

Upper Paxton Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
April 11, 2012

Those in attendance: Ron Hepner, Joseph Snyder, and John Orr, Supervisors, Betty Warfel, Secretary/Treasurer; Peter Howland, Esquire; Randy Witmer; Students from MHS Social Studies Class: Janelle Hawthorne, Ethan Strauser, Alyssa Frederick, Bailey Sabolsky, Nathan Daniels, Samantha Teats, James Collins, Caleb Oyler, Cory Davis, Logan Brosius, Eric Wynn, Stephanie Witman, Caitlyn Haley, Mitchell Strauser, Eli Grubb, Rachel Kessler, Adelyn Enders, Christian Wenner, Dylan Wire, Rachel Feidt, Christian Mumford, Decker Klawitter, Dillan Wilbert, and Cole Boyer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ron Hepner at 7:00 p.m. For the benefit of the MHS Social Studies students present, Hepner introduced the members of the Board and other township officials present. Hepner explained township functions such as road maintenance and zoning.

Public Comments: None

Minutes of the March 12th Workshop Meeting and the March 14th Regular Monthly Meeting were reviewed. Joe Snyder made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of the March meetings as presented. Second by John Orr. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer Warfel presented a financial statement and list of bills for payment. Following review of the treasurer's report, John Orr made a motion to pay the township's bills. Joe Snyder seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

Update on the Revised Floodplain Ordinance: Chairman Hepner posed the question of whether we can change the proposed revised ordinance to a standalone ordinance. Attorney Howland advised that at this point in time it is too late. The County has already approved the content of proposed ordinance as presented. In order to have it be a stand alone, the ordinance would have to be amended following its enactment. This ordinance will be considered a large scale ordinance; and therefore, property owners that will be affected with not need to be individually notified and their properties will not have to be posted. Newspaper advertisement will provide sufficient notification. The zoning portion will need to be advertised two times and the building portion will be advertised one time. Both sections of the ordinance complement each other. Should two governing bodies interpret a section differently, the Zoning Hearing Board would make the final decision on the issue. Joe Snyder made a motion to advertise the proposed revised Floodplain Ordinance in the Upper Dauphin Sentinel for adoption at the May regular monthly meeting. Ron Hepner seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

Proposed Ordinance to Rezone the Susquehanna River: Attorney Howland has spoken with Jeanine Park of the Dauphin County Planning Commission with respect to rezoning the river water as Conservation District. The islands and shoreline are already zoned. The township's waterline extends from the waterline to the west side of the river. The first step is to have a new map produced showing the river as being zoned Conservation District. Upon receipt and review the map, a simple ordinance rezoning the water as Conservation District can be prepared and adopted. Howland will begin working on this matter.

Proposed Outdoor Burning Ordinance: Attorney Howland has not done further research on this issue. He will proceed with efforts to prepare this proposed ordinance. Chairman Hepner inquired whether the Supervisors could enact a burn ban during dry spells. Dauphin County generally issues a burn ban during periods of dangerously dry conditions. A special meeting could be held for Supervisors to pass a Resolution forbidding outdoor burning during dry conditions.

Damaged Duplex Homes Ordinance: Development of an ordinance to deal with the repair or demolition of damaged homes was discussed. Millersburg Borough has adopted an ordinance requiring residents to tear down or make habitable a damaged home. An ordinance to deal with this issue would outline penalties to stand behind when dealing with violations. Currently, these properties could be dealt with under the township's nuisance ordinance. If the property owner refuses to comply, the township could make necessary repairs and place a municipal lien against the property.

Appointment of Roadmaster: Supervisors have discussed with Stephen Erdman whether he would consider accepting the appointment to the position of Township Roadmaster. Erdman has agreed to accept the appointment. The Board discussed to increase Erdman's hourly wage due to the increased responsibility required by the position. John Orr made a motion to appoint Stephen Erdman as Roadmaster with an increase in hourly wage to match the other members of the road crew. Ron Hepner seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

Awarding Township Paving Projects: Secretary Warfel provided sealed bids received for the Isle of Q Road and Senator Drive projects to be opened and awarded. Isle of Q Road bids: Martin Paving - \$20,652.60; Hammaker's East - \$16,800.00; Keystone Paving - \$20,025.60; and Midland Asphalt Materials, Inc. - \$23,699.20. Senator Drive bids: Meckley's Limestone Products - \$32,418.75; Eastern Industries, Inc. - \$34,875.00. Following discussion, Joe Snyder made a motion to accept Hammaker's East bid of \$16,800.00 for the Isle of Q Road project. Second by John Orr. All in favor, motion carried. Joe Snyder expressed concern over a compaction issue with the work that the road crew is currently doing on Senator Drive. John Orr made a motion to award the Senator Drive project to Meckley's Limestone Products for their bid in the amount of \$32,418.75. Ron Hepner seconded this motion. With all in favor, motion carried. When planning future projects, preparatory work needs to be done in a time span that will allow for adequate compaction prior to paving.

Attorney Howland requested that an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation be held following the regular meeting. John Orr explained to the students purpose of an executive session and the provisions of the Sunshine Law relating to public meetings.

With no further business to be discussed, John Orr made the motion to adjourn. Joe Snyder seconded the motion. With all in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Executive Session:

An Executive session was held to discuss pending litigation. Session ended 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Warfel, Secretary