

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PERRY TOWNSHIP
March 12, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Perry Township was called to order by Chairman Lance N. Adam at 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2024 from the Perry Township Municipal Building, 680 Moselem Springs Road, Shoemakersville, PA. The meeting was also being held via zoom conferencing. The format for tonight's meeting is in compliance with PSATS. The meeting was also being recorded.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call was held and the following Supervisors were present:

Lance N. Adam- PRESENT

Patrick J. Daly- PRESENT (by phone)

Joseph Dalton- PRESENT

Also present at the board meeting were:

Allen Shollenberger, Esq. – PRESENT

Rochelle Dreibelbis, Administrator – PRESENT

Public Comments:

Donnie Mast- Expressed his disappointment in the township adopting a contract with Safety Net Sanctuary. Donnie feels this only rewards negligent pet owners. Discussed the difficult situation the township is put in when recovered dogs, with no collars or chips, are dropped off at the township office. Donnie feels the township should adopt a leash ordinance to try and make people more responsible.

Chuck DeCarlo- Questioned if Met-Ed was contacted regarding the tree trimming? Not yet, but they will be.

Heather Hanna- Heather is running for PA 5th Legislative District. In attendance of the meeting to learn more about the area. Alexander Snyder, a volunteer on the campaign, also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Chairman Adam to approve the minutes from the Supervisors meeting February 13, 2024. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes.

Treasurers Report: Motion was made by Chairman Adam to approve the Treasurer's report dated February 29, 2024. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes.

Bills for Payment: Supervisor Daly questioned if the Hunter Truck invoice was for an annual service? No, Chairman Adam explained a mistake made by E M Kutz when the truck was built caused damage to the chassis. Chairman Adam intends to address the issue with E M Kutz in hopes of financial reimbursement. Supervisor Daly questioned if the American Rock Salt invoice is the

final one for the season? Yes, this is the end of the 2023-2024 contract, all salt delivered. Motion was made by Chairman Adam to approve the Bills for Payment dated March 12, 2024. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes.

Hamburg EMS Transport Memo- Chairman Adam read a memo sent by Hamburg EMS Board of Directors to the Hamburg EMS staff, directing its staff to prioritize non-emergency transports over 911 calls if only one truck is in service. The township felt this needed to be shared with its residents due to the expected delay in response times. Supervisor Daly questioned if the coverage lines could be shifted North? It is a possibility. Rusty Wagner interjected this is a major concern because they are taking their 911 truck out of service for non-local, non-emergency transports. Chuck DeCarlo questioned if this would change the amount of EMS tax Perry Township would disburse to Hamburg EMS? Yes, this certainly could be reflected in that contribution. Michael Geisinger, on zoom, as a Perry Township resident, commented he was recently fired from Hamburg EMS because of this memo and he voiced his opposition to the chief and the Hamburg EMS Board of Directors. Michael stated “they didn’t seem to really care that they were making us take our only scheduled truck out to do these transports.” Supervisor Daly thanked Michael for bringing this to light. Michael stated he lives in this community and wants to take care of our community. Heather Hanna questioned if Fleetwood EMS served the area? They do service the eastern part of the township. Michael commented Pottsville has even covered Hamburg calls recently.

Supervisor Dalton Resignation- Due to relocation, Supervisor Dalton submitted a letter of resignation from the Perry Township Board of Supervisors and the Perry Township Municipal Authority effective March 31, 2024. Supervisor Dalton thanked everyone for giving him the opportunity to serve them and hopes to see Perry continue to thrive. Chairman Adam made a motion to accept Supervisor Dalton’s resignation. Jeff Fiant and Allen Shollenberger discussed the timeline in which the township would need to appoint someone to fill the seat. The Board of Supervisors has 45 days to accept the resignation. Allen’s advice is to hold off acceptance until the April meeting to allow more time to find a replacement. Motion died.

