Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors
July 11, 2024
6:00 p.m.

Attending: David Franke, Joshua Meck, Eric Bauman, Diane Hollenbach, Christina Hafer, Eric Frey, Esq. of E. Kenneth Nyce Law Office, Tom Unger of Systems Design Engineering, Pamela Stevens of Systems Design Engineering.

Guests: Keith Shuman (Road Foreman), Dan Miller, Fire Chief at Blandon Fire Company, Anthony Spero, Donna Culp, Michael Meleta, Mike Schittler, Gavin Milligan, Rayne Reitnauer, Dawn Geschwindt, Scott Eaken, and other guests.

Attending the Zoom: Brooke Meck, Robert Wood, and other guests.

David Franke called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

David Franke announced an executive session held on June 20, 2024, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm for personnel matters.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the July 11, 2024 Agenda. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Eric Bauman motioned to approve the June 13, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes. Joshua Meck seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Ruth Schlechter, 291 Hope Drive.

Ms. Schlechter questioned David Franke if he is aware of who owns the property where the warehouse will be located. She stated that her friend said he spoke to Dave Franke on the phone at the Township building saying that Mr. Franke said the land is owned by Deka. Mr. Franke said that the information was incorrect, and he was not present in the Township building to answer phones. The Supervisors do not answer phone calls at the Township building.

Rayne Reitnauer, Hereford Township.

Ms. Reitnauer introduced herself and stated she is currently running for State Representative in the 130th Legislative District. She is visiting all the municipalities in the district to understand the concerns of the community.

Charles Voorhies, 284 West Walnut Tree Drive.

Mr. Voorhies stated the neighbors' party appeal is still active about the warehouse. Eric Frey stated he was aware and would be announcing it in tonight's meeting.

REPORTS

Northern Berks Regional Police Report – Chief James Keiser

David Franke announced that Chief Keiser is not attending the meeting tonight and read the June 2024 Activity Report for Northern Berks Regional Police Department. Mr. Voorhies asked if anyone had been pulled over after the break-retarder signs were put up and did PennDOT approve the signs. Mr. Franke said he did not know if NBRPD pulled anyone over for the break-retarder violation. He said that PennDOT has to approve all the signs on state roads and the Township does not have a choice.

Maidencreek Township Water Authority

Patrick Donovan said he is retiring from MTA, stating it's been wonderful serving the community hoping he has left it in a better way than when he started. He said his replacement is Ray Palumbo. Ray Palumbo thanked the Board for having him at the meeting, stating he was a finance manager for a car dealership. When the MTA manager position became available, he said he wanted to apply and is now training with Patrick Donovan, learning much about the job. The Board welcomed him aboard and thanked him for coming to the meeting.

Engineering & Zoning Reports – Thomas Unger, P.E. & Pamela Stevens

Tom Unger said he is also retiring, and Pamela Stevens will be his replacement.

Discussion/direction regarding Penn DOT's approved sign for fines.

Pamela Stevens said the $1000.00 fine to be placed on the brake retarder signs that was denied by PennDOT but approved as "fines higher," and the size of the sign is 30" x 36." Keith Shuman installed the signs and PennDOT will be out to look at the signs. The ordinance has been adopted and it is enforceable. Ms. Fielder had complaints about the signs, noting the lettering should be bigger, there is a blank space at the bottom of the sign and the location of the signs is questionable. The Board discussed the issues including fines, enforcement, and that PennDOT has control over signs on state roads. The signs meet Penn DOT specifications.

Motion to authorize the advertisement of the 30-day public comment period for the TMDL and PRP Plans.

A motion was made by Joshua Meck to authorize the advertisement of the 30-day public comment period for the TMDL and PRP Plans. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted "Aye." The motion carried.

Discussion/direction regarding Cornerstone Bridge replacement.

Pamela Stevens reviewed the cost estimates with the Board, including different types of bridge replacement. Ms. Stevens recommended purchasing the Contech ALBC System. The Board discussed labor, how it is constructed, permitting, and grants with Pamela Stevens. The Board is in favor of moving forward with the Cornerstone Bridge replacement.

Discussion/direction of salt shed replacement.

Tom Unger gave the Board photos of different salt sheds with dimensions and prices. The Board discussed whether concrete or asphalt would be effective, and Mr. Unger said there would not be any difference. Joshua Meck spoke about the type PennDOT uses with a tarp and the Board discussed prices, the size, a curtain on the front, and what type of roof. Joshua Meck explained the reason for replacing the equipment, building renovations, a pole barn shop, and replacing and moving the salt shed with some of the bond money. Diane Hollenbach asked Mr. Unger to start the preparation of a bid package for the next meeting.

A motion was made by Joshua Meck to authorize the preparation of the bid for the salt shed. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." The motion carried.

Joshua Meck asked if the Board could move forward closing the berm off and redirecting the walking trail that was damaged in the July 9, 2023, flood. Mr. Unger said he would get it finalized to move forward. Pamela Stevens said UGI's proposed work with road cuts will have to restore the parking area and portion of the trail.

Solicitor – Eric Frey, Esq.

Verizon Lease Agreement proposal.

Eric Frey said Verizon was okay with the lease agreement changes including location, an increase in the rental price to $22,000.00, and the start date on or before January 2026.

A motion was made by Joshua Meck to approve the amendment to lease agreement changes including location, an increase in the rental price of $22,000.00, and the start date on or before January 2026. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." The motion carried.

