

Hamilton Township Board of Supervisors

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 3, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance by Parliamentarian Stephanie A. Egger.

Supervisors present were Ronald L. Weidner, Timothy D. Beard, III and Michael A. Strausbaugh. Also present were Ronald T. Tomasko, ESQ, Roadmaster Thomas Barrows, Parliamentarian Stephanie A. Egger, and Assistant Secretary Jessica Baim

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Scheduled Meeting, April 5, 2021.

*Upon review of the minutes of the April 5, 2021, regular meeting, a motion was made by Michael A. Strausbaugh to approve, with a second by Timothy D. Beard, III. **Motion was unanimously approved.***

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. SPCA Collection: We continue to collect items for the Adams County SPCA for the care of the animals at the shelter. They need towels, blankets, toys, etc. in good condition. Stephanie Egger expressed the need the SPCA is experiencing and reminded the residents if anyone wants to donate, they can bring items to the Township building and the Township will take the items to the SPCA.
2. Ronald McDonald House: Stephanie Egger informed that the Township will no longer be able to collect for the Ronald McDonald house, the receptacle has been removed due to trash & clutter on the business owners' property. The nearest collection receptacle is in Hershey, PA.
3. Tabled from April meeting: Research on investment opportunities for General Funds. Stephanie Egger reviewed that based off the review on 4/27/2021, she reached out to Capital One, which is online banking only and their rates are not any better. Stephanie Egger reached out to Tina from M&T bank, waiting on a return phone call. Cindy from Wells Fargo bank and Stephanie Egger are trying to connect but keep missing each other. Mr. Mark Bernier, Vice President and Trust Investment Officer representing ACNB, addressed the audience. Mr. Bernier said that interest rates are horrible, he thought that beginning last year rates would increase but then came COVID and stimulus packages which has prevented rates to increase. Last year at this time the 10-year treasury fell .36 % lowest since 2008. They are hoping the rates rally this year, but the Federal Reserve has told the bank they are not going to move the needle on the interest rates until they feel they must. The Federal Reserve sees inflation over a period of time which is when they will move the rates up. What the Federal Reserve is expecting to see as the year continues, the inflation rate should decrease. If the Federal Reserve is wrong and people use their savings and go back to work, then the Federal Reserve will act. Mr. Bernier said that there has been several CD'S mature, cannot invest anymore within those accounts. Mr. Bernier is hoping to see what the Township is looking to do. Ronald L. Weidner asked Mr. Bernier what the .05% maintenance fee is charged for? Mr. Bernier said they are reviewing the assets, providing monthly statements, and buying the CDs on a discretionary basis when they were coming due for the Township. For the last 6-9 months ACNB (Adams County National Bank) have always been able to provide a return or at least cover the maintenance fees. The trust department looks for CDs around the country and not just within the banking system. Ronald L. Weidner asked how long will it take the Fed's to act when they see inflation? Mr. Bernier said they have two mandates, relative price stability which they see as 2% annualized on a long-term basis, and full employment. The Fed's think it will be around 2022 before they act on interest rate action. Mr. Bernier said

they have watched the massive amount of saving in April 2020, which is showing 35% the highest since 1975 when it was 17%, over the last 20 years, savings have been below 9% because everyone did not know what to expect with COVID and still are saving. Timothy D. Beard, III asked about the Chinese buying all the bonds and what happens if they stop buying and start calling? Mr. Bernier indicated that, yes, China has bought a lot, including other European countries and they are trying to maintain their currency rate, they would devalue their currency just as much as ours. Over the last year, loan demand has been down. The housing market people are refinancing due to the insane interest rates. Every bank is forced to find low bearing interest rates, anyway, including the Federal Government. Ronald L. Weidner reviewed with Mr. Bernier that the Township has received better interest rates from other Banks, can ACNB match them or beat them since the Township is seriously looking at changing institutions. Mr. Bernier asked to see the rates provided and ACNB will see what can be done. Stephanie Egger informed Mr. Bernier she will forward those rates tomorrow.

