Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors
January 9, 2025
6:00 p.m.

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

Guests: Keith Shuman (Road Foreman), Dan Miller, Fire Chief at Blandon Fire Company, Dawn Geschwindt, Anthony Spero, Donna Culp, Mike Schittler, Aaron Rogers, Kristi Duffy, Noah Duffy, Gavin Milligan, Nancy Runyon, Connie Cammarano, Joe Cammarano, and other guests.

Joshua Meck called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag followed by a moment of silence for President Jimmy Carter.

Joshua Meck recognized Noah Duffy was present. Mr. Duffy thanked Maidencreek Township for donating and delivering wood logs for a project he did for Fleetwood High School where he is a student. He created outside seating from the logs for outdoor classrooms.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

David Franke motioned to approve the January 9, 2025, Agenda. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

David Franke motioned to approve the December 12, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes, Eric Bauman seconded the motion, and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS

Charles L. Voorhies, 284 West Walnut Tree Drive, asked if the Chestnut Street storm repair is on private property. Mr. Meck said it was adjacent to the work on Chestnut Street but the township would not be working on private property.

Heidi Fiedler, 432 East Wesner Road, said there is the same issue with storm-related problems in other areas of Township property, specifically Willow Creek which runs through her property. Mr. Meck stated that public comments for items not on the agenda will be at the end of the meeting.

REPORTS

Northern Berks Regional Police – The Northern Berks Regional Police Commission meeting is next month and there is no information available.

Engineering & Zoning Reports – **Pamela Stevens**

Action on Jojaz/Specialty Rigging Land Development Plan. The review period expires before the February meeting.

A motion was made by David Franke to accept the Jojaz/Specialty Rigging Land Development Plan time extension to April 10, 2025. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Reaffirm approval of the Heeby's Surplus Land Development Plan.

A motion was made by David Franke to reaffirm approval of Heeby's Surplus Land Development Plan. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Pamela Stevens went over the engineers' activity report stating they are moving forward with the annual stormwater basins, paperwork for Cornerstone Bridge will be sent to the DEP, and Tom Unger is gathering information for the new garage. Diane Hollenbach said we should hear something about the local LSA grant in March or May. Pamela Stevens said the state grant would be in September.

Solicitor – Eric Frey, Esq.

Eric Frey stated ordinance changes have been drafted and sent to Pamela Stevens for the Planning Commission meeting and the Berks County concerns with the Solar Ordinance were addressed. The Warehouse C-2 district ordinance was addressed adding regulations to further control what happens in the C-2 zoning district.

Public Works – Keith Shuman

Nothing for the meeting.

Park and Recreation – Aaron Rogers

Aaron Rogers sent plans with a few options for the park for the Board of Supervisors to review. The Park and Recreation Board meeting will be on January 23, 2025.

Manager – Diane Hollenbach

Diane Hollenbach stated the Audit will be held on February 17, 2025.

Joshua Meck updated the public on the salt building, stating everything was complete and had deliveries for salt. He thanked the road crew for a great job!

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion/direction on annual fire inspections for commercial and industrial properties.

The Board agreed for the Planning Commission and the Blandon Fire Company to review the annual fire inspection ordinance and then send comments to the Board. Dan Miller from the Blandon Fire Company concurred, saying the Knox Boxes should be maintained and agreed to do the inspections. Joshua Meck explained the fire inspections saying they need to have something in place to check commercial and industrial properties annually.

Discussion/direction on Chestnut Street storm repair.

Joshua Meck explained this subject goes back to the July 9, 2023, flooding, stating the culvert box trench failed. It butts up against a resident's property and needs to be addressed. Diane Hollenbach stated the engineer would have to evaluate the issue.

David Franke motioned to approve the engineer to inspect the Chestnut Street storm restoration issue. Eric Bauman seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Resolution 12-2025 Recycling Fee

A motion was made by David Franke to adopt Resolution 12-2025 Recycling Fee with no increase. Seconded by Eric Bauman and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/direction on future supervisor compensation.

The Board discussed and agreed to increase the future supervisor's compensation to $3,600.00 a year.

David Franke motioned to draft an ordinance raising future supervisor's compensation to $3,600.00 a year. 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 David Franke 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA

Charles L. Voorhies, 284 West Walnut Tree Drive, asked if the County Sheriff’s Office reached out to the Township about the drone situation. The Board said they did not hear anything.

Heidi Fiedler, 432 W Wesner Road, said there are stormwater issues including Willow Creek along East Wesner Road. There remains to be significant erosion and sedimentation on her property and surrounding areas. She is asking the Board to address the stormwater issues on Willow Creek and maintain Township property due to concerns downstream. The Board addressed her comments stating they had engineers, the Conservation District, and Senator Gebhard's office access the area and did not see the issues that she was speaking about.

Charles L. Voorhies asked if there was a time frame for the Walnut Tree Bridge. Pamela Stevens stated all the easements are not in place, there are permit limitations, and waiting to hear from the Conservation District.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by David Franke and seconded by Eric Bauman. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Hafer
Recording Secretary