

MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 1, 2016

The Penn Township Public Works Committee convened on Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. Present were Chairman Klunk and Commissioners Felix, Heilman, Van de Castle, Commissioner Brown arrived at 7:22 P.M. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Engineer Bortner, WWTP Superintendent Mahone, Highway Foreman Mahan, Zoning Officer Swanner, Assistant to the Engineer Garrett, and Township Secretary Hallett. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Klunk read the announcements of the executive session held following the Board of Commissioners meeting on October 17, 2016. He announced an executive session to discuss possible land acquisition was held following the Finance Committee meeting on October 31, 2016. An executive session to discuss possible land acquisition will be held this evening following the Health & Sanitation Committee meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the October 4, 2016 Public Works Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Carolyn Hart, 48 Waterfront Drive, said she received a doorhanger threatening a fine if she doesn't turn her pole light on. Commissioner Klunk said she's not required to have it on because her development was built before the pole light regulations came into effect. He said it would be helpful if she turns the light on for safety reasons, but there won't be any fines. Ms. Hart asked if she could have that in writing and Commissioner Klunk said there's no need because the District Magistrate won't allow a citation. Judy and Russell Laughman, 53 Waterfront Drive were present with the same concern.

Mr. Laughman said the curve on the right hand side of Waterfront Drive is hard for snowplows to get to when there are cars parked there. He asked that someone look at making it no parking. Commissioner Klunk said the police department will look into it.

MEADOW SPRING SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN: Engineer Bortner reported on the Meadow Spring subdivision and land development plan. He said we won't have the fifty foot right-of-way we'd typically require. The plan shows a thirty foot right-of-way. Engineer Bortner and Manager Rodgers had previously met with the adjoining property owner and she was unwilling to give the Township any right-of-way. It is possible she could be re-approached. Commissioner Klunk said there is enough room for two lanes and it can be made a no parking area. Manager Rodgers said it could also be made one-way. Commissioner Klunk said this hasn't gone through planning yet and will be discussed at future Planning Commission meetings.

STREET LIGHTS: Engineer Bortner reported that he had issues trying to get lights installed on Waterfront Drive. Assistant to the Engineer Garrett said the poles are owned by MetEd. There is one pole that could work but it's not in a good location.

Commissioner Klunk asked for an update on the process of installing new lights. Engineer Bortner said he needs to get approval from Penn DOT to pay for the installation through Highway Aid funds. He recommended he and Manager Rodgers speak with Municipal Services to confirm this can be paid out of Highway Aid and then request a project number. The Committee instructed him to proceed with getting approval.

TRUNORTH WELLNESS CENTER WAIVER: The Committee received a letter dated October 6, 2016 from Gordon L. Brown & Associates for waivers of the curbs, gutters, sidewalks and stormwater management requirements for the TrueNorth Wellness Services land development plan. Engineer Bortner reported they are planning to demolish the existing buildings and rebuild a single building. They will try to save some of the parking lot. The waiver request is for improvements to Westminster Avenue and fencing the existing retention pond. Engineer Bortner usually requires fencing if water is more than twenty-four inches deep because that is the Penn Township Zoning Ordinance requirement for a swimming pool. He said this is very close to twenty-four inches. He said he typically avoids making improvements on State Highways because the Township would be responsible for upkeep. Commissioner Felix thinks the retention pond should have a fence. Commissioner Van de Castle said St. Joseph Catholic Church was required to fence in their pond for the safety of their students and this facility will also have children. Manager Rodgers pointed out that the children at TrueNorth will have disabilities making the water even more dangerous. Commissioner Klunk said this will be discussed at the Planning Commission meeting. The Committee recommended approving the request for curbs, gutter and sidewalks and denying the request for stormwater management requirements.

SOUTH HEIGHTS WAIVER: The Committee received a letter dated October 12, 2016 from Hanover Land Services for a waiver of the water supply requirements for the South Heights subdivision plan. Engineer Bortner said this is in the R-22 zone and the ordinance allows private water/private sewer, private water/public sewer, and public water/public sewer. The plan currently shows public sewer and private water for three lots along Cooper Road. The Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance requires public water if they're within two thousand feet of public water and they are within that distance. The Committee recommended denying the request but Planning Commission will review at their next meeting.

CENTER LINE ON BREEZEWOOD DRIVE: Eric Bortner reported that Commissioner Van de Castle asked about putting a center line on Breezewood Drive. He said when Sam Gilbert was Chief of Police he requested the center line be stopped because it wasn't wide enough. The Township has done substantial work on Breezewood Drive since then. He asked if he should have a traffic study done. Commissioner Van de Castle asked if there are speed limit signs yet. Assistant to the Engineer Garrett said there should be. Commissioner Heilman said Breezewood Drive is a heavily traveled road. The Committee instructed the police department and Assistant to the Engineer Garrett to perform a traffic study.

Engineer Bortner said when Westminster and Frederick was repaved they forgot to put the turn lane back in. The work was done by Columbia Gas and Engineer Bortner will contact them and get it straightened out.

EXTENSION REQUESTS: Zoning Officer Swanner reported on three extension requests. Brookside Heights Phase 3 is on their second extension request. They are working on permits for the bridge.

Highpoint South was in last month for zoning approval and is moving on with water quality work.

Mustang Point was acquired by J.A. Myers from Mummert Enterprises. They are working on their NPDES permit.

RECREATION: Manager Rodgers reported they are almost done re-staining the Creative Playground. Highway Foreman Mahan said they will be finished on Thursday, November 3, 2016 and then he will begin some additional work while it's still closed. The Township ordered one hundred gallons of sealer and only used seventy. That leaves thirty gallons to seal benches and tables. There will be a walk through once it's all completed. Foreman Mahan reported that Spencer Painting and Deck Care has done a great job. Commissioner Klunk said people may not be happy that the park has been closed but they'll appreciate it when they see the improvements.

Manager Rodgers reported eight residents have expressed interest in joining the Master Plan Study Committee. With herself and a Board member there would be enough to start the process.

MS4: Manager Rodgers recommended using Hanover Land Services for the MS4 contract and Engineer Bortner agreed. Engineer Bortner said this is a great way to start and decide whether a fulltime person will be needed. Commissioner Van de Castle asked if HLS is paid hourly and they are. He asked if the contract will cost less than hiring a fulltime employee and it will.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Hallett
Township Secretary