Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors
November 14, 2024
6:00 p.m.

Attending: David Franke, Joshua Meck, Eric Bauman, Diane Hollenbach, Nicole Manley, Esq. of E. Kenneth Nyce Law Office, Pamela Stevens of Systems Design Engineering, Diane Hollenbach, Township Manager, and Christina Hafer, Recording Secretary.

Guests: Rob Hain, of Berks Surveying Engineering, Keith Shuman (Road Foreman), Dan Miller, Fire Chief at Blandon Fire Company, Donna Culp, Anthony Spero, Nancy Runyon, Steve Dymeck, Richard Wick, Christine Shuman, Heidi Fiedler, and other guests.

Attending the Zoom: Brooke Meck and other guests.

David Franke called the regular meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the November 14, 2024, Agenda. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Eric Bauman motioned to approve the October 10, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes, Joshua Meck seconded the motion, and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Jonathan Gruber, 412 Acer Drive, said in July and August of this year, Frontier started work to install fiber optics and wanted to know if there was an update on continuing the work. Diane said they did not pay for the permits that were issued and had not heard from them. Mr. Gruber also stated the traffic light at Park Road and Excelsior Drive is green coming out of the bakery. The Board said they would have Telco look at the traffic light.

Steve Dymeck, 196 Longleaf Drive, wanted to know what is happening with the enforcement of the brake retarder ordinance. David Franke explained they have been enforcing the ordinance.

Charles L. Voorhies, 284 West Walnut Tree Drive, wanted to know how many citations and if the noise ordinance would be in effect with the brake retarder ordinance. The Board explained that it wasn't possible to single out one truck with the noise ordinance and the brake retarder ordinance stands alone.

Heidi Fiedler, 432 W Wesner Road, said she sent an email to the Township that a tree came down along Willow Creek on Township property and has not been cleaned up. Joshua Meck explained that Verizon did come in to fix the wires and some of the trees were cleaned up. Ms. Fiedler asked the Township to repair the stream banks next to her property due to erosion. The Board said state officials walked the stream, and they rejected the permits.

Nancy Runyon, 351 Lindbergh Avenue, stated she handed the Board paperwork for the Environmental Advisory Council and would like to know if anyone would be interested.

REPORTS

Northern Berks Regional Police – David Franke went over the Activity Report for Northern Berks Regional Police Department.

Engineering & Zoning Reports – **Pamela Stevens**

Accept the developer's offer of a time extension to the plan review period until February 14, 2025, for The Crossing at Maidencreek.

Eric Bauman motioned to accept the time extension for the Crossing at Maidencreek until February 14, 2025. Joshua Meck seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Accept the developer's offer of a time extension to the plan review period until February 10, 2025, for the Jojaz Final Land Development Plan.

Joshua Meck motioned to accept the time extension for the Jojaz Final Land Development Plan until February 10, 2025. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Action on the developer's request for the Jojaz Land Development Plan to proceed under Section 190.29 Plans Exempt from Standard Procedures.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the Jojaz Land Development Plan to proceed with Section 190.29 Plans Exempt from Standard Procedures. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no question on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Action to approve Heeby's Surplus Land Development Plan conditioned upon compliance with Systems Design Engineering's November 1, 2024, review letter.

Rob Hain of Berks Surveying Engineering presented to the Board plans for the Heeby's Surplus Land Development Plan asking for approval. He attended the Planning Commission meeting on November 6, 2024, and discussed the review letter, and is waiting on approval from the Authority on the sewer connection change.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve Heeby's Surplus Land Development Plan conditioned upon compliance with Systems Design Engineering's November 1, 2024, review letter. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Reaffirm the May 9, 2024, approval of the Maiden Creek Associates Final Plan.

Joshua Meck motioned to reaffirm the May 9, 2024, approval of the Maiden Creek Associates Final Plan. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Charles L. Voorhies asked the Board if there were any changes to the Final Plan. Diane Hollenbach said there were no changes.

Solar Ordinance

Pamela Stevens said the Berks County Planning Commission sent a letter of recommendation in reference to the Solar Ordinance. Nicole Manley said there are quite a few changes and will be tentatively ready by the January 2025 meeting.

Authorization to approve Payment Application #1 Asphalt Maintenance Solutions for $239,148.06.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve payment of $239,148.06 to Asphalt Maintenance Solutions for the 2024 road project. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

David Franke asked why it takes so long to get permits issued. Pamela Stevens said she would look into it.

Pamela Stevens updated the Board on the Cornerstone Bridge stating the Contech System can reduce the 6-foot spread plan to 3 feet. The Board discussed the LSA Grant Application.

Solicitor – Nicole Manley, Esq.

Nicole Manley said there was a petition for contempt filed concerning Maidencreek Township vs. Dean Shuman and Julia Stauffer. The hearing will be on February 5, 2025.

Public Works – Keith Shuman

Approve the installation of a rear gate at the yard waste facility for $11,100.00.

Joshua Meck explained the reason for the new gate with easier access for one way in and one way out. He wants to take pictures of the renovations so the public can see what is going on.

A motion was made by Eric Bauman to approve the installation of the rear gate at the yard waste facility for $11,100.00. Joshua Meck seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Joshua Meck spoke about the construction of the salt shed and storage building.

Park and Recreation

Nancy Runyon said they met with Berks Nature to discuss a comprehensive plan to plant trees, a meadow, and a pollinator garden that will stretch out over several years. They will be looking for grants to fund the project and volunteers to help with the work.

Approve the purchase of one memorial park bench for stock not to exceed $600.00.

Joshua Meck motioned to approve the purchase of one memorial park bench for stock not to exceed $600.00. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Manager – Diane Hollenbach

Diane Hollenbach stated there is a burn ban for Maidencreek Township and Berks County. PennDOT has rejected the request to put a turn arrow on Route 222 intersection at Route 73. There is a new constable, Eric Bauman spoke to him on election day. Diane and the Board attended a meeting for Northern Berks EMS financial difficulties sponsored by Berks County. There are three different strategies, and the Board will consider the options and make a decision at the Budget meeting.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Schedule a Budget meeting.

The Board authorized advertisement of the Budget meeting for Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Approve healthcare renewal using RSF balance to reduce the 2025 annual cost.

A motion was made by Eric Bauman to approve the healthcare renewal using the RSF balance to reduce the 2025 annual cost. Joshua Meck seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Consideration of the Berks Nature Community Park Management Plan Proposal.

A motion was made by Joshua Meck to approve Berks Nature Community Park Management Plan for $1,500.00. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

A motion was made by Joshua Meck 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.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joshua Meck and seconded by Eric Bauman. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Hafer
Recording Secretary