4. Beaver Creek Road Bridge Rehabilitation update. Preferred Option appears to be Option #1. Stephanie Egger reviewed with the residents that the Township has joint ownership with Paradise Township the Beaver Creek bridge (larger span bridge) in need of repairs which, will cost around \$500,000.00. The Township is looking at different options which would get the Township the most “bang for the buck,” the best move for the Township and the life span. The Township did investigate grants, and Stephanie Egger reviewed Paradise Township cannot qualify for the Low Dirt and Gravel Grant through York County, if township is approved by Adams County for dirt and gravel will be a small grant but will help. The expenses for this bridge will be 50/50 with Paradise Township and there will be an additional two bridges. Michael A. Strausbaugh asked about soil erosion and if the Public Works could do that to cut down cost. Ronald L. Weidner informed he participated in a meeting with Chad Clabaugh, and he feels the Township should bid out the full rehabilitation versus pulling line items out and making it go behind schedule or having to change orders, making it cost more. Brian Campbell commented the Township is in the Chesapeake water shed and if something happens the fines are astronomical. There were no decisions made at the meeting and this will take at least two years to get done which has already been agreed upon. This proposal is an estimated cost and is expected to get 50 years life span. Michael A. Strausbaugh asked if this was the true price and Ronald L. Weidner informed it is a cost estimate (due to this has not been bid.) *A motion was made by Ronald L. Weidner to bid the full project out, with a second made by Timothy D. Beard, III. Motion was unanimously approved.* Stephanie Egger asked which option do the Supervisors want to go with? The current bridge is 28’ and with option #1 that will remain the same. Ronald L. Weidner feels that would be the best option #1 and was recommended by Chad Clabaugh P.E., of C.S. Davidson. *A motion was made by Ronald L. Weidner for option #1 (Spread box beams), with a second made by Michael A. Strausbaugh. Motion was unanimously approved.*

5. Discussion regarding the Home Road and Protectory Road Bridges. Ronald L. Weidner informed there was a meeting to discuss these bridges with no decisions. Ronald L. Weidner was here on behalf of the Township and Clark Craumer for Paradise Township. The concrete box culvert is brought in by a crane and placed. With an aluminum arch the area needs prepped, and the life expectancy is only 50-years, but the Concrete has a 100-year life expectancy and will be only a little more expensive. Ronald L. Weidner suggested that these two bridges be done at the same time for bidding and possibly make the cost less expensive. These two bridges are in worse shape than Beaver Creek which is being handled through PennDOT on an action plan for repairs. Clark Craumer will be presenting this to Paradise Township Board of Supervisor’s meeting so they can make their decision. The price is \$288,000.00 per bridge which is not the total cost. The total price of each bridge will be split with Paradise Township 50/50. The permitting for these two bridges will not occur till next spring (2022). Timothy D. Beard, III agrees the Township needs to work closely with Paradise and get this going since prices keep going up. Michael A. Strausbaugh asked about just closing the roadway on Protectory. Hamilton Township only has one resident on Protectory Road. Timothy D. Beard, III asked about a road count of cars? Timothy D. Beard, III suggested a road count be done, he will take care of setting this up. Ronald L. Weidner suggested the Township send a letter to Paradise Township asking them to poll the residents on this roadway about possible closure of the Protectory Road instead of repairs. *A motion to approve box culvert for both bridges with a possibility of the roadway being closed made by Ronald L. Weidner, with a second made by Timothy D. Beard, III. Motion was unanimously approved.*

NEW BUSINESS:

