

MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

The Penn Township Public Works Committee convened on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 7:20 P.M. following the Finance Committee meeting. Present were Vice Chairman Van de Castle and Commissioners Brown, Felix, and Heilman. Commissioner Klunk was absent with notice. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Lieutenant Hettinger, Fire Chief Cromer, Engineer Bortner, WWTP Superintendent Mahone, Zoning Officer Swanner, Assistant to the Engineer Garrett, and Township Secretary Hallett. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the August 2, 2016 Public Works Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Edith Cline, 15 Carson Avenue, asked why the decision was made to remove street lights. Engineer Bortner explained that last year the Township received a request from PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to consider changing high pressure sodium lights over to LED lights. Through that request the Township attended a meeting and went over the process. DEP warned that the LED light will give off a different power light than the high pressure sodium and we'd need to check our system to see where the lights will be located and what the affect will be using LED. At this point the Township went out and mapped where all of the lights are located. During this process it became apparent that lights are not distributed evenly throughout the Township. There are sections of town that have street lights and others that don't and others with multiple lights at intersections. We realized that telling MetEd to switch everything over to LED probably wasn't a very good option. We discussed how to light the Township and decided that we should light intersections, curves, major roadways, and use midblock lights on long blocks.

Ray Millhimes, 555 Locust Street, said he spoke with two MetEd representatives and the Township Secretary and was given different information each time. MetEd told him there are between fifty and sixty lights being removed. He said the distance between the removed lights and the remaining lights in his neighborhood is six hundred fifty feet, leaving five residents and one business in total darkness. He's noticed that there is more activity in the alley between Baer Avenue and the 500 block of Locust Street since the lights were removed and he's had articles removed from his carport. He asked if the police will add additional patrols in the alley because he's always believed that lighting deters crime.

George Hawbaker, 40 Wilmar Avenue, asked if safety was taken into consideration when this decision was made. He said there are a lot of elderly people in the audience tonight and just last week an eighty year old man was mugged in Codorus State Park. It's totally dark on his street. Engineer Bortner said all of the discussions were held at the Public Works Committee meetings and it was also discussed at staff meetings and Police Chief Laughlin didn't raise any safety concerns.

Dennis Miller, 1240 Westminster Avenue, said there's only one street light on his street now and it's really dark. He asked why they were all removed on Westminster Avenue. Engineer Bortner said there should be a light at the intersection of Grandview Road and Westminster Avenue, one at Henry Street, and a third at the pumping station. Mr. Miller said the one at the pumping station doesn't work. Engineer Bortner said a light is being added at Emerson Street and another at Little Bridge Road. He wasn't aware that the light at the pumping station is out.

Phyllis Starner, 29 Brewster Street, said the light across from her house was removed. She asked if money had anything to do with the decision. Commissioner Brown said money had nothing to do with it. The Board decided it made sense to relocate lights from areas with an abundance to areas that need additional lighting. Mrs. Starner said she read the Township minutes for the past year and saw that \$109,988 was approved in April to upgrade the lights at the municipal building. She asked why the Township gets new lights and the citizen's are taken down. Manager Rodgers said the Township is replacing the internal lights and changing them to LED. There are no external lights being added. Citizens shared additional concerns about safety and the fact that they weren't warned beforehand.

Jody Magara, 557.5 McAllister Street, said she was told that the lights cost \$5,000 per light each month and that's part of the reason they were taken down. Commissioner Felix said the lights do not cost \$5,000 a month. She lives just past the football field and across from a horse farm. She doesn't understand why the midblock light by the football field was left up. She said it's not just for convenience that they depend on the lights. How will EMT's be able to see when there's an emergency? She has a light on her garage and still isn't able to park in the alley because there are kids vandalizing vehicles in the alley. She's concerned about people trying to find their cars after football games and special events like the Halloween Parade. Mrs. Magara has a son attending Park Hills Elementary and, after daylight saving time begins, he will get on the bus in the dark. It is pitch black and she doesn't have neighbors who can rotate lighting porch lights to keep the area lit. She said the football field has a Pokémon Go spot and that has added a lot of traffic. She reiterated concerns for the safety of her elderly neighbors and those with young children. She asked if she can put a pole light in. Commissioner Felix said a pole light can be installed at any time. Manager Rodgers said an electrical permit will be required from the electrical inspector. Mrs. Magara asked if she'd have to call MetEd first. Commissioner Felix said she won't have to call MetEd but she will need to call to have the utilities marked prior to digging. Mrs. Magara said she is on disability and her husband recently lost his job. With two children to take care of she can't afford to repair the light she already has let alone put in a new pole light. She said she spoke with the police department and they said they will step up patrols but they can't possibly be everywhere the lights were removed.

Faye Showers, 60 Wilmar Avenue, is very concerned about safety. She asked if the Township is in such dire financial straits that they are having lights removed instead of just adding new ones. The Township is paying MetEd to remove the lights and then paying again to have them put in a different location. Why not just pay for new lights to be put in.

