

APPROVED

Hamilton Township and Paradise Township Joint Meeting Wednesday, October 20, 2021

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA PER ACT 65: Stephanie Egger provided the agenda to Hamilton and Paradise Township Supervisors. *A motion was made by Ronald L. Weidner to approve the agenda as presented with a second made by Michael A. Strausbaugh.* **Motion was unanimously approved.**

Stephanie Egger addressed the audience about respecting each other's opinions at the meeting and that not everyone will have the same thoughts. The Townships are having this meeting to hear all the resident's opinions.

Supervisors present for Hamilton Township were Ronald L. Weidner, Michael A. Strausbaugh. Timothy D. Beard III is not present due to recovering from surgery.

Supervisors present for Paradise Township were Lance Biesecker, Chairman; Clark Craumer, Vice Chairman via Zoom, Dean Bentzel, Member and Tony Miller, Administration.

Also present were Ronald T. Tomasko, ESQ, from the firm Tomasko & Koranda, P.C.; Chad Clabaugh, P.E. from the firm C.S. Davidson, Inc., Parliamentarian, Stephanie A. Egger, and Assistant Secretary, Jessica Baim

Stephane Egger asked the Supervisors for their thoughts/concerns for Protectory Road Bridge and Home Road Bridge. Lance Biesecker informed that they have been advised from FEMA that both bridges qualify for Federal funding for replacement. FEMA is to cover 75% and PEMA is to cover 25% for a 100% covered cost. York County and the State of Pennsylvania were approved from the tropical storms that occurred in September 2021. Lance Biesecker feels that both bridges should be replaced since FEMA is covering. Otherwise, he felt that Protectory Road should be closed since it is so difficult to turn onto Rt. 194. Michael A. Strausbaugh informed with the news of FEMA covering both bridges at 100% that changes things but he was going to say to close Protectory Road and replace Home Road Bridge, replace both if will be covered by FEMA. Ronald L. Weidner informed he is open to the public opinion versus his thoughts, he had heard rumors that some Paradise Township residents wanted Protectory Road closed. Ronald L. Weidner asked Lance Biesecker if FEMA gave any time frame for the payment of the bridges? Lance Biesecker expressed that FEMA was already out and it was approved for full replacement. He did express the bridge is split ownership and FEMA informed they will cover the full bridge replacement including the permitting. Clark Craumer is in favor of both bridges being replaced. He spoke to the EMS, Ambulances, and Police, they felt closing would hinder response times and with these roads closed increases traffic on other roadways and with new developments coming in both bridges should be replaced. Clark Craumer indicated even if FEMA does not

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come through, they should both be replaced to protect the citizens safety. Protectory Road should have only “Right Turn Out” sign.

Ronald L. Weidner addressed the audience informing that this meeting really was to hear what the public would like the Townships to do with either replacement or complete closure for each bridge located on Protectory Road and Home Road. Ronald L. Weidner informed each person is not limited on time but please try not to repeat themselves. Ronald L. Weidner informed each person was going to be able to speak and if they would provide name and address as this will be on record.

- **Richard Wetzel:** 302 Protectory Road: He would like to have both bridges replaced. Feels that only right turn out onto Rt 194. This should be open for the Emergency personnel and St. Mary’s is getting a lot of traffic.
- **Vicki Wetzel:** 302 Protectory Road: She would like to have both bridges replaced and trees need cut back on Protectory and Rt 194.
- **Florence Mellinger:** 277 Protectory Road: She would like to have both bridges replaced. Feels that left hand turns are bad on each side of Protectory Road. Feels that the farmer has the corn right out into the right of way.
- **Brian Bishard:** 269 Protectory Road: He would like to have both bridges replaced.
- **Jeff Trump:** 313 Protectory Road: He would like to have both bridges replaced. According to Paradise Ordinance any roads that have more than ten houses should have two ways out and with a cul-de-sac needs to have so much space for it. Feels that both sides of the roadway should be fixed.
- **Michelle Trump:** 313 Protectory Road: She would like to have both bridges replaced. Very difficult to turn onto Canal Road.
- **Gary Dull:** 370 Winding Lane: He would like to have both bridges replaced, suggested to level Protectory Road on the Hamilton side, and a speed limit sign on Rt 194. Feels for emergency purposes should be left open.
- **Debra Norman:** 612 Rt. 194: She would like to have both bridges replaced. She feels there should be a “No Left Turn” sign onto Rt. 194. No Left Turn notice sign ahead on Rt.194 to avoid future accidents. Wanted to know why there was no detour signs set up since the 1933 Act 69, references, they should be set up if a roadway is closed. If the roadway is closed, are residents getting extra property after five years? Ronald L. Weidner informed that everyone’s property is to the centerline of the roadways and the Township maintains the right of way. Last concern is that the full roadway should be paved after the bridge is replaced. The roadway has never been paved only patched.
- **Jeremy Smith:** 303 700 Road: He is here from a Finance side and if the funds are available both bridges should be replaced. If no FEMA funds, then close Protectory Road and replace Home Road Bridge.
- **Mel Lebo:** 155 Foxtown Road: He would like to have both bridges replaced, feels that there should be signs for speed limits and a “No Left Turn” onto Rt. 194.
- **Andrew Newcomer:** 342 Protectory Road: He does not have a strong opinion either way. He prefers to have it open but would not be upset if Protectory Road Bridge would be closed. Feels Protectory Road onto Canal Road is worse than Rt. 194 and a “No Left Turn” should be on Protectory onto Canal. If going to replace the bridge, please fix Protectory Road up to Rt. 194.

