

Hamilton Township Board of Supervisors

**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, November 2, 2020**

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

Supervisors present were Ronald L. Weidner, Timothy D. Beard, III and Michael A. Strausbaugh. Also present were Ronald T. Tomasko, ESQ, Chad Clabaugh, P.E. of C. S. Davidson, Inc., Parliamentarian Stephanie A. Egger and Assistant Secretary Jessica Baim.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Regular Scheduled Meeting, October 5, 2020

*Upon review of the minutes of the October 5, 2020 meeting a motion was made by Ronald L. Weidner and 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.
2. Ronald McDonald House : The Township continues to collect glossy paper magazines, glossy newspaper inserts, etc.
3. Bridge Update: Ronald Weidner & Thomas Barrow reviewed the Beaver Creek bridge which has a total of eight beams with two rust spots but no cracks. The deck seems fine, they are not sure why HRG noted this as a priority one repair. Ronald Weidner & Thomas Barrow reviewed the bridges on Protectory Rd. and Home Rd., to them both bridges are safe, but they are not engineers. The Home Road bridge just looks bad on the deck. Ronald Weidner understands why Lance from Paradise was upset over cost quoted for repairs when the Public Work's Department does not see why Beaver Creek bridge is the priority one (repaired/ six-month repair plan). Chad Clabaugh from C.S. Davidson indicated that it is ok to challenge an engineer, but that engineer has his neck on the line about this being safe. Chad Clabaugh indicated it would be good to sit down with the parties involved and figure this out with HRG. Stephanie A. Egger to follow up with HRG on the location of the original report and pulling the old bridge reports prior to the 2020 review.
4. The Board of Supervisors held an Executive Session after October meeting to discuss legal matters.
5. Decision to approve the battery backup system to the traffic signals at Primrose Lane. Stephanie A. Egger provided three emails about battery life and the technicians estimate. The Supervisors reviewed and discussed the emails and how the power is not off often. The fact the battery life is only 20 hours and the replacement period being from each year to every six years. *A motion was made by Timothy D. Beard, III to decline battery backup, with a second by Ronald L. Weidner. **Motion was approved unanimously.***

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. State Police: Stephanie A. Egger read the report for the month of September 2020. For the month of September there were a total of 62 incidents with 20 criminal, two crash, 39 service, and one no response.

2. Northeast Adams Fire Co. #32-FIRE & EMS: Stephanie A. Egger read the report for the month of October 2020. For the month of October there were a total of 29 incidents with one incident in Hamilton Township.
3. United Hook & Ladder Co. No. 33: Stephanie A. Egger read the report for the month of September 2020. For the month of September there were a total of 53 incidents with three incidents in Hamilton Township.
4. Adams Regional EMS, Inc.: Stephanie A. Egger read the report for the month of September 2020. For the month of September there were a total of 605 incidents with five incidents in Hamilton Township.
5. Comcast announced the following changes in programming. Effective October 27<sup>th</sup>, StarzEncore, StarzEncore, Westerns, StarzEncore Black, and StarzEncore Action will only be available with a subscription to Starz.
  - Effective October 27<sup>th</sup>, NoviePles will no longer be available.
  - Effective October 31<sup>st</sup>, CBeebies in Española will be discontinued.
  - Effective October 26<sup>th</sup>, Blueprint will be renamed Craftsby.
6. Stephanie A. Egger stated the Township received a letter of gratitude from the Adams County Office of Aging, Inc. for the donation sent to them.
7. Stephanie A. Egger acknowledged the Letter of Appreciation from the East Berlin Library for the Township donation.
8. Stephanie A. Egger acknowledged the Letter of Appreciation from the AC SPCA for the Township donation.
9. Burkentine & Sons, Inc. request for bond reduction, Resolution No. 2020-49: Stephanie A. Egger read to the Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 2020-49; to reduce the Public Improvements Security for Cedar Ridge Development located at 242 Pine Run Road, New Oxford. The original security was posted in the amount of \$275,512.60 after previous reductions in the amount equal to \$208,806.11 the remaining security amount being held at this time is equal to \$66,651.60. Chad Clabaugh P.E. of C.S. Davidson recommends \$66,651.60 be released to provide a remaining balance of \$0.00. *A motion was made by Timothy D. Beard, III to approve, with a second by Ronald L. Weidner. Motion was approved unanimously.*
10. Stephanie A. Egger requested the approval to advertise the 2021 budget for review of the General Fund & State Fund. *A motion was made by Ronald L. Weidner to advertise the 2021 budget for review with a second by Timothy D. Beard, III. Motion was approved unanimously.*
11. Walton, Wedding barn request for security reduction, Resolution No. 2020-48: Stephanie A. Egger read to the Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 2020-48; to reduce the Escrow Account for the Wedding barn located at 195 Old Mill Road, New Oxford. The original security was posted in the amount of \$197,178.30. After previous reductions in the amount equal to \$86,680.00, the remaining security amount being held at this time is equal to \$110,498.30. Chad Clabaugh P.E. of C.S. Davidson recommends a reduction for this security in the amount of \$84,712.10 providing a remaining balance of \$25,786.20. *A motion was made by Ronald L. Weidner to approve, with a second by Michael A. Strausbaugh. Motion was approved unanimously.*
12. Other business to come before the Board of Supervisors: Robin Heiser from EBACC, wanted to invite the Township to their meeting on November 17, 2020 at 6:00 PM. This meeting will take place in the EBACC gym. Robin Heiser is hoping one representative will be available as there will be a representative from East Berlin Borough present to review information that is in the East Berlin Borough minutes over the possible purchase of the property.

