

WALKER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
September 4, 2024

Supervisors – James Heckman, Chairman
Zane Sherman, Vice Chairman
Keith Harter, Supervisor

Solicitor -- John Miller III

Township Engineer - Don Franson

Zoning Officer - Justin Dashem

Secretary - Angel Emery
Asst. Secretary- Sue Wagner

Guests:	Rich Poorman	Tim Meyer	Dennis McDowell
	Ron Borger	Leah Burd	Tom Little
	Melvin Stoltzfus	Doug Corman	John King
	Aaron Allgyer	Jeffery Seymour	Wyatt Harter
	Elmer Glick	Matt Nelson	

Chairman Heckman called the September 4, 2024, meeting to order at 6:04 pm in the Walker Township Municipal Building.

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

Approval of August 7, 2024 Minutes: Heckman motioned to approve the August 2024 minutes, no second and motion died.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- Ron Borger from Penn Terra presented the sewage planning module and the road names for Zion Manner for approval. The road names Stag and Buckskin have been approved from Centre County 911. **On a motion by Sherman and 2nd by Harter motion passed to approve Buckskin Road 3-0. On a motion by Heckman and 2nd by Harter motion passed to approve the sewage planning module 3-0.**
- Robert Myers from Hawbaker’s Engineering presented component 1 planning module for a one lot subdivision, for DLPRE, LLC. **On a motion by Heckman and 2nd by Harter motion passed to conditionally approve the planning module with the approval by Don Franson on the stormwater design 3-0. On a motion by Heckman and 2nd by Sherman, motion passed to approve the fee in lieu of \$2500 3-0.**

GUESTS:

- Jared Lapczynski and Mark Schultz from PennDOT joined the meeting via phone to discuss the Hoy Road bridge project. The final bid package is ready, and they would like to advertise tomorrow, final estimate is \$659,000 over the reimbursement agreement amount. The overall cost for the township will now be \$877,537.67. Conversations have started to find funding to help cover some of that cost. Centre County has already agreed to reimburse the township \$100,000 after the project is completed. The options to proceed are to continue with advertising and see what the actual bid comes in at, or to delay the advertising and seek funds and try to secure them prior to advertising. It was recommended that the township reach out to the county and the MPO for funding options to help the township pay for the project. The township will still have to approve the bid through the award process. Solicitor Miller advised that no action could be taken since they were asking the Board to potentially agree to spend more money than originally agreed upon. If advertised at this time, the township would agree to the overrun of costs. **On a motion by Heckman and 2nd by Harter motion passed to amend the agenda to schedule a special meeting 3-0. On a motion by Heckman and second by Harter motion passed to have a meeting at 5:30 p.m. on September 9th 3-0.**

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

- Don Franson reported that the Zion Ridge Crest Road project is under construction.
- Zion Back Road culverts were discussed and the need for replacement, conversation was held about grouping other culverts on other roads into the project.
- Franson spoke about the Centre County liquid fuels grant application, the township is already holding grant money for an upcoming project. Don will have a list of potential projects for the October meeting.
- Franson is working on a figure for Zion Manor to help with the widening of Zion Back Road.
- Heckman questioned if the township is allowed to put their speed sign up on a state road, Franson recommended getting PennDOT's permission first, he will reach out to get an answer.
- Harter brought up an issue on Benner Road and asked Franson if he looked at it yet, he plans to inspect it soon along with a section Heckman marked. Harter thanked the water company for helping drill the holes to address the problem.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

- Worked with Mike Lesniak on letters for property owners on Hoy Road.

ZONING:

- There were 15 zoning permits issued in August, 98 issued this year to date.

Parks and Rec:

- Parks and Rec already approved the facility use agreement therefore, **Harter motioned, Sherman seconded, and motion passed to approve the facility use agreement with Bellefonte soccer 3-0.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion was held about the Glenn O. Hawbaker bill for Zion Back Road. **On a motion by Harter and second by Sherman motion passed to pay the current Hawbaker bill out of the Liquid Fuels account 3-0**
- The new tractor has arrived, and the first bill was reviewed. **On a motion by Heckman and 2nd by Harter motion passed to pay for the new tiger Massey Ferguson tractor, the first amount of \$91,308.30 out of general fund 3-0.**
- **On a motion by Heckman and 2nd by Sherman motion passed to have the budget meeting October 11th at 10:00 a.m. 3-0.**
- **On a motion by Heckman and 2nd by Sherman motion passed to appoint Melissa Sieg to represent us on the Nittany Valley Joint Recreational Authority 3-0.**
- **On a motion by Heckman and second by Sherman motion passed to adopt the date of September 10th as Suicide Awareness Day 3-0.**
- **On a motion by Heckman and second by Sherman motion passed to send \$2500 to the Centre County Library 3-0.**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Sherman reported there is no update on the fire hydrant agreement
- Nothing to report on the handbook updates.
- The next meeting for the Fire Company Joint Operating Committee (JOC) is September 18th.

Adjourned for Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss road crew employees and wages.

Regular meeting called back to order at 7:52 p.m. by Heckman.

ROADMASTER:

- **On a motion by Heckman and second by Harter motion passed to raise David Miller \$.50 and give him all the benefits he's eligible for from the end of his 60-day probation period which was August 15th 3-0.**
- Ordinance 210 was discussed again; Sherman is going to contact Don Franson to discuss changes the Board would like to see.

On a motion by Heckman and second by Harter, motion passed to approve the August 2024 General Fund bills in the amount of \$52,707.75 and the August 2024 Treasurer's Report 3-0.

On a motion by Harter and second by Sherman, motion passed to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Emery

Keith E. Harter

James B. Heckman

Zane E. Sherman