount of \$1,234,250. The motion passed 5-0. A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Jay Kreider, to adopt the 2023 Liquid Fuels/State fund in the amount of \$470,464.74. The motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Farm Lease: preliminary site work is beginning for the new municipal construction, a motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Jay Kreider to not renew the lease for the farm. The motion passed 4-0, as Duane Sellers had stepped out of the room.

EVOLV credit card company: this company provides card services, so that the Township could offer another form of payment option to applicants. The monthly fee would be \$24.95, and we could pass along to applicants a processing fee of up to 4%. Comments were heard from Victor Ressler, 817 Susquehannock Drive and Elam Miller, 300 Douts Hill Road. The Board suggested polling applicants to see if they would use this service.

2023 Employee Compensation: Due to the high cost of living increase and after discussion, a motion was made by Carl Drexel and seconded by Jay Kreider to grant an 8% wage increase to all employees, which would take effect January 1, 2023. The motion passed 3-0 with Duane Sellers and Beth Birchall abstaining due to a conflict of interest. Comments were heard from Jim Hearn, Victor Ressler and Scott Sellers, 306 Steinman Farm Road.

Martic Township Park: Duane Sellers commented that the Township had previously worked with an arborist regarding the trees in the Township's park. Many are dying due to age, blight and disease. The park boundaries have all been marked and he would like to proceed with how to utilize the existing timber before it loses its value. This topic will be added to the January agenda for further discussion.

Township Engineering Services:

Proposals have been received from Rettew, Kraft Engineering and Solanco Engineering. The Township received the Solanco Engineering fees, when it opted, earlier in the year, to allow Brian Gilbert to continue reviewing the Storm Water plans that we received, when he left Wilson to go to Solanco Engineering. Unfortunately, if Martic were to need a pipe permit, Solanco has another company do the CAD work, therefore there would be an added cost. Kraft Engineering is Conestoga's engineering; however, they are in Shillington, and we currently have an issue with Wilson being located in Mechanicsburg and not readily available for inspections. Rettew is local, the municipal rep lives in Conestoga and many years ago, Jim Caldwell was the former Zoning Officer. He has historical knowledge that has helped the Township in the past, such as the Lakewood Development. Comments were heard from Jim Hearn, Scott Sellers and Elam Miller. After discussion, a motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel to use Rettew as the new Township engineer, beginning January 1, 2023, but to allow Solanco Engineering and Wilson to continue with the current projects to completion. The motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Carl Drexel and seconded by Beth Birchall, to approve the 2023 Consent Agenda items for Appointments and Township business, to take effect January 1, 2023, as presented to the Supervisors. The motion passed 5-0.

Consent Agenda items:

Legal Counsel – Morgan, Hallgren, Crosswell & Kane

Depositories for Township funds – Bank of Bird-in-Hand, Truist, PLGIT, Fulton Bank & Wells Fargo

All Township Monthly Meetings Times & Dates – the same as 2022

Martic Township observed Holidays – the same as 2022

LC Earned Income Tax Bureau Reps – Ryan Strohecker/Manor Twp

Alternate: Ed Arnold/Millersville Borough

Pension Plan Administrator – PSATS
Reappointment of Zoning Hearing Board member: Melissa Anders
Reappointment of Planning Commission members: Shawn Lehman, Jessica Voci
Emergency Management appointees

Additional: A motion was made by Beth Birchall and seconded by Carl Drexel to add back onto the agenda the purchase of a tractor. The motion passed 5-0.

Beth Birchall commented that we do not want to miss the opportunity to purchase a tractor and since we know what the current cost of the tractor from Messick's will be and to keep the process moving along, she made a motion, which was seconded by Jay Kreider to ask the Road Foreman, after checking on a comparison price, to proceed with placing an order for a tractor at whichever price is the better of the two. The motion passed 5-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 pm, by Beth Birchall.

The next meeting of the Martic Township Board of Supervisors is scheduled for January 3, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D. Sellers
Martic Township Manager