Full-time Administrator and Roadmaster- Follow up on previous discussions regarding moving the Administrator and Roadmaster positions to full-time status. Floor was opened up for any comments or questions. Bob Harron questioned if one or two position are being added? Technically, no positions are being added. The current administrator and current roadmaster positions are converting to full-time. Bob questioned how many hours a week are currently being worked? Average of 37 hours per week, plus evening and weekend emergencies that generate. Will the positions be salary? No, they will stay hourly. There is no change to the hourly wages. Administrator Dreibelbis discussed the changes made to the employee handbook regarding full time, including vacation time, sick time, and paid federal holidays. Discussed and presented the insurance quotes collected for medical, dental, and vision. Discussed differences between providers with Bob Harron. Mary Reinhart questioned if it would be cheaper to have individual plans? Because of the small number of employees, the plans are tailored as individual plans. Insurance discussion tabled for a moment. Supervisor Dalton made a motion to convert the Perry Township Roadmaster and Administrator positions to full-time. Supervisor Daly seconded the motion. Motion carried with two supervisors voting yes. Chairman Adam abstained.

On-spot tire chain revised quote- The previously approved quote increased due to market fluctuation. The new E.M. Kutz quote for the on-spot tire chains for the 2018 International is

\$3,381.00, an increase of \$307.00. Chairman Adam made a motion to approve the revised quote from E.M. Kutz for the on-spot tire chains for the 2018 International in the amount of \$3,381.00. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes.

Pine View Bridge Repair- Currently a one lane bridge due to the steel beams needing to be replaced. A GP-11 permit will need to be obtained to enter the waterway. Chairman Adam made a motion to allow Kraft Municipal Group to move forward with a GP-11 permit for the Pine View Road bridge. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes.

150 Birch Hill Road Warehouse- Greg Davis and Corey Chase in representation of the Birch Hill Road Warehouse project. After 26 months, the required Highway Occupancy Permits (HOP) were approved 3/1/24. Corey presented what the approved improvements will look like, and the requirements PennDot outlined. Greg elaborated on why the process was so drawn out with PennDot. The intersection was designed to accommodate a traffic light in the future. A request for a time extension for the approved Birch Hill Road Land Development Plan was submitted. The developer explained this is due to the current “economic disaster going on in the commercial markets.” The requested time extension is to January 2029, which would add another 2 years after the 5-year protection period under the MPC. Allen Shollenberger explained after preliminary plan approval, the developer has 5 years to substantially complete the project, or the land development plans are subject to subsequent ordinance changes. Allen recommends referring the plan and the time extension request back to the Planning Commission. Ryan Rhode performed a plan review on the remaining conditions. The developer will get a copy of the updated plans to the township for an EMS review.

Perry Commercial Center BOS Program Support Letter- Scott Homel, developer of the Perry Commercial Center, requested a letter of township support for their BOS Grant application for the intended signalized intersection. This is an approved land development plan. Chairman Adam made a motion to approve a letter of support for Perry Commercial Center’s BOS Program grant application. Supervisor Daly seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes.

Full-time Administrator and Roadmaster (continued): Since all the quoted insurance plans fall under budget, Supervisor Dalton suggested the township paying 100% of the coverage. Mary Reinhart commented on what Tom Schaeffer’s pays for employee health insurance, however, they have over 50 employees and do not cover families. Supervisor Dalton compared the quotes to Caernarvon Township, whom has 4 employees, and they also cover 100%. Supervisor Daly agrees with paying 100% of the coverage. Donnie Mast questioned how many companies actually pay 100% for employee insurance? Supervisor Dalton spoke on his experience with different municipalities, and most pay 100%. Supervisor Daly feels this would be an incentive to maintain quality employees. Supervisor Dalton made a motion to select the Highmark Blue Shield PPO Blue Qualified \$1600 100/80 Gold at 100% in the amount of \$31,635.12 per year. Supervisor Daly seconded the motion. Motion carried with 2 Supervisors voting yes. Chairman Adam abstained. Supervisor Daly made a motion to select Capital BlueCross Dental PPO Complete in the amount of \$1,492.20 per year. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with 2 Supervisors voting yes. Chairman Adam abstained. Supervisor Daly made a motion to select Capital BlueCross Vision 12/10 Plus in the amount of \$346.80 per year. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with 2 Supervisors voting yes. Chairman Adam abstained.