13. Planning commission recommendations and status of active plans: None.

**COMMITTEE & DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

1. East Berlin Area Community Center (EBACC): Stephanie A. Egger informed the Board of Supervisors the review was lengthy and was provided in their weekly review packet.
2. Abbottstown Paradise Joint Sewer Authority: Kevin Moul informed their meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2020. John Scrivens has been cleared and is back to work full time. They will have two full time people going forward.
3. Parks and Recreation Committee: None. No meeting held.
4. Emergency Management: No meeting for November. Emergency Management was to inspect the election area and the reports were sent back to FEMA; no issues hindering Hamilton Township polling location.
5. YATB & ACTCC Tax Board Report: Timothy D. Beard III informed that YATB still up over 5% since last year, not sure through 2021 (level plain). The ACTCC Tax Board reports they are having a virtual meeting the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>. It is hard to obtain a quorum through virtual meetings.
6. Road Master's Report: Ronald L. Weidner reviewed that two stormwater pipes were put in the Township roadway. The Public Works Department removed a tree on Pine Run Road. They are aware this is a State Roadway, because it was blocking both directions and they felt this was a safety concern for the residents within the Township. The backhoe is still not fixed. The Township is waiting for the Mack truck to arrive back from the body shop due to the blown tire incident.
7. COG: Stephanie A Egger reviewed typed minutes from the October 22, 2020 meeting. There was no quorum therefore, approval of minutes and treasurer's reports was not permitted. The treasurer had nothing new to report with the balance remaining at \$7,846.18 same as September. Guest speakers were Robin Firtzpatrick and Caroline Johnson on behalf of @ Home Adams County. In 2017, there were 50,088 working residents in Adams County. 32,602 (65.1%) leave the county to work. 17,486 both live and work in Adams County. The hourly wage of \$23.23 is necessary for one adult with one child to live in Adams County. Efforts to keep residents in the county for work and residence is a priority as it promotes revenue. Affordable housing is a big concern in the county. Two initiatives that are currently under way are: ECHO-housing. For seniors is comparable to an ADU and is temporary. They are currently talking with municipalities to verify the permissibility regarding zoning. SHARE- is housing for seniors who share a home, splitting the costs and workload for the home. Residents must be over 60 years of age. Several screenings are performed to find mutual compatibility. There are many jobs available in the county however workers are not available. One of the larger components of the availability is transportation. People in the county do not have transportation to keep a job. The @Home Adams County initiative is working with employers to develop a Rabbit Transit bus route from York to Hanover to Cross Keys to New Oxford and to Gettysburg. Employers are pledging funding to assist with this new project for the county. Randy Phiel, Chairman of the County Commissioners stated that the county revenue is down. They are in the process of budgeting and are making every effort to avoid raising taxes next year. The upcoming election is a major concern and multiple plans are in place to provide security at the polls. COVID-19 safety protocol is being followed for the election also. The current projection is 20-30k mail in votes. They are not permitted to open and count the votes until 7 AM on election day. One drop box has been provided for ballots; it is located inside the courthouse opposite the security station. The drop box is available during regular courthouse hours only. Change from the primary election is all ballots postmarked by November 3<sup>rd</sup> will be accepted until Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. The Conservation District has an opening for a supervisor for a one-year term. Representative Ecker's spokesperson stated that HB 2530 died after 13 Democrats jumped ship at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour. Representative Ecker supports 100% the

opening of restaurant businesses. Another issue they are dealing with is the lack of Unemployment benefits that have not been paid since March. Residents are becoming belligerent with his office however the hold up in the Governor holding up funding. Senator Mastriano's spokesperson stated that their biggest issue is their office is currently the payment of unemployment also. SB#1281 "Steer Clear" was approved, requiring tougher penalties for not obeying the rules concerning the Construction Zone and First Responder issue. Per the spokesperson, the Governor's first and utmost project right now is the push for the Marijuana laws to pass. All other concerns are of little importance. Adams County Planning-ACTPO meeting is Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. The Conservation District currently has two vacant seats however not for the CVSD. Polyester film referred to as Mylar is no longer necessary to record plans. The courthouse will accept 18x24 paper plans. The polyester film has become quite expensive and the request is made that municipalities no longer require mylar for their copy of a final. This expense is passed on to the developers. If this requirement is currently in your Ordinance then an amendment must be adopted for a corrective measure to remove this requirement. Per the Gettysburg Barracks Commander, the PSP will be providing an increase in service for the election. While they are not permitted to be at the polls, if called, they can respond and will do so. Michael A. Strausbaugh wanted to comment that it is unfair for the staff in the Unemployment Department as they are short staffed, and they are doing the best they can with the current situation.

