

MINUTES - HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
October 27, 2021

PRESENT: David Randler, Thomas Schoener, Terrence Wolfe, Kevin Snyder, David Manbeck, John Muir Esq., Chief Leon Grim, Nicole Werner, Lori Brown, Geneva Berger

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Randler at 7:30pm

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Geneva Berger: Would like to know when leaf pick up will begin and when the yard waste recycling center will open. Chairman Randler stated possibly next week would be the first leaf pickup. No date for the yard waste recycling center. Sup Snyder suggested setting up a specific day of the week to collect leaves. Secretary Werner to contact Robesonia Borough to send a robo-call out for leaf pick up reminder and advertise on social media.

Lori Brown: No Comment

MINUTES: September 29, 2021 minutes were circulated. **MOTION** by Sup Schoener, **SECOND** by Sup Snyder, passed unanimously.

October 13, 2021 workshop minutes were circulated. **MOTION** by Sup Snyder, **SECOND** by Sup Schoener, passed unanimously.

TREASURERS REPORT: A **MOTION** was made by Sup Snyder to approve the treasurer's report for the month of September, **SECOND** by Sup Schoener, passed unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: A **MOTION** was made by Sup Snyder, **SECOND** by Sup Wolfe, passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Police & Fire – Report provided by Chief Grim. Showed body camera footage from a domestic incident.

Sewer – Pump station at Fry Manor was installed by Slaymakers. Waiting for generator to be installed at Fry Manor. AWI pump station is up and running. BOS had a meeting with the Robesonia Municipal Authority. John Muir, Esq sent a release for review, upon approval Mr. Muir will hand over approved check. Sup Snyder asked if there was a spike due to recent rain events. Chairman Randler stated no calculations were taken since the most recent rain. The Joint Sewer Authority increased rates 50%, the township will pay the cost, not sure what will happen the resident's rates. Currently \$440 per thousand gallons, going up to \$460 per thousand gallons. The Sewer Authority will begin an \$8 million renovation, hence the reason for the rate increase. This was a unanimous vote from the Sewer Authority. Chairman Randler did mention this is cheaper than doing a flow proportionate.

Planning Commission – No report

Roads, Bldg. & Equip. – Double seal coat will be completed along curbs in Fry Manor, follow-up with Jeff Kerlin. Larry Knoll will be correcting a few driveway approaches, patching. The path leading to the footbridge in Fry Manor was paved and made level with the bridge for easy access. Three trees at the bridge need to be cut down, estimating removal cost to be \$1,500-\$2,000. The split rail fence at the end of the foot path was removed, the township will reinstall (approximately 10 posts and 20 rails). Larry Knoll and Garry Zerbe will install new fencing. Sup Snyder said the owner of the property would like a planting area along the fence for easy maintenance. Sup Snyder did remind the board the owner does snow plow the footpath.

The new truck is in transit, should be arriving at EM Kutz this week or next. Hoping to have it ready for the upcoming snow season.

No update on the chipper.

Personnel – No report

Recreation Board/Pool – Chairman Randler asked if any other board members received complaints regarding the stadium speakers at the school, he was approached by one resident (concerned the noise would scare deer away from the property). Per board members, no other complaints have been received.

Zoning Hearing Board – The appeal for 326 Fry Ave regarding garage setbacks for a future garage was approved. The appeal for 500 E. High Street regarding setbacks for a future garage was approved with modifications to garage.

Zoning & SEO Report: Report provided to Supervisors from Technicon Enterprises, Inc. Secretary Werner received a call from Bonnie Klopp at 361 N. Church Street. Mrs. Klopp would like to sell painted gourds at home from September through December. The Board of Supervisors has approved no further action needs to take place (permitting).

Building Inspectors Report – Report provided to Supervisors from Technicon Enterprises, Inc.

Engineers Report – Report provided to Board of Supervisors from Technicon Enterprises, Inc.

