

**Upper Paxton Township Board of Supervisors
Workshop Meeting
September 24, 2014**

Those in attendance: Ron Hepner, John Orr, and Robert Stoner, Supervisors; Luanna Zimmerman, Manager; Betty Warfel, Secretary/Treasurer; and Justin Challenger.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hepner at 9:00 a.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Public Comments: None

Old Business:

1. Justin Challenger, of the Dauphin County Conservation District, attended the meeting to provide information regarding the Township's efforts to obtain a dirt and gravel roads grant for re-lining the pipe on River Road before a contract is executed. Challenger stated that the State Conservation Board and the Penn State Dirt & Gravel Roads Board advised against re-lining the pipe. However, the Quality Assurance Board would be responsible for approving the grant monies based on the project's ranking out of next year's funds. Because the pipe and roadway are dry for most months of the year, the Quality Assurance Board feels that re-lining the pipe is a better option than replacing the pipe. The Township has paid the cost of cleaning the pipe; therefore, this will satisfy the in-kind services portion of the grant application. There will be a change in the criteria for pipe replacement in the coming year. Pipe relocation would not be a viable option due to the amount of effort that would be involved to obtain easements and the considerable riverbank disturbance which would be required. John Orr made a motion that the Board contact Mr. Rehab to find out the pros and cons of waiting for spring installation, and if there are significant negatives, make a determination to do the work as soon as possible. Second by Robert Stoner. With all in favor, motion carried.

2. The Board has received the revised Subdivision Plans for the Aaron and John King property. The plans will need to be reviewed by the Dauphin County Conservation district prior to further review by the Supervisors.

3. Michelle Erdman, a resident of Huntz Drive, contacted the Township office to report that she feels her neighbors have too many animals on their property and alleges that animal cruelty is an issue as well. She has contacted animal control about this situation. Although the neighbor has a fence on the property, Erdman alleges that various types of fowl are flying over and defecating in her yard. Ron Hepner made a site visit to investigate the complaint. Ron was requested to leave the property before the assessment was done. The reported issues will be reviewed to determine if there are any violations of the Township Code and if issuing a citation is warranted. Luanna Zimmerman will contact the Dauphin County Conservation District to have a nutrient management technician perform an assessment of the animals' conditions and determine if a management plan will need to be prepared. John Orr and Bob Stoner will also make a site visit.

New Business:

1. The Board proceeded to discuss ordering salt to replenish the Township's supply for the upcoming winter season. Following review of the current year's contract, John

Orr moved to authorize the road crew to order up to 100 tons of salt to be paid out of the liquid fuels account. Robert Stoner seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

2. Chris McGann, Millersburg Borough Manager, contacted Luanna Zimmerman to inquire whether the Supervisors would be agreeable to having a private individual from Nobody's Cat trap and have stray cats from the Chelton Avenue area spayed or neutered. The surgical cost is covered by vouchers provided by the Humane Society. The cats are then released back into the area. The Township no longer has a contract with the Humane Society. No decision was made at this time.

3. Supervisors reviewed proposed House Bill 1671, which amends Title 65 (Public Officers) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in open meetings, further providing for executive sessions and for penalties. This pertains to public information under the Right-to-Know guidelines. The bill provides that an entire executive session shall be recorded and the agency shall maintain the recording for a period of one year. John Orr moved that the Board send a letter to our State legislators stating the Supervisors' opposition to House Bill 1671. Second by Ron Hepner. All in favor, motion carried.

4. Brian McFeaters, Sewage Enforcement Officer, provided a list of fees for 2015. There is no increase in the cost for his services in the coming year.

5. Supervisors have been invited to attend the Eggs & Issues with the Dauphin County Commissioners to be held October 9th at 8:00 a.m., at the Halifax V.F.W. If planning to attend, RSVP's must be received by October 3rd.

6. The Board has received a Subdivision Plan for Dauphin Meadows. The property will be divided into Lot 1 (containing 23 acres) and Lot 2 (containing 24 acres). Both lots will be listed as agricultural use. The Dauphin County Planning Commission will review this plan next month.

7. Millersburg Borough Manager Chris McGann inquired whether the Township would be willing to share the cost of renting a street sweeper with the Borough in the upcoming year. Ron Hepner will look into the cost and options for renting a sweeper and a determination on this request will be made at a later date.

8. Supervisors reviewed documentation regarding filing an unemployment compensation appeal for Robert Hooper. Following discussion, Robert Stoner made a motion to provide the documentation to Attorney Peter Howland to seek his advice on whether filing an appeal would be worthwhile. If Attorney Howland feels an appeal is warranted, we will send in the documents to appeal the decision. Second by John Orr. All in favor, motion carried.

9. Supervisors discussed whether there is a need to develop a formal complaint policy. In the event that a complaint is received in the Township office, the manager could advise the complainant that this is the policy on record. No decision was made regarding this matter at the current time.

10. Bob Coleman reported that the compost center is reaching capacity. Supervisors granted Manager Zimmerman permission to contact Zaeger Brothers to schedule grinding and removal of the materials in the compost center.

11. John Orr advised that he has prepared a breakdown of the road conditions based on the road study. The Supervisors will meet to prioritize the projects and estimate costs at a future date.

Public Comments: None

With no further business to be discussed, Ron Hepner moved to adjourn the meeting. John Orr seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Warfel,
Secretary