8. East Berlin Area Joint Authority: Ron Weidner stated the meeting will be November 5, 2020. Currently they are consolidating loans and are switching to Adams County Bank. Currently working on quotes for cleaning and painting the water tank with current quotes between \$500,000.00-\$800,000.00.
9. East Berlin Library: Nothing to report.

**Engineer's Report** – Chad Clabaugh, C.S. Davidson, Inc gave his November 2020 report.

**Subdivision, Land Development & Stormwater Plan Review:**

1. Hamilton Power Subdivision – C.S. Davidson reviewed the subdivision plan for Hamilton Power, LLC on Mummerts Church Road and issued a comment letter dated 10-20-2020 with ten comments. The plan was discussed at the October Planning Commission meeting and tabled due to outstanding comments.
2. Eisenhart Subdivision – A revised plan was submitted on 10-19-2020 along with a response letter and two waiver requests. The waivers were discussed at the October Planning Commission meeting, but no decision was made at that meeting. C.S. Davidson provided an e-mail dated 10-21-2020 with eight points of discussion on the waivers from the Planning Commission meeting. The plan was also tabled at that meeting. C.S. Davidson will be providing a review letter for the revised plan for discussion at the November Planning Commission meeting.

**Land Developments and Stormwater plans under construction:**

1. Old Mill Road Wedding Venue -A second request for reduction in financial security was made by the developer. C. S. Davidson provided inspections (reports are filed on CSDatum) and issued a letter dated 10-28-2020 which recommends a reduction of \$85,712.10 to provide a balance of \$25,786.20. The primary remaining item is the fence and then a small amount for finish grade and seed. It is not likely that the vegetation will be substantial enough to allow for the NPDES permit to be terminated before winter which will cause a small amount of the bond to be held until spring.
2. Cedar Ridge Subdivision and Land Development – The contractor completed the remaining items during the week of October 26th. A confirmation e-mail was sent from Adams County Conservation District for the termination of the NPDES permit. C.S. Davidson issued a recommendation for final release of security dated 10-30-2020. CSD will be closing out the files on this project during the week of 11-2. This item will be eliminated from future engineer's reports.

3. Sheetz-CSD attended the meeting and a path of addressing the remaining items outlined by Rusty Ryan from Adams County Conservation District needed to terminate the NPDES permit. The applicant will notify us when the work is complete. Since it relates to vegetation it may need to wait until spring.

**Solicitor's Report-** Attorney Tomasko presented his monthly report which included communication with Township officials over miscellaneous legal matters, shared bridges with Paradise Township, grass cutting invoices for Sparkysa, LLC, Constable insurance/liability as well general as SALDO questions.

**Scott Weaver, Zoning Officer's Report** –16 permits were issued for October 2020. Currently on Planning Commission agenda are Hamilton Power, Pine Run Phase III, and Eisenhart Subdivision.

**MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS:** *Motion to pay the bills for the General Fund was made by Ronald L. Weidner and second by Timothy D. Beard, III. The motion was approved unanimously.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:**

Ron: Thank you for coming out. Hope everyone had a good Halloween.

Tim: Thank you for coming out. If you are not voting by mail, come early and vote. Look forward to seeing everyone.

Mike: Happy Thanksgiving. Thank you to the Police, Medical, and Emergency personnel for all they are doing right now.

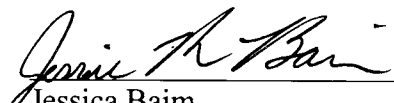
**Meeting Announcements:**

Board of Supervisors, Monday, December 7, 2020 @ 7PM  
Parks and Recreation Board, Tuesday, November 10, 2020 @ 7 PM  
Planning Commission, Tuesday, November 17, 2020 @ 7 PM  
Budget/Finance Workshop: Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 6:30 PM (if needed)  
Zoning Hearing, Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7 PM

Adjournment

Having nothing further to discuss, Motion to adjourn was made at 7:55 PM by Ronald L. Weidner and second by Timothy D. Beard III. ***The vote was unanimous to adjourn.***

Minutes were recorded and transcribed by

  
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Jessica Baim  
Assistant Secretary