

**WALKER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**May 5, 2021**

**Supervisors** – **Keith Harter**  
**Deborah Zimmerman**  
**James Heckman**

**Solicitor** – **John Miller III**

**Staff** – **Sue Wagner - Secretary/Treasurer**  
**Vaughn Zimmerman - Zoning Officer**  
**Don Franson - Township Engineer**

**Guests** – **Jeremy Bauman – Forest Heights Resident**  
**Cindy Galbraith – Township Resident**  
**Robert Reichelderfer – Township Resident**  
**Joe Swanderski – SBWJA Representative**  
**Sarah Moryken – Stony Pointe Resident**  
**Dennis McDowell – SBWJA Chairman**  
**Russell Rockwell – Forest Heights Resident**  
**Tony Fruchtl – Penn Terra Engineering**

**Zachary Berger – Forest Heights Resident**  
**Emily Aten – Walker Meadows Resident**  
**Richard Perini – Forest Heights Resident**  
**Tim Meyer – Township Resident**  
**Chrie Frich – Stony Pointe**  
**Nathan McFadden – Township Resident**  
**Diane Matter – Township Resident**  
**Katie Immel – Walker Meadows Resident**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Keith Harter called the May 5, 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 April 7, 2021:** Supervisor Heckman made a motion to approve the Minutes from the April 7, 2021 meeting; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.

**Guests:**

- Many guests were in attendance to complain about **Zito Media Services**. The complaints included:
  1. Frequent outages
  2. Long hold times
  3. Dispatch not having answers for issues
  4. No call back when the service problem is fixed
  5. Service technicians cannot fix problems due to having older lines and equipment

The residents told the Board they are also looking into other options, including discussions with Century Link bringing fiber directly to their homes. The Township will be receiving money from the American Rescue Funds, they asked the Board if some of that money could be used to help them upgrade their cable and internet services in their developments. A resident asked if the Board would write a letter to Zito letting them know how upset the Townships residents are.

The Board informed residents the Township has an open Zito Franchise Agreement meaning any provider is welcome into our Township. It is not exclusive to Zito. The Franchise Agreement is due to renew in 2023. If the Township did not renew their Franchise that would leave the residents without any provider and that isn't advisable. The Supervisors feel it would be best for residents to form a united front to handle the issues with Zito and the FCC. Residents should keep a list of service calls and document the issues to Zito. The Board will collect the list and present it to Zito. Guests discussed forming a Community-wide Facebook page to disseminate information and complaints. The Board will write a letter to Zito voicing the complaints we have received.

**Guests (con't):**

American Rescue Funding has not been received yet and the Supervisors are waiting on the guidelines on what it can be used for. The Supervisors feels if any money can be used cable and internet upgrades, it will have to be for the entire Township not a specific development. Requests for funding can be submitted to the Supervisors. The money will come in two phases (2021 and 2023)

Denny McDowell, Chairman of Spring, Benner, Walker Joint Authority asked the Board to put the Authority on the list for help with upgrading two pump stations in Walker Township. The cost would be a minimum of \$45,000.00.

- Tony Fruchtl – Penn Terra Engineering presented two plans for approval:
  1. **Deerhaven Subdivision of Phase 2B.** Supervisor Harter made a motion to approve Phase 2B of the Deerhaven Subdivision and authorize Zoning Officer Zimmerman to write the Meets or Exceeds letter and accept Parks and Rec Fee-In-Lieu recommendation in the amount of \$21,250; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.
  2. **S&A Homes, Inc., Subdivision of Lot 2RR.** Mr. Fruchtl noted the private home owners will take care of the road, have on-lot sewage, and private water. Supervisor Harter made a motion to conditionally approve the plan pending Engineer Franson's approval, authorize Mr. Zimmerman to write the Meets or Exceeds letter and accept Parks and Rec Fee-In-Lieu recommendation in the amount of \$10,000.00; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

