

MINUTES - HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
September 29, 2021

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

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

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Dave Hannigan: There is a billing issue with the water authority. In Fry Manor, 63 homes are hooked up to a meter, sewage is collected and by gravity gets to the meter and runs to Robesonia Sewer Plant. 65 homes are direct connect (40 homes are hooked up directly to Robesonia's main interceptor line, the others have their own collection system on Fry Avenue). Some of the homes do not have meters. A calculation has been setup through the water company to bill these residents. Over the years, it has become apparent that the calculations are not correct. Issues came up when there were heavy storms and infiltration. The WMA board came up with gallons per day figure. It has been a year and a half of trying to get readings fair between Heidelberg Township and Robesonia. As of January 1, 2021 the Joint Authority has not charged Heidelberg for the 65 homes on the direct connect. There needs to be a way to charge fairly. All 65 homes are about the same size and family. A "number balance" needs to be made from the time of December 1, 2020 to current. Mr. Hannigan supplied the board of supervisors with a letter from Robesonia Municipal Authority for detailed information and data for calculations. Per Dave Hannigan, Fred Ebert from Ebert Engineering was taking data from the meter at Route 422, which is not equitable for Fry Manor. Chairman Randler suggested this be put on the agenda for next month or attend the WMA's monthly meeting due to the Sunshine Act. The next WMA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 6:00pm.

Geneva Berger: No Comment

Lori Brown: No Comment

MINUTES: August 25, 2021 minutes were circulated. **MOTION** by Sup Wolfe, **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 August, **SECOND** by Sup Schoener, passed unanimously.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Police & Fire – Report provided by Chief Grim. A press conference was held regarding the fatal hit and run in front of Dunkin Donuts. Charges were announced and arrests of two drivers were made. Bethany Children's home has had numerous fire alarms and have been cited through the state codes. Chief Grim has been in touch with Secretary Werner about a future false alarm ordinance.

Sewer – AWI pump station has been completed, new pumps were installed and can be controlled from a smart phone. Fry Manor is projected to be completed next week. AT&T and Verizon service has been disconnected. Sup Schoener, Larry Knoll, Garry Zerbe and Chairman Randler are noted on the call list, the alarm system is computerized.

The sewer plant is projecting an \$8 million upgrade, Chairman Randler is not sure if the project will effect the current rates. Billing calculations will be different for the township, not residents. A rate has not been set (two options: increase rate by 40% or a flow assessment system). Fred Ebert is trying to work out what is best so we may budget accordingly. Chairman Randler stated the equipment is outdated and the prior board did not plan for future upgrades. Upgrades will begin calendar years 2022 and 2023. John Muir stated it will not increase capacity. Starting January 2022, Heidelberg Township will be billed differently. Chairman Randler stated the township has cash reserves.

Planning Commission – Reorganization Meeting was held on September 15, 2021. Sup Wolfe was nominated as Chairman and Joseph Nemec was nominated as Vice Chairman.

- Fessler Property: 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. Sup Wolfe made a **MOTION** to authorize the Zoning Amendment for the rezoning of the Heidelberg Township portion of Parcel 62433706289931 from AP to MDR to be sent to BCPC, the joint PC and the other participating municipalities. **SECOND** by Sup Snyder, passed unanimously.
- 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). Sup Wolfe made a **MOTION** to authorize the Township Secretary to send a letter to Robesonia Borough indicating that we have no comments. **SECOND** by Sup Schoener. Chairman Randler abstained from the vote due to business interest.
- 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. The PC had no comments on the amendment. Sup Snyder made a **MOTION** to authorize the Township Secretary to send a letter to NHT indicating that we have no comments. **SECOND** by Sup Wolfe, passed unanimously.

Roads, Bldg. & Equip. – Began milling in Fry Manor, should be finished tomorrow. Chairman Randler stated a change order for Pennsy Supply needs to be made for about \$65,000 for base repairs. Core boring had been

completed, however there were a few bad spots. That area is Lincoln to the turn into Fry Manor. The parking lot at the future yard waste recycling site will be completed after Fry Manor.