1. State Police: No report.
2. Northeast Adams Fire Co. #32-FIRE: Stephanie Egger read the report for the month of April there was a total of 24 incidents, zero in Hamilton Township.
3. Northeast Adams Co. #32- EMS: Stephanie Egger read the report for the month of April, there was a total of 86 incidents, five in Hamilton Township.
4. United Hook & Ladder Co. No. 33: No report
5. Adams Regional EMS, Inc. Monthly Report for Hamilton Township: No report
6. Request from Mr. Scott Inners: Scott Inners addressed the Board of Supervisors about his plans for the former Adams County Fairgrounds. Mr. Inners expressed that COVID caused him to close his business, and at this point he is waiting to recoup funds to continue with the project. He expects the project to be completed over the next eight to ten years. The final plan has not been submitted due to recent activity by EBACC to possibly purchase, rent, or lease a portion of the property for a new EBACC building. Details are still being worked out on what may occur.
7. Adams County SPCA letter of thanks for donation. Stephanie Egger read the letter from the SPCA, "Thank you very much for your generous donation in the amount \$500.00, this donation will be used to the fullest extent of our ability. We feel honored that you chose the Adams County SPCA to be the recipient of this donation. Your gift is helping us to care for the stray, abandoned, neglected, and abused animals in our community, and we are grateful for you concern. There are animals that have no one else to care for them, and our task would be infinitely more difficult without the support of caring people like you. Sincerely, Lori Wetzel."

Other business to come before the Board of Supervisors: None

Planning Commission recommendations and status of active plans:

Letter from Planning Commission:

1. Request for Waiver from SALDO Chapter 120-22B "All Lots shall front upon a dedicated public street" by Stanley Eisenhart. Stephanie Egger read the inter-office memo prepared by the Planning Commission. "On behalf of the Planning Commission for Hamilton Township, we recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve waiver #1, for the Eisenhart Subdivision. Ordinance Number: 120-22B all lots shall front upon a dedicated public street. Details of Waiver: To allow this subdivision of lot #2 having its frontage along the existing private drive established since May 16, 1916, known as Homestead Lane, starting at Winding Road and extending through lot #1 remaining to the original farm house on site, said existing 10' cartway private drive being over an existing 18' strip of land for the first 543 feet plus or minus & having been an existing non-conformity width of 18' to the property since May 16, 1916, known as Homestead Lane." *A motion to approve waiver #1 was made by Michael A. Strausbaugh, with a second made by Ronald L. Weidner. Motion was unanimously approved.*
2. Request for Waiver from SALDO Chapter 120-21 "Street Improvements" by Stanley Eisenhart. Stephanie Egger read the inter-office memo prepared by the Planning Commission. "On behalf of the Planning Commission for Hamilton Township, we recommend that the Board of Supervisors

conditionally approve waiver #2, for the Eisenhart Subdivision with the understanding of the ten feet width and three-inches depth, minimum of three-inches depth approved by the Township Engineer. With the understanding the binder will be put down before the occupancy permit is issued, and within six months after that, the wearing course will be applied. Ordinance Number: 120-21 Street Improvements. Details of Waiver: To allow street improvements of the existing private 10' stone cartway within the existing 18' easement, through lands of current owner to as shown on plans to Winding Lane as it currently exists as a 10' wide stone private street since May 16, 1916, known as Homestead Lane and not being in ill repair." *A motion to approve waiver #2 was made by Michael A. Strausbaugh, with a second made by Ronald L. Weidner. Motion was unanimously approved.*