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- **Renae Newcomer:** 342 Protectory Road: She would like to have both bridges replaced. She also feels that Canal Road is much worse to turn onto. Feels Protectory Road needs repaired as there are potholes as big as bike tires.
- **Dana Moose:** 335 Protectory Road: She would like to have both bridges replaced. She also feels that the speed limit should be lowered.
- **Jeffrey Moose:** 335 Protectory Road: He would like to have both bridges replaced if receiving FEMA funds. Road needs fixed and the speed limit lowered. This will help emergency response.
- **Robert Dailey:** 32 Protectory Road: He feels like the meeting is for the convenience of having people come through his property, feels there is a lot of disrespect. If the bridge remains open, he wants people to stay off the yard, stop littering and the speed limit lowered.
- **Donna King:** 288 Home Road: She would like to have both bridges replaced for emergency use and convenience. Both entrances are dangerous.
- **Ronald King:** 288 Home Road would like to have both bridges replaced. Better to have two ways out of a roadway, safety concern.
- **Devlin Meckley:** 701 Rt. 194: He would like to have both bridges replaced. This would help with emergency use.
- **Jordan Morela:** 415 Rolling Lane: He would like to have both bridges replaced and a “No left turn” signs on both Canal and Rt. 194. Repaired for emergency responders.
- **Brandi Morela:** 415 Rolling Lane: She would like to have both bridges replaced. Have open for emergency issues.
- **Brittany King:** 294 Protectory Road: She would like to have both bridges replaced, for emergency purposes and safety.
- **Jesse Reinhart:** 283 Protectory Road: He would like to have both bridges replaced if there is the money for both bridges. Also feels Protectory Road should be repaired and when Paradise Township tar and chipped Protectory the full road is done even in Hamilton Township.
- **Brett Emig:** 344 Protectory Road: He would like to have both bridges replaced but feels the speed limit should be lowered and the culvert on Hamilton Township needs to be repaired first and then the roadway fixed to fit the new bridge on Protectory Road. There is no respect anymore and the bridges have not been able to handle the emergency issues for several years. Does like it quiet and does have to reroute because of the current closure but willing to adapt. Up to what is financially safe and sound for the Townships.

Ronald L. Weidner expressed that based on what was heard at the meeting the Townships are looking to have both bridges replaced. Ronald L. Weidner explained that the Township's have already started the process of getting permits for replacements. Chad Clabaugh P.E., of C.S. Davidson explained to the audience the permit process was started in September 2021 for both bridges and normally takes six months to hear any comments from DEP. Chad Clabaugh P.E., of C.S. Davidson suggested that both Township Supervisor Boards reach out to DEP and explain that the bridges are closed, and FEMA has expressed covering costs. Once permits are obtained then the Townships will need to go out for bidding the projects and looking to do these together to save costs. If this is getting done through FEMA, then may have different rates. This takes about a month to have it done. Once this is done the

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Townships could post updates about the bridges on their websites. The bridge lead time is about 60 days for Monarch to prepare the bridges. Looking at an April / spring construction time 2022 and once started normally only take two weeks or so. The construction company will have to divert the water ways which cost them money to keep pumps going 24/7 so they do a quick turn around on replacement, then will have to get guiderails and the rest of the repairs done. Chad Clabaugh P.E., of C.S. Davidson expressed he does have questions for the Executive Meeting but wants to know which one of the bridges to do first? Everyone agreed to have Home Road bridge done first. Both Bridges will be 20 feet and double laned. PennDOT minimum is 18 feet for bridges. Pavement will need to be paved minimum of 18 feet to retain liquid fuels. Ronald L. Weidner informed that the Townships would move forward with replacement on both bridges.

Discussion was had if the roadways would have been decided to close how that works and the steps. Chad Clabaugh P.E., of C.S. Davidson informed he has heard a lot about speed concerns. Right now, is the right time to perform a traffic study. Hamilton Township already did one earlier this year, but Paradise Township will need to have a proper traffic study. Lance Biesecker indicated they will look into this concern. Michael A. Strausbaugh would like to mention respect for neighbor's property. Brett Emig indicated they do respect each other, people that don't live on Protectory Road don't give respect. The school buses from the boy's school are an example who drive too fast. Richard Wetzel indicated there should be a stop sign on the end of Home Road. Lance Biesecker indicated they will look at putting a stop sign at Home Road.

Lance Biesecker informed Paradise needed to handle two Township topics:

1. I (Lance Biesecker) entertain a motion to appoint Matt Osborne to the Planning Commission with a second from Dean Bentzel. **Motion carried unanimously.**
2. I (Lance Biesecker) entertain a motion for a conditional approved for the French Subdivisions with a second from Dean Bentzel. **Motion carried with Clark Craumer abstaining.**

Adjournment:

Having nothing further to discuss, Motion to adjourn was made at 7:57 PM by Ronald L. Weidner and second by Michael A. Strausbaugh. ***The vote was unanimous to adjourn.***

Stephanie Egger expressed the meeting was over and if anyone would like to continue to discuss anything to please exit the boardroom and continue outside as a brief Joint Executive Meeting will be held in the boardroom. Thanked everyone for coming out.

Minutes were recorded and transcribed by

Jessica Baim, Assistant Secretary