

**Upper Paxton Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
April 10, 2013**

Those in attendance: Ron Hepner, John Orr and Joseph Snyder, Supervisors; Betty Warfel, Secretary/Treasurer; Peter Howland, Esquire; Steve Erdman, Roadmaster; Joel & Kolt Hunter, Gina Donges, Todd Kissinger, Eugene Fulkroad, Bob Coleman; Students: Kayla Snyder, Dawson Schlegel, Carly Zeigler, Kallee Walker, Nicole Artz, Elijah Shepley, Chelsea Zimmerman, Loagan Leshko, and T. J. Wilson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ron Hepner at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Chairman Hepner welcomed the Social Studies students from Millersburg Area High School. Officials of the township were introduced.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the March 13th monthly meeting and the March 27th workshop meeting were reviewed by the Supervisors. John Orr made a motion to accept the minutes of the March minutes including the correction suggested by Ron Hepner. Second by Joe Snyder. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report: Treasurer Warfel presented a monthly financial statement and list of bills for payment. Following review of the treasurer's report, Ron Hepner made a motion to pay all the Township's bills. Joe Snyder seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

Proposed Revisions to the Open Burning Ordinance: John Orr provided information on Act 38 and DEP regulations regarding prohibition of open burning of plastics. According to DEP regulations, burning of plastics also covers the farming community and prohibits the burning of fertilizer bags. DEP will respond to burning complaints, and if necessary, issue fines. In response to a request that the township provide dumpsters for disposal of fertilizer bags, Supervisors stated that at this point in time they are not prepared to provide a dumpster at the township's expense specifically for use by the farmers for disposal of fertilizer bags. Act 38 does not apply because the ordinance applies to all residents of the township. DEP strongly recommends that farmers not burn plastic fertilizer bags because of the danger that the toxins created are a danger to humans and animals. With respect to securing an additional dumpster for Spring Cleanup Day, it is too late to arrange for an additional dumpster and Waste Management may not accept this much waste at one time. Attorney Howland will prepare revisions to the current Open Burning Ordinance and provide the revisions and legal notice to Secretary Warfel for publication. Chairman Hepner made a motion that we advertise the amendments to the Open Burning Ordinance in the Upper Dauphin Sentinel to be enacted at the May 8, 2013 regular monthly meeting. Second by Joe Snyder. All in favor, motion carried.

Update on Early Bird/Night Owl Land Development Plan: The owners have been informed of the excavating work that will be needed to be granted approval of the plan. This excavation work will be expensive. The owner has expressed no interest in moving ahead with the project at the present time.

Proposed Road Project Packages for 2013: The Board reviewed the bid packages (including estimated costs) prepared by Roadmaster Erdman and Secretary Warfel, as follows:

Lincoln/Fairlane/Parklane Drives - \$71,253; Lenker Dr/Ruby Road - \$14,877; Third St/Center St/ Pearl St/ Berry Mtn. Road – \$80,040; St. David Dr - \$64,244.85; Kahler Rd - \$17,629.35; and Berry Mountain Rd - \$23,626.10. Wage Tax and Liquid Fuels funds will be used to pay for the projects. Prevailing wage rates have been received from the Department of Labor and Industry. Scott Lehman, of PennDot, has reviewed and approved the proposed projects. Todd Kissinger inquired whether any paving work is being planned for South Malta Road. No tar and chip work is being planned for South Malta Road or Paxton Drive this year. Measurements will be taken for the possible use of dust suppressant. Supervisors explained the efforts that they are making to develop a three to five year plan for road work. Joe Snyder made a motion that we advertise the proposed road projects as presented for bid to be awarded at the May 8th monthly meeting. John Orr seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

Renewal of Employee Health Care Plan: Robert Pease has provided further information regarding the renewal of the plan following the workshop meeting. The information was reviewed by the Supervisors and covered employees. Ron Hepner moved that the Board approve the employee health care plan for May 2013 through May 2014. Second by John Orr. All in favor, motion carried.

Update on Obtaining Recycling Bins: Transportation is available to bring the bins from Blair County to the township. Bob Coleman has volunteered to repair the bins on his own time. Joe Snyder expressed his opinion that Supervisors should physically look at the bins before transporting the same to the township property. Chairman Hepner will request photos of the bins for review. If the bins appear to be in adequate condition for use, Supervisors will decide whether to proceed with this project in May.

Paxton Drive Railroad Crossing Study: PennDot has again requested that the Township expend \$6,500 for an engineering study to be done at this railroad crossing. The PUC may have jurisdiction over PennDot with respect to the need for installing crossing signals or gates at the intersection. If the PUC deems it necessary for safety at the crossing, the Township could be required to cover the entire cost. Ron Hepner has taken measurements and photographs to provide to PennDot to support the Township's position that crossing signals and gate do not appear to be necessary at this crossing. PennDot's estimate of the number of vehicles passing through this crossing each day appears to be much higher than is warranted for the number of homes situate on the river side of the crossing. Attorney Howland recommended that the Board contact the PUC about this matter.

Revision of Road Widths in the Township's Ordinance: Supervisors and Attorney Howland proceeded to discuss amending the road widths currently listed in the Township's Ordinance. Road widths outlined in the current ordinance vary from 16' wide to 24' wide depending on whether the roadway contains parking on one or both sides. Attorney Howland advised that the Board could amend the ordinance to lower the widths set forth in the ordinance for roads going forward. If a road that is currently 16' wide is ripped up, it does not have to be rebuilt as 24' wide. Supervisors will review the current ordinance to determine the widths of roads in different areas of the Township in order to prepare an amended ordinance.

New Business:

"Race for Grace": The Board reviewed the proposed route for the 5K Walk/Run scheduled by Grace United Methodist Church. The run will take place on Miller Road, Berrysburg Road, and Lebo Lane. Signage may be needed. John Orr moved that the Board approve the route for the "Race for Grace" scheduled for May 11, 2013. Joe Snyder seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Issues on Paxton Drive: A resident of Paxton Drive has requested that suppressant be used to control the dust problem. Measurements will be taken to determine the length of the roadway to receive treatment. A second matter that has arisen on the Paxton Drive roadway. A resident has removed the stone placed in potholes by the Township's road crew. Roadmaster Erdman will investigate the extent of the disturbance of the roadway further and report back to the Board.

Inquiry regarding Snowplowing: Roadmaster Erdman inquired whether the students present were aware of any snowplowing complaints during the winter season. No comments were received in response to his request.

Public Comments: None

With no further business on the agenda to be discussed, Ron Hepner moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.. Second by John Orr.

Executive Session: Supervisors and Attorney Howland entered into Executive Session in order to discuss personnel matter. Ron Hepner moved to adjourn. Second by John Orr. With all in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Warfel, Secretary