3. Sorensen Subdivision: Stephanie Egger read the inter-office memo from the Planning Commission. "On behalf of the Planning Commission for Hamilton Township, we recommend that the Board of Supervisors formally withdraw the Sorensen Plan per the residents request." Stephanie Egger read the letter provided, "Currently we have subdivision plans which were submitted for your review involving two pieces of property I own. Currently these plans have been tabled for consideration by the Township because they needed more information regarding road access for driveways, right of ways, etc. By way of this letter, I would like to inform you that I am not interested in moving any of these plans forward and want to leave the property lines as they are, currently for both properties I own. 4 Home Road, Abbottstown, PA 17301, 37 acres and the adjacent property 50 Home Road, Abbottstown, PA 17301, 13 acres. No further review by the Township is required. Thank you and regards Patricia Sorensen." *A motion to withdrawal the plan was made by Timothy D. Beard, III, with a second made by Ronald L. Weidner. Motion was unanimously approved.*
4. The Driveway Ordinance No. 2021-141 is presented for adoption. Stephanie Egger read the inter-office memo from the Planning Commission. "On behalf of the Planning Commission for Hamilton Township, we recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the Driveway Ordinance No. 2021-141. As part of the Ordinance, the Hamilton Township Construction & Material Specifications sheet has been updated to reflect requirements for driveways." Ronald L. Weidner confirmed with Ronald Tomasko, Township Solicitor that he had reviewed and approved. *A motion to adopt the Driveway Ordinance 2021-141 was made by Ronald L. Weidner, with a second made by Timothy D. Beard, III. Motion was unanimously approved.*
5. The Boyer Subdivision Plan is represented for final approval (Provided the signatures, seals and notary seal are present). *A motion to approval was made by Ronald L. Weidner, with a second made by Timothy D. Beard, III. Motion was unanimously approved.*

COMMITTEE & DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. East Berlin Area Community Center (EBACC): Cyndi Bisacre reported via zoom. Cyndi Bisacre updated that the spring newsletter was issued. On the 6th, 7th, and 8th of May an indoor yard sale. On the 7th there are 36 Mother's Day baskets available which is first come, first serve. There is a blood drive on the 11th; on the 15th is touch a truck and shredding event. On the 22nd is a plant sale. All these events will be held at the East Berlin Area Aid Community Center. Cyndi Bisacre informed Alice and Pam will be reaching out to the Township as they can offer help whether visiting the thrift shop or a fund that can help with financial. There is a new system called Emilia, that residents can sign up and pay for those classes all online this is up and running right now. EBACC is still looking for volunteers for touch a truck event and summer camp event. There are also several paid positions available: building custodian, evening receptionist, and evening manager at the thrift shop. Heidi Hartlaub asked why there was no outdoor yard sale? Robin Heiser, president of EBACC, was present and informed the indoor yard sale was canceled due to the volunteers and because of the regulations of head count

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would be an issue with CDC regulations. Robin Heiser informed that the indoor yard sale will be regulated by head count at the door, this includes the people working the event. The gym is issuing key tags which makes it easier to go in and out. Robin Heiser president of EBACC did submit some information for the June Board of Supervisors meeting but they are currently working on possible options of relocating or purchasing property. There has been no decision on what EBACC is going to do but, East Berlin Borough and obtaining the deed to the current property has not changed.

2. Abbottstown Paradise Joint Sewer Authority: No Representative present. No report.
3. Parks and Recreation Committee: No report. No meeting.
4. Emergency Management: Timothy D. Beard, III reviewed there was one accident that occurred on Berwick's side and he was not contacted to attend.
5. YATB & ACTCC Tax Board Report: Timothy D. Beard, III reviewed YATB informed they had a meeting earlier in the week and the receipts are still coming up for this year but still feels they will taper off and less money be coming in. Positive side the cost of collecting is down about .5% since last year. YATB is still having trouble getting applicants due to salaries. The YATB & ACTCC are having an open house on May 19th and 20th for visitors to come and tour the facility, starts at 10am. If anyone is interested, please let Stephanie Egger know as they are requiring a list of attendants.
6. Road Master's Report: The Public Works Department cut back the bank on Forest Drive to improve drainage and sight distance. Prepping the lawn mowers for the season. The Township has had a lot of illegal dumping; keep eyes open. Recent activity was on Forest Drive.
7. COG: No report. (Virtual meetings only)
8. East Berlin Area Joint Authority: Ronald L. Weidner informed the meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2021. He will update the Township at next month's meeting.

Engineer's Report – Chad Clabaugh, P.E. from C.S. Davidson reviewed May 2021 report.