**Solicitor:**

- Solicitor Miller said he has not received a response for the letter he sent to **Pennsylvania American Water** for the billing of nine fire hydrants. The Township has a contract for one fire hydrant. Supervisor Heckman made a motion to pay for the contracted hydrant and not the others; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.
- A Road and Maintenance Agreement (RMA) was received from **Wheeland Lumber Company** to use .80 miles of T-474 (Dietrich Road). Supervisor Heckman made a motion to the approve the RMA request; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Heckman made a motion to hold a **Public Hearing** on June 16, 2021 at 5:30pm for a request received from William Shaffer and Sandy Breon to rezone the property located at 1611 East College Avenue, Bellefonte from the Village District to the General Commercial District and amend the Walker Township Zoning Ordinance to add the use of Contractor's Shop and Yard as a permitted use in the General Commercial District; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Heckman made a motion to return the Letters of Credit (2) to **Zion Associates for the Final Plan, Stony Pointe Land Development Phase V-R & VI** in the amount of \$48,977.50 and \$18,684.75 after the Township Engineer inspection; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.

**Engineer Report:**

- Quotes were received for the culvert removal at **Hemlock Drive**. Eby Paving provided the lowest quote in the amount of \$2,250.00. Supervisor Harter made a motion to accept Eby Paving and Construction Inc.'s quote; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Harter made a motion to advertise the **Township Road Occupancy Ordinance** for acceptance at the June 2, 2021 meeting; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Engineer Franson shared the drawing for the new Parking Lot (across from the Soccer Field on Zion Back Road). He will begin applying for the necessary permits and prepare the bid documents.

**Zoning Officer Report:**

- The Zoning Officer reported he issued 17 Zoning Permits and 4 Driveway Permits.
- Mr. Zimmerman presented a **Minor Subdivision Plan for Daniel and Rebecca Esh – CCPCDO #31-21**. The Planning Commission had no comments and recommends approval. Supervisor Harter made a motion to approve the plan, authorize the Zoning Officer to write the Meets or Exceeds letter and accept the Parks and Rec Fee-In-Lieu recommendation in the amount of \$2,500; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Mr. Zimmerman presented a plan for a **2-Lot Subdivision for 234 Shady Farm Lane, LLC - CCPCDO #11-21**. The Planning Commission had no comments and recommended approval. Supervisor Heckman made a motion to approve the Plan, the Planning Waiver and Non-Building Declaration, authorize the Zoning Officer to write the Meets or Exceeds letter and accept the Parks and Rec Fee-In-Lieu recommendation in the amount of \$0.00; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.

**Roadmaster Report:**

- Quotes have been received to repair the fence at **139 Lisk St** which was damaged from our snow plow this past winter. Supervisor Harter made a motion to repair the fence and accept the quote from Ideal General Contracting in the amount \$1,242.74 providing the Zoning Officer checks the location of the fence to be sure it isn't in our Township Right-of-Ways before it is repaired; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Heckman made a motion to put out for bid to finish paving the section from 950 Snyderstown Rd to the Rt 64 Intersection, Deitrich Rd from Rt 64 to the end, a portion of Hoy Rd between Snyderstown Rd and Rt 64 and Fibermat Madison Avenue and Blue Ball DSA; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Harter made a motion to rescind the motion to put the old golf cart out for bid; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman and approved by all three Supervisors.

**New Business:**

- The Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission through DCED is conducting a **Regional Fire Study** and is asking for the Township's approval. Supervisor Heckman made a motion to sign the Regional Fire Study Agreement; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Harter made a motion to recognize May 16-22, 2021 as **National Emergency Medical Services Week**; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Supervisor Harter made a motion to send a letter to the Bellefonte Area School District that Walker Township is offering to bring the **Rock with Red Raider Logo** on it to Walker Township and place it beside our Appreciation Wall; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.
- Every year Walker Township supports the Bellefonte High School Senior Awards Program with three Walker Township Academic Excellence Awards. Supervisor Harter made a motion starting in 2022 to support one award to a Bellefonte High School senior to be selected by a Walker Township Committee or the Board and support CPI Excellent Awards with 2 students from Walker Township; motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Supervisor Harter made a motion to approve the April 7, 2021 **General Fund Paid Bills** in the amount of \$45,919.92 and the April 2021 **Treasurer's Report**; motion second by Deborah Zimmerman 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 8:13p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Wagner