Mr. Frey said the neighbors appealed the judge's decision on the warehouse conditional use approval, to the Commonwealth Court.

Public Works – Keith Shuman

Motion to hire Julie Dietrich as a Laborer III effective July 10, 2024.

Joshua Meck made a motion to hire Julie Dietrich as a Laborer III effective June 10, 2024. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Motion to affirm the purchase of a 2012 Peterbilt Dump Truck through Municibid from Paradise Township for $70,200.00 plus a 9% buyer's premium.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the purchase of a 2012 Peterbilt Dump Truck through Municibid from Paradise Township for $70,200.00 plus a 9% buyer's premium. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." The motion carried.

Motion to affirm the purchase of a 2014 Ford F550 through Municibid from Hunlock Township for $34,250.00 plus a 9% buyer's premium.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the purchase of a 2014 Ford F550 through Municibid from Hunlock Township for $34,250.00 plus a 9% buyer's premium. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." The motion carried.

Consideration to purchase a stainless-steel tailgate replacement with coal doors for the 2012 Peterbilt for $6,329.00.

Eric Bauman motioned to approve the purchase of a stainless-steel tailgate replacement with coal doors for the 2012 Peterbilt for $6,329.00. Joshua Meck seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." The motion carried.

Discussion and consideration of the purchase of a roller for paving purposes. Tabled.

Keith Shuman thanked the Blandon Mennonite Church for the youth group that cleaned up the basketball courts at the Blandon Fire Company.

Park and Recreation – Aaron Rogers

Motion to affirm purchase of playground equipment through Municibid from the Borough of Hanover for $1,000.00 plus a 9% buyer's premium.

Eric Bauman motioned to approve the purchase of playground equipment through Municibid from the Borough of Hanover for $1,000.00 plus a 9% buyer's premium. Joshua Meck seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." The motion carried.

Discussion/appointment of Park and Recreation Board Member with term ending 12/31/2027.

Diane Hollenbach said there are two letters from candidates, and they will attend the next Park and Recreation meeting.

Aaron Rogers updated the Board about Movie Night which is on hold and looking for other available places. The Flea Market on October 5, 2024, will have a sign-up for the event and will be on the website after the rules and regulations are approved. Mr. Rogers continued saying he was authorized for a donation of 500 bags of chips and purchased seasoned taco meat for $110.00 for National Night Out on August 6, 2024.

Joshua Meck said a resident mentioned the idea of having a non-profit 503C with the Park and Recreation Board to subsidize events and would like to see if the Park and Recreation Board would be interested.

Joshua Meck discussed the Blandon Fire Company driveway that needs attention stating they are looking to have a concrete apron in front of the garage where the vehicles are kept. David Franke said we could contact local businesses to help with the project. Mr. Meck said the general parking area needs work and will be done in phases.

Manager – Diane Hollenbach

Diane Hollenbach updated the Board on the youth banned from the park stating the certified mail has been picked up and everything was sent to his probation officer and this matter is resolved.

The Joint Comprehensive Plan meeting will be on October 22, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Richmond Township building and it is open to the public.

Draft Personnel Rules and Regulations. Approval to forward to employees for review. A Personnel Committee meeting will be needed before adoption.

Diane Hollenbach stated she compared it to the union contract and that it had to be reviewed by the Personnel Committee.

Discussion on recycling contract options and J.P. Mascaro recycling proposal.

Diane Hollenbach spoke to J.P. Mascaro and current bids have increased over the last year, in the current bid the Township has 4-one-year extensions. The Board discussed the recycling issues and thoughts on how to resolve them. Diane said she would try to talk to the DEP about the recycling issues. J.P. Mascaro will go to a 95-gallon container with help from grants. The discussion continued with the Board and the public about the mandates from the state, prices, and choices with bins.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on the camera system.

Diane Hollenbach said T-Mobile was set up as a residential unit and is not compatible with internet connectivity. She explained that we needed a cable line to connect, and the previous vendor would stop working on set up until a cable line is installed.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to approve Municibid sale of a 1999 GMC 3500 Pickup to Andrew Merrick Sr for $625.00.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the Municibid sale of a 1999 GMC 3500 Pickup to Andrew Merrick Sr. for $625.00. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

Motion to approve Municibid sale of a 2008 GMC 5500 Dump Truck to Brad Nowotarski for $23,700.00.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the Municibid sale of a 2008 GMC 5500 Dump truck to Brad Nowotarski for $23,700.00. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

Motion to approve Municibid sale of a 2004 Chevy Tahoe to Paul Driano for $900.00.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the Municibid sale of a 2004 Chevy Tahoe to Paul Friano for $900.00. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, “Aye.” The motion carried.

Motion to authorize Keith Shuman to act on behalf of the Township in transferring the vehicles.

Joshua Meck motioned to authorize Keith Shuman to act on behalf of the Township in transferring the vehicles. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." The motion carried.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Motion to approve the bills and accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the bills and accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Motion to refund the balance in escrow of $774.98 for Kitt's Café.

Joshua Meck motioned to refund the balance in escrow of $774.98 for Kitt's Café. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Motion on Fleetwood Community Library's request for a $15,000.00 donation.

Eric Bauman motioned to approve the Fleetwood Community Library donation of $15,000.00. Joshua Meck seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joshua Meck and seconded by Eric Bauman. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Hafer
Township Secretary