

WALKER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Monthly Meeting
September 1, 2021

Supervisors	–	Keith Harter Deborah Zimmerman James Heckman
Solicitor	–	John Miller III
Staff	–	Sue Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer Donna Reese – Asst. Secretary/Treasurer Don Franson - Township Engineer
Guests	–	Township Residents – James and Susan Culp, Bill Shaffer, Josh & Angie Kroell Rick Bowman – Bowman Excavation/Paving/Concrete Marc McMaster – Shaffer/Breon Realtor

Call to Order: Chairman Keith Harter called the September 1, 2021 monthly meeting of the Walker Township Board of Supervisors to order at 6:00 pm in the Walker Township Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Harter led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of August 4, 2021: Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the August minutes as presented; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Sign In Sheet:

- James and Susan Culp addressed the Board with their concerns for the Shaffer Electric property, 1611 East College Ave, currently being leased by Bowman Excavation/Paving/Concrete. Their property sits behind Shaffer Electric and the change and noise that has been occurring doesn't comply to the current Zoning Ordinance as they understand it to be. They would like to confirm what the current Zoning is and what is allowed. Supervisor Harter said there are two separate issues. First the Shaffer property was rezoned from Village District to General Commercial District at a Public Hearing on June 16, 2021. An application was then received asking for a change in the Zoning Ordinance to allow a Contractors Shop and Yard in a Commercial District, which was advertised and approved at a Public Hearing on July 28, 2021. Mr. Bowman has now submitted an Conditional Use Application. Supervisor Zimmerman said she believes the goal is to make the transition as easy as possible between the existing and new owners as well as neighbors but everything takes a little bit of time. Mr. Bowman has looked into privacy fencing. The next hearing will be the conditions placed on the property for him to conduct his business and hopefully keep the neighbors happy. The Board can work on these conditions but they need to start somewhere and work their way through it and it takes time. The other issue is another company, Mitch Knorr Contracting who is doing the work for the intersection at the Y in Zion. They asked the Board if they would make a temporary allowance for them to put their office trailers on the property. The Board agreed to the request with conditions. The placement of the trailers was not one of the conditions but they were asked to put them behind the building. Angie and Josh Kroell whose property also borders the Shaffer property expressed similar concerns as the Culp's. They said as long as the above concerns are being addressed and with the understanding things take time, they are ok. Mr. Culp asked if the Board would set the hours of operation not early in the morning as one of the conditions. Mr. Harter said that will be discussed at the hearing.
- No other Guests wanted to address the Board.

Solicitor Report:

- Solicitor Miller received a Conditional Use Application for Bowman Excavating/Paving/Concrete. He will send it to the Centre County Planning Office for their comments as well as the Walker Township Planning Commission.
- Supervisor Heckman made a motion to adopt Resolution 21-460 setting fees for Ordinance 210 - Township Right-of-Way Road Occupancy; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Engineer Report:

- Engineer Franson discussed Resolution 21-461 which supports the Spring Creek Watershed Commission Phase II Report and a Phase III Effort to Pursue Development of a One Water Plan. Supervisor Harter made a motion to accept the Resolution; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Mr. Franson continues to monitor storm water issues on Nilson Rd.
- The 2020 Bridge Reports were received for Hoy Rd (T-467) and Rodgers Rd (T-468). Hoy Rd Bridge showed no critical issues, but it is still in poor condition. The Township is in the process of applying for Federal Funding to replace the Bridge. Rodgers Rd Bridge has had Beam 2 repaired and buses can now travel the Bridge. Beam 4 though is in need of repair.
- At the August, 2021 meeting, Mr. Franson gave the Board of Supervisors a list of Township storm water issues. Supervisor Harter would like to have the issues as first on the list for the American Rescue Funds. The Township is awaiting the Final Guidelines from the Government before deciding how to distribute the Funds.

Zoning Report:

- Supervisor Harter reported The Zoning Officer issued 15 Zoning Permits and 1 Driveway Permit.
- A Lot Addition/Replot Proposal – CCPCDO File No. 106-21 for Frank & Sharlene Nolan and LDB Land Management was presented. Supervisor Heckman noted the adjoining landowner posting error on the plan. The Planning Commission commented the Ag Disclaimer and the Water Quality/Quantity Notes should be on the plan. Supervisor Heckman made a motion to conditionally approve the plan after the above notations were corrected; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Roadmaster Report:

- Mr. Harter reported the 2021 Road Projects are underway. An extension was granted for Blue Ball Rd.
- The Roadcrew has been busy working on cleaning ditches and swales, berms on Nittany Ridge, Park work
- Mr. Harter contacted NexTier (Austin) concerning complaints received for the Company. The biggest complaint was the amount of traffic going in and out at all hours and the trees planted for screening. Austin said they are doing everything they can to correct the compliance issues. They are looking into doing some rescheduling. Mr. Harter told him if the traffic continues in and out at time's they aren't supposed to further action will be taken.
- The Hoy Bridge Replacement will be an estimated 1.5 million with Walker Township's responsibility 20%. The County has Act 13 money available. Supervisor Harter made a motion for Walker Township to ask the County for \$100,000; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Harter made a motion to use \$200,000 Liquid Fuels Money towards the 2021 Road Projects and General Fund money for the remaining balance; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Parks and Recreation Report:

- Music in the Park was held in August and the Bellefonte Community Band has been in touch with interest to play in the Park. This request will be sent to the Parks and Recreation Board.
- The Fall Festival will be held September 25th from 11:00am to 3:00 pm.

New Business:

- A Letter of Interest and Resume were received from Todd Holden for the Zoning Officer position. Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to accept Todd Holden's application for Zoning Officer; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Heckman made a motion to approve the road name Brandy CT for the S&A 5 Lot Subdivision (Yakich) – CCPCDO #38-21; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- A request was received from East Nittany Valley Joint Municipal Authority asking to be considered as a recipient for the Townships American Rescue Funds. The letter was accepted and added to the list.
- No action was taken for a donation request for Centre County Farmland Trust.

Supervisor Heckman made a motion to approve the August, 2021 General Fund Paid Bills in the amount of \$54,108.46 and the August Treasurers Report; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Supervisor Harter recessed the Board for an Executive meeting at 7:32pm. The regular meeting reconvened at 7:51.

- Supervisor Harter made a motion to compensate the new Zoning Officer, Todd Holden, at a rate of \$500.00 per month plus mileage (state approved rate) with the hours remaining Wednesday evening starting at 4:15pm to 8:30pm or completion of work with a minimum of 6:30pm as leaving the office effective September 8, 2021; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Supervisor Heckman motioned to adjourn the meeting; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Wagner

Keith E. Harter

James. B. Heckman

Deborah L. Zimmerman