Reports:

The following reports were given to the Board of Supervisors:

Rusty Wagner, Fire Chief- Discussed false fire alarm issues at Cousins. Tanker was out of service for valves not releasing. The dry hydrant behind Shoey Boro seems to be the problem, therefor, will only be used as a last resort. The venison dinner fundraiser was a great success. Thanked the township for helping trim trees. The Shoey Fire Co is in the process of switching accounts.

Jeff Fiant, Kraft Municipal Group, Inc- Zoning and UCC- 0 zoning permits issued for the period. 3 building permits issued for the period, 2 residential and one non-residential, with an improvement value of \$53,150.00. The re-addressing of several houses on Dreibelbis Mill Road is complete; letters will be mailed directly to the residents. The new street is Flammer Lane. Discussed various property maintenance issues throughout the township, including 500 Mohrsville Road, Moselem Springs Road, and Virginville Road. The pool has been removed at 1677 Windsor Castle Road.

Gene Buck, Planning Commission – Meeting held on March 6: all members present. A sketch plan was submitted by Glen Gery Brick for an addition onto the main building. Plans were accepted for review. Brief discussion on the Birch Hill Road Warehouse intersection. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Donald Mast, Municipal Authority (PTMA)- No report.

Ryan Rhode, Kraft Municipal Group, Inc- Engineering- Report distributed. Copy of the March 8, Birch Hill Road Warehouse review letter attached. The Glen Gery Kiln 3 Addition land development submission is under review.

Allen Shollenberger, Solicitor – Allen has prepared a complaint against 1551 Moselem Springs Road, to file with the Court of Common Pleas regarding failure to pump out septic. The property owner has avoided every attempt to be served at the District Justice level.

EMC- No report

Road Master- January and February report distributed.

J B Environmental- Investigation on Birch Hill Road. Currently working with property owner to rectify issue.

Recreation Park- At the last recreation board meeting, discussed adding a single toilet partition back into the men's room. Quotes from 3 different companies collected, with the best being from Toilet Partitions in the amount of \$838.84. Chairman Adam made a motion to approve the purchase of a single toilet partition from Toilet Partitions in the amount of \$838.84, from the Recreation Fund. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes. Continued the discussion on concreting the bleacher pads, backstop, and current ADA handicap ramp at Dietrich Field. Estimated cost is \$8,260.00, also from the Recreation Fund. Kraft previously inspected the ADA handicap ramp from the parking lot to the baseball field. Chairman Adam made a motion to concrete the bleacher pads, backstop, and ADA handicap ramp at Dietrich

Field in the amount of \$8,260.00 from the Recreation Fund. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes. Bob Harron suggested adding the specific grade of the ADA handicap ramp to the contract, to ensure the township would not be held liable.

Correspondence: None

Public Comments:

Mary Reinhart- Commented when she was discussing medical insurance pricing, she wasn't thinking family coverage. That definitely makes a difference in pricing.

Nancy James- Thanked Supervisor Dalton for the time he put in.

Donna Long- Thanked Supervisor Dalton. Also, felt the roadcrew did a great job this year with the snow.

Kathy DeCarlo- Questioned if there are any candidates in mind to fill the future Supervisor seat? No one for certain yet.

Supervisor Daly thanked Bob Harron and Mary Reinhart for their input on the medical insurance. It was very helpful. Bob offered his assistance at the next open enrollment as well.

Allen Shollenberger suggested using the website to notify the public of the upcoming Supervisor vacancy. Submissions of interest can be sent to the township office.

Adjourn:

Chairman Adam made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm. Supervisor Dalton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Supervisors voting yes.

MINUTES APPROVED ON:
April 9, 2024

RECORDED BY:

Lance N. Adam, Chairman

Rochelle Dreibelbis, Administrator