Mr. Hawbaker asked if any of the removed lights are being put in new developments. Engineer Bortner said the developers are responsible for installing lights

at each intersection. The plan is to remove two of the three lights that the developers purchased and put them in unlit areas. For example Hall Estate Three has lights but Hall Estates One and Two do not so they will be removed from Hall Estates Three and used to light the other developments. He explained that the majority of the lights that have been removed are cobra head lights and MetEd won't relocate them. They will install LED lights at the new locations. Mr. Hawbaker suggested cancelling Halloween because it will be too dark and children will be hit. Mrs. Showers asked why the lights were taken down if MetEd isn't going to install them elsewhere.

Melissa Ridgely, 35 Wilmar Avenue, said this is putting the elderly and disabled residents at risk. She mentioned that she tripped when leaving her house at 4:30 this morning. She feels the most vulnerable of our citizens are being put at risk.

Ronald Bristol, 60 Ruel Avenue, thanked Engineer Bortner for taking the time to return his phone call. He said Ruel is a tie street between Route 116 and Route 216 and is commonly used as a work around for heavy traffic. He lives in an older neighborhood and the Residential Street Lighting Ordinance was not in affect when his home was built. He said most pole lights in the neighborhood are very close to the house. He installed one on his property in 1992 and it puts out approximately two thousand lumens. He said the high pressure sodium street light put out eighteen thousand lumens and no pole lights can match that.

Nancy Zepp, 100 Carson Avenue, asked if any of the Board lives in an area where street lights were removed. She said the older sections are where older people live. She can't see to walk her dog and worries about not being able to see behind hedges.

Linda Sanders, 50 Carson Avenue, said the street light was right at her driveway. Without it it's very dark. She has a post light, porch light, and another light on her deck but it's still dark. She's worried about safety.

Mr. Millhimes asked if the Township has stopped having reporters at the meetings. Commissioner Van de Castle said they are invited but don't show up.

Wayne Bunty, 105 Carson Avenue, said he has a son who is a police officer in Washington D.C. His son told him that the places with no lights are where there's problems. He's afraid we're inviting trouble by turning off the lights. He appreciates the work Penn Township police officers do and has always felt safe.

Mr. Hawbaker asked how many lights are being removed. Engineer Bortner said ninety-two lights have been discussed so far. Mrs. Showers asked why the lights are being thrown away. Commissioner Van de Castle said that was a MetEd decision. There was discussion about the lights being moved, replaced, and relocated. They also discussed the monthly cost to operate street lights. Mr. Hawbaker asked if there's any possibility of changing the decision and putting the lights back in. Engineer Bortner said it's an ongoing plan so it can be changed. There was more discussion about the location of lights.

Denise Bunty, 105 Carson Avenue, asked why the Board didn't come to the public before making this decision. Commissioner Van de Castle said the agendas and minutes are posted on the Penn Township website. Manager Rodgers said the agendas are also posted on the front door of the municipal building.

Mrs. Starnar asked if the Board is willing to reconsider their decision. Commissioner Felix said the Board is willing to discuss and address the issue. The

Board will revisit the situation but it may take several months to assess each light. He assured her that her concerns are not going unheard.

Don Lawrence, 33 Brewster Street, suggested that the police department take note of the streets with lights removed. He asked if they would want to respond to calls on these dark streets. Lt. Hettinger said the police department responds to all calls. Mr. Sonny Blouse, 45 Wilmar Avenue, asked if the Township could put something in the newspaper rather than waiting for the reporters to show up. Commissioner Brown said the Board would love to have reporters and citizens at every meeting, but no one usually shows up. Jim Starner, 29 Brewster Street, likes the idea of putting meeting agendas in the Township Newsletter. Commissioner Felix explained that the newsletter only goes out twice a year and agendas are made monthly. There was discussion about sending letters and making phone calls to keep the public notified; however neither are viable options for the Township at this time.

Karen Unger, 35 Carson Avenue, said it's very dark without the lights. She said falling at an older age can be a disaster.

Colleen Gindlesberger, 1321 Beck Mill Road, asked if the decision was made by a single person and Commissioner Felix told her the entire Board approved the decision.

Richard Koelle, 559 McAllister Street, said he understands switching to LED lights but doesn't like the lights being removed. One of the advantages to living in town is proper lighting and it's unfair at this point to remove them.

Ms. Unger asked when this will be discussed again. Commissioner Van de Castle said during the Public Works Committee meeting on October 4, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was recessed for five minutes

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANS: Engineer Bortner reported that the Mustang Heights subdivision and land development plan is ready for final approval. The Robert Hemler subdivision and land development plan on Earl Street is ready for final approval. South Hanover Automotive is turning an existing restaurant into an auto repair shop. Commissioner Van de Castle asked if there will be sales at this location. Zoning Officer Swanner said they will be selling tires but not automobiles. There will be two buildings on the property, one for tire sales and the other for repairs.