Solicitor's Report – John Muir, Esq. was representing Andrew George, Esq. Meters at Bethany Children's Home are being read on a weekly basis. Will follow-up regarding the Robeson Springs Car Wash and meter connections.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Western Berks Ambulance September report, Select Environmental Solutions Monthly Operations & Maintenance report, GFL Environmental Monthly Recycling Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Police Contract: The SHPD police contract was received for calendar years 2023-2027. Last month the board discussed proposing language regarding change in leadership. The proposed language was given to Chairman Randler to review. John Muir Esq made the recommendation asking to include the Heidelberg Township BOS in consultation if new leadership were to take place. The first contract reviewed by Chairman Randler included an 8% increase, this has since been lowered to 4.5% after negotiations.

MOTION made to approve 5 year police agreement that was proposed to Heidelberg Township with SHPD by Sup Schoener, **SECOND** by Sup Snyder, passed unanimously

Fry Manor Flooding: Secretary Werner continues to receive Facebook Messages from a citizen in Fry Manor and would like clarification on how to address. The resident stated the creek behind his home is dammed by fallen trees and debris, in addition concerned about the bank wash. It was stated the township does not own the creek. The water way is part of the commonwealth. The BOS discussed and recommended the following: The matter was discussed at the most recent board meeting. As the township does not own the properties in which the creek runs, there are concerns about entering private property on a high quality water way. We encourage you to contact the Berks County Conservation District or the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

2022 Proposed Budget: Reviewed

NEW BUSINESS:

False Alarm Ordinance: A copy of the drafted ordinance was provided by John Muir, Esq. The money from the alarm citations would be given to Heidelberg Township with an ordinance instated, currently handed over to the state. The fire company is looking for restitution. Sup Schoener mentioned it would be a good idea to give the citation monies to the fire companies. Chief Grim stated in the month of September, Bethany Children's Home had 6 false alarm calls, to date the month of October is similar. John Muir, Esq. said most of the communities in which his office serves do have Alarm Ordinances in place.

MOTION was made to advertise the Alarm Ordinance by Sup Schoener,
SECOND by Sup Snyder, passed unanimously.

Furnace Village: Review time extension for Furnace Village.

MOTION made to grant extension from September 29, 2021 to March 30, 2022 by Sup Wolfe,
SECOND by Sup Snyder, passed unanimously.

Joint Planning Commission meeting: To be held on November 30, 2021, 7:30pm at the Robesonia Borough. Discussion on ordinance changes for the following municipalities:

- Heidelberg Township: Rezoning request regarding the property located adjacent to 620 William Penn Blvd, Womelsdorf from AP to MDR. Planning Commission was supportive of this change and felt it was consistent with adjoining land uses.
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- Robesonia Borough initiated Zoning Amendment to revise Convenience store definition, add Convenience store with fuel pumps as a distinct use, set specific use regulations for convenience stores, and amend certain regulations for development in TR/TC zoning districts along Penn Ave. This amendment serves to bring the Ordinance definitions / regulations for convenience stores with fuel pumps up to a current industry standard and now allows convenience stores with fuel pumps in the TC district. It also modifies building design requirements (building entrance location and roof line) for development of lots over 1 acre in the TC/TR district along Penn Ave and allows parking between the building and Penn Ave for those same areas.

In terms of impacts to Heidelberg Township, the following result from this Ordinance change: Any convenience stores with fuel in the Township would be subject to the new regulations outlined in this Ordinance which does allow a 24 hour operation (currently the Exxon is limited on its hours under the variance it received to operate there).

- North Heidelberg Township Zoning Amendment to change the requirement to a minimum average lot area of 7500 SF for apartments in the MDR zoning district in NHT only. This amendment only affects parcels in NHT as has no impact on land within Heidelberg Township.

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Sup Snyder at 8:50pm. **SECOND** by Sup Schoener, passed unanimously.

**Next meeting will be held on Monday, November 22nd at 7:30pm,
Board of Supervisors Meeting**

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Werner, Township Secretary