1. SUBDIVISION, LAND DEVELOPMENT, and STORMWATER PLAN REVIEWS:

Boyer – 130 Beaver Creek – Subdivision:

C.S. Davidson Inc. received an e-mail from Clark Craumer notifying us that the corners were set and the Township informed C. S. Davidson that DEP approval was obtained. The only thing remaining for approval is for the applicant to provide copies of the updated plan with revisions dates and owners notarized signatures.

Eisenhart Subdivision:

The Township Planning Commission recommended approval of the waivers being requested for public property frontage and Township paving specs conditioned on pavement width of 10', length to the new driveway, and depth of a minimum 3' of hot mix asphalt and to be done prior to issuance of occupancy. C.S. Davidson provided guidance on these parameters.

Pine Run Park:

C.S. Davidson Inc. construction items from Phases 1 and II remain outstanding. These items are listed in project number 2997.3.16.09. C.S. Davidson understands that the contractor will be on site this spring to complete this work. C.S. Davidson will provide inspection when done.

2. LAND DEVELOPMENTS and STORMWATER PLANS UNDER CONSTRUCTION:

Old Mill Road Wedding Venue: A request for release of security/approval of occupancy was submitted by the Developer. The Balance is \$25, 786.20. C.S. Davidson (along with review by Rusty Ryan from ACCD) rejected the release of security for finish grade and seed items. However, C.S. Davidson doesn't object to

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allowing occupancy since this lack of vegetation isn't really a health/safety/welfare issue. The only thing that needs done prior to occupancy is a lock needs added to the stormwater basin fence.

3. OTHER PROJECTS

Beaver Creek Road Bridge:

C.S. Davidson Inc. provided a draft feasibility study on 4-28-2021. C.S. Davidson request review and response from the Township on the study. C.S. Davidson will include and/ or edit as necessary once comments are received.

Ordinance updates:

C.S. Davidson Inc. hosted additional discussion with the Planning Commission on the street widening amendments to the SALDO. The Planning Commission recommended five residential lots be the new cut off. C.S. Davidson will work on finalizing the report for submittal to the Supervisors.

Solicitor's Report- Attorney Tomasko presented his May monthly report where he reviewed the David Lease Bankruptcy. He informed that the one property is going to be up for Sheriff (1145 The Spangler Road) sale and scheduled for September 17, 2021. Mr. Tomasko reviewed the Solar/Wind ordinance Zoning amendments and Marijuana Ordinance Zoning amendments.

Scott Weaver, Zoning Officer's Report – Stephanie Egger read the report for the month of April there was a total of 11 zoning permits issued: two permits for sheds, one permit for a temporary sign, one permit for a fence, three permits for pole buildings, three permits for pools, and one permit for an addition.

MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS:

*Motion to pay the bills for the General Fund was made by Ronald L. Weidner, with a second by Timothy D. Beard, III. **The motion was approved unanimously.***

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

Ron: Thanks everyone for coming out. Happy Memorial Day. Come out and vote.

Tim: Come out and vote on May 18th. Enjoy and send flowers on Mother's Day.

Mike: Thanks everyone for coming out and he concurs with his colleagues.

Meeting Announcements:

Board of Supervisors: Monday, June 7, 2021 @ 7pm

Parks and Recreation Board: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 (April and May meetings are cancelled)

Planning Commission: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 @ 7 pm

Budget/Finance Workshop: Tuesday, July 27 @ 6:30 PM

Reminder: Primary Elections will be held Tuesday, May 18th from 7 am to 8 pm at the Township building. 272 Mummerts Church Road. Please come out and vote. (the Township office will be closed that day)

Adjournment

Having nothing further to discuss, Motion to adjourn was made at 8:37 PM by Ronald L. Weidner and second by Timothy D. Beard, III. ***The vote was unanimous to adjourn.***

Minutes were recorded and transcribed by

Jessica Baim
Assistant Secretary