BONDS: Engineer Bortner reported that the improvement bond amount for Mustang Heights is \$137,697.23. The improvement bond amount for South Hanover Automotive is \$7,854.50. The letter of credit for D&R Bean, LLC can be reduced from \$82,840.45 to \$12,960.75. The letter of credit for Pinebrook – Phase II can be reduced from \$243,323.30 to \$97,019.34.

MS4: Engineer Bortner reported that he and Manager Rodgers attended a meeting hosted by York County Planning Commission. The Township is currently a part of the County Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction consortium. With the new MS4 PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) changed the regulation concerning the Chesapeake Bay pollutant reduction and they added impaired water pollutant reduction

requirements. York County Planning Commission received a grant through Army Corps of Engineers to transition the current project into one that will meet the new MS4 requirements. DEP and York County Planning Commission are asking all municipalities to be involved in the new program. The Township can do three impaired stream studies and the Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan on our own or we can go with the York County Regional Pollutant Reduction Plan (YCPRP) that's being funded by Army Corps of Engineers. We need to give a response by October 4, 2016. Engineer Bortner recommended we continue with the County plan that we're currently involved in. Commissioner Van de Castle asked if Solicitor Tilley will review the agreement. Manager Rodgers said he can if we ask him to but the agreement would have been reviewed by York County Planning Commission's solicitor. Engineer Bortner said that Stock & Leader had representation at the meeting.

Engineer Bortner said the one disadvantage he sees is that DEP is looking at York County as a whole and the program may not directly affect Penn Township's impaired streams. DEP has said that we do not have to have an impaired stream plan if we join the YCPRP. He said that DEP has informed the Township that we are not required to have the individual permit so we can more easily participate in the regional plan. The Committee recommended adopting the resolution to join the YCPRP.

HANOVER LAND SERVICES REQUEST: The Committee received a letter dated August 16, 2016 from Hanover Land Services requesting a waiver of the landscaping bufferyards for South Hanover Automotive. Engineer Bortner said they are proposing to put trees behind the old ACNB building rather than putting trees in the front of their facility and blocking the clear sight triangle. The trees will be around the stormwater pond at the back of the property. The front of the property would remain the way it is. Engineer Bortner had recommended the stormwater pond be place on the front of the property, but Hanover Land Services is concerned about the utilities running through the front yard. The Penn Township Planning Commission made a favorable recommendation on this request.

RESIDENTIAL LIGHTING ORDINANCE: Assistant to the Engineer Garrett reported on the changes that he made to the proposed Residential Street Lighting Ordinance. The ordinance has not been updated since the 80's and the post head currently required is no longer available as of this month. The proposed lights will cost around \$100 for the post and the head can be anywhere from \$80 to \$600. He showed a minimum lumens chart explaining what kind of bulbs should be used. The ordinance keeps the lumens around one thousand per lamp. Commissioner Van de Castle asked if the ordinance addresses growing vines on the light poles. Assistant Garrett said vegetation will be allowed around the base but needs to stay below the lamp head. The ordinance also proposes permitting Holiday decorations for a thirty calendar day period and should be appropriate to the Holiday.

Mr. Bristol asked what the maximum height would be on poles. Assistant Garrett said eight feet coming out of the ground, plus the head. Mr. Bristol asked what other options there are for him to light his property since the street light was removed. Would the ordinance regulate house mounted lights? Assistant Garrett said the ordinance addresses ornamental lights. There was discussion about lighting options. Zoning

Officer Swanner said the beam being projected from a light should be looked at during the lighting review process and may prohibit some lights.

EXTENSION REQUESTS: Zoning Officer Swanner reported that WellSpan is requesting an extension in order to obtain permits from outside governmental agencies. They need a PennDOT HOP permit, NPDES permit, and PADEP Planning Module exemption for sewer. They are also going to the Penn Township Zoning Hearing Board on September 13, 2016 for a special exception.

Zoning Officer Swanner reported that he contacted Kris Raubenstine, Hanover Land Services, for more information on the extension request for Hanover Storage, LLC. Mr. Raubenstine indicated that Burkentine & Sons and himself have been in conversation with Hanover Foods to discuss an easement to discharge stormwater across their property. Once this is resolved they can move on with addressing comments.

RECREATION: Manager Rodgers reminded the Board that the Community Park will be closed September 26th through December 2, 2016 for maintenance and repairs. Depending on weather it may remain closed longer. She said Highway Foreman Mahan can have the creative playground power washed before October 10th and that is when the contractor will begin resealing. The Newsletter has an article concerning the closing and an article requesting volunteers to be on the Masterplan Committee. Commissioner Heilman said the Newspaper should probably print something about the park closing so people have ample notice. Manager Rodgers said it's posted on the Township website. Lt. Hettinger said he can put the information on the police department Facebook page.

OTHER MATTERS: Commissioner Felix asked for a list of the street lights that have been shut off so far. Engineer Bortner will provide this.

The Board discussed options to keep the community informed of what is discussed at Committee meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Hallett