A **MOTION** was made to approve the Pennsy Supply proposal change order, not to exceed \$65,000, by Sup Snyder, **SECOND** by Sup Wolfe, passed unanimously.

Secretary Werner received a call regarding the hazardous step onto the footbridge over the creek. Pennsy Supply will be asked to pave area.

Leaf vacuum will arrive on October 1, 2021. The chipper should arrive in 1-2 weeks.

Personnel – No report

Recreation Board/Pool – Sup Snyder provided the season end report.

Zoning Hearing Board – Secretary Werner reported the appeal for a massage therapy business, located along Water Street, had been approved. The following stipulations were added: a 2 sq ft sign must be placed in the front of the property, the variance will be VOID if Ms. Zeiset were to move. The next Zoning Hearing meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2021.

Zoning & SEO Report: Report provided to Supervisors from Technicon Enterprises, Inc.

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.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Western Berks Ambulance August report, Select Environmental Solutions Monthly Operations & Maintenance report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

351 Fry Avenue: Sup Wolfe stated he did not have the opportunity to speak with the property owner. Secretary Werner stated payment had not been made for approved permits after numerous attempts, will be contacting TEI to enforce.

Ryeland Rd water issue: Ryeland Road follow up regarding water issue, no further statements

Bridge over Spring Creek: Bridge over Spring Creek in Lower Heidelberg Township – supervisors met with Lower Heidelberg Township at their monthly meeting. At this time Heidelberg Township BOS is waiting to hear from Lower Heidelberg Township's engineer with follow-up. Prior to the May 2021 email restricting weight limit, Heidelberg Township had not been contacted by Lower Heidelberg Township since 2013. No weight limit has been posted. To date, buses from both Conrad Weiser and Wilson are using the bridge. Chief Grim will follow-up with Maggie Scheerer to see if the district was notified. Sup Schoener clarified Lower Heidelberg Township Chairman stated they are responsible for the bridge and have ownership.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appoint PSAT's delegate: **MOTION** was made to appoint D.P. Randler as PSAT's delegate by Sup Snyder, **SECOND** by Sup Schoener, passed unanimously.

Fry Manor Flooding: Sup Schoener has been in the area 6-7 times after Hurricane Ida and has received no complaints from residents. There was a tree in the creek, however washed down stream. Robesonia and Womelsdorf Fire Companies confirmed they received no calls to pump out basements in Fry Manor. Sup Snyder questioned who is responsible for bank wash along the creek. Chairman Randler stated it depends where the property line falls. Secretary Werner was instructed to continue to remind residents to file complaints within the office if messages continue to be received on social media.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: to discuss potential litigation adjourned at 9:35pm

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Sup Snyder at 9:48pm. **SECOND** by Sup Wolfe, passed unanimously.

**Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 27th at 7:30pm,
Board of Supervisors Meeting**

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Werner, Township Secretary

MINUTES OF THE HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP WORKSHOP MEETING HELD OCTOBER 13, 2021

PRESENT: David Randler, David Manbeck, Terry Wolfe, Kevin Snyder, Thomas Schoener, Nicole Werner

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Randler with the Pledge of Allegiance

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Nothing

BUSINESS

- The budget for 2022 was discussed and worked on.
- A **MOTION** was made by Sup Wolfe to have John Muir look research septic hook up and if finding of irregularities, potentially filing a municipal lien on Robesonias Car Wash prior to any sales. **SECOND** by Sup Schoener. Passed unanimously

After review of the budget, Chairman Randler called an Executive Session to discuss personnel.

Time – 9:40 PM

The meeting was reconvened at 9:58 PM – No decisions were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53pm on a **MOTION** by Sup Schoener, **SECOND** by Sup. Snyder and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Werner
Township Secretary