

February 1, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Foster Township Supervisors was held at the Municipal Building.

Members present: Chairman John Barrett, Vice Chairman, Gene Maley Roadmaster John Carr, Secretary Janet Mitchell, Engineer Dan Cook, Solicitor Ed Brennan.

A copy of the previous meeting minutes was given to Supervisors there were no corrections or additions the Minutes stand approved.

A copy of the bills was given to the Supervisors motion to pay the bills by Carr second by Maley.

PUBLIC COMMENT >>>Eric Eichenberg Chief for Minersville Fire Rescue provide update on call volume for last year. Request permission for a Block shoot March 26, 2023 start time at 1:00. He states contact has been made Reading Anthracite for safety issues, the shoot will be for 5 Hours. Mr. Barrett questions Chief Nettles on the Block shot issues Nettles reports no issues. Brennan asks on distance for the shooting and insurance coverage. Motion by Barrett second by Maley all in favor to authorize the shoot at the hose Company.

ENGINEER REPORT

BBZ Subdivision>>> Solicitor Brennan's office reports the BBZ Phase II Plans have been recorded. Assistance will be given to complete the property transfers.

Covid-19 ARPA PA small Water & Sewer/COVID-19 ARPA H2O PA-water supply>>>The grant has been submitted to DCED.

US Census Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) Map update>>>The Township has received correspondence from the US census for an update to their base mapping. The area shown as "Buck Run" which is listed A census designated Place does not include Lower Beechwood Ave. This was discussed at the Planning Commission Meeting and the board agreed to submit a revised sketch to the Census Bureau to include Lower Beechwood Ave. in the area defined as Buck Run. If the Board agrees we will contact the census Bureau and have this changed.

2021 DCNR Playground Grant>>>>The 2023 DCNR Playground Grant>>>>The 2023 DCNR Grant applications are open and due April 5, 2022. This Grant has been discussed at length on previous occasions, additional information can be supplied. If The township is interested in applying for this grant a resolution would need to be passed by the March 2023 meeting. Barret request information so a decision can be made by the next meeting.

Schuylkill County Municipal Authority Act 537 Plan Update >>>>A copy of SCMA Act 537 Plan has been provided to the Planning Commission and the township supervisors for review and comment. Written comments are due back to SCMA by March 19, 2023. Mr. David Horst from Benesch has offered to attend the February 15, 2023, Planning Commission meeting to discuss the plan.

Decorative Lighting Concept Plan>>>>A decorative Lighting concept plan for the township for review and discussion. A memo outlining the findings, costs and phasing is attached. Once the township has

reviewed, a motion to move forward with the Final design and building phase will be required. Total cost for entire project over one million dollars.

Solar Ordinance>>>>A final draft copy of the revised Solar Ordinance has been provided to Mr. Brennan's Office. Once the stand-alone ordinance is adopted there will be several sections in the Zoning Ordinance that will be in direct conflict of the new solar Ordinance. Recommendation the ordinance be opened for revisions. To conform the sections of the new ordinance.

Property Maintenance Ordinance>> A request to authorize Benesch and Solicitor Brennan's office to review the existing Property Maintenance ordinance dated 2007 and update to the current 2021 version of the International Property Maintenance Code. Motion to authorize the engineer to update the property maintenance ordinance by Carr second Maley all in favor.

Requesting the Township to authorize Benesch and Solicitor Brennan's office to review the existing UCC Building Code dated 2004 and amend 2005 to meet current versions of the code as well as review the building permit schedule last updated 2010.

Foster Township Municipal Authority Chapter 94 Report>>>>PADEP requires that the Foster Township Municipal Authority complete a Chapter 94 Waste load Management Report on an annual Basis. Motion to have Benesch complete the Chapter 94 Report by Carr second Maley all in favor.

Highridge Lot 12>>> A meeting was held with the applicant at Benesch office to discuss the items identified in the letter. The Foster Township Planning Commission issued conditional approval at the January 18, 2023 meeting, conditional on meeting several requirements of the SALDO and meeting several deficient items noted in the Zoning Ordinance.

The Planning Commission recommends to the Board that several sections of the zoning ordinance be updated. If not updated by the township, the applicant would need to file a zoning appeal before the hearing board to meet the necessary conditions of the ordinance. Recommendations to open ordinance for revisions. a Motion was made to grant conditional approval by Barrett second by Maley all in favor

CES BIOGAS>>>>A Pre submission meeting with the applicant was held and copies of the Final Land Development Plan have been received. This will be reviewed at the February 15, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting.

Langen Warehouse>>> No update on this project.

Ryan Development>>>>No Update on this project.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Brennan review the solar ordinance with the input from Alfred Benesch. It has been advertised. A Motion to adopt the Solar Ordinance was made by Barrett second by Maley. Roll call Barret yes, Maley yes, Carr Yes.

Mr. Brennan discussed Highridge Lot 12 and the need to amend the Zoning Ordinance. Motion to have Benesch/Brennan to coordinate or resolve the Zoning issues that surfaced in the presentation to the planning commission on Highridge lot 12, By Barrett second by Carr. Roll Call Barrett yes, Maley yes, Carr Yes.

A discussion was held on SCMA Act 537 Plan which is on view at our office. Discussion on sewage going to Minersville for Reading Development.

A discussion was held on TIF and LERTA issues for development. A meeting will be scheduled with the developers and the school district on a Lerta ordinance.

A discussion was held to abandon the stretch of unopened alleyway from the south side of upper Beechwood Ave., between Richard and Melissa Zula and the property of Joe and Kim Zula.

A motion to authorize Solicitor Brennan to begin paperwork to abandon a proposed alley on the south side of Upper Beechwood between properties on the East Parcel #11-08-0110.035 and 11-02-0117.004 and on the west parcel #11-08-0110.038 and 11.02-00117.003. Motion Barrett second Maley. Roll Call Barrett yes, Maley yes, Carr yes.

Mr. Brennan reports on agreement with Reading Anthracite and CES to subsidize the internet Archaea LLC will be signing the agreement for CES.

Mr. Maley questions SCMA and the 2004 and 2005 agreements. Mr. Brennan explains 2004 agreement was terminated. We had American Water and now M&B Environmental oversee the sewage system, the agreement for bulk rate is still in effect from 2002.

ROADMASTER REPORT

Pump Station Sunbury Road program fixed by Matin's.

Valley Road Pump Station manhole filled with water; problem repaired

Grinder pump turkey road Cleaned.

Plow Truck Impellor was bent it was repaired.

Salt Delivered.

Mr. Maley questions why salt is put on road 12hrs early. Mr. Carr will continue the process that has always been done.

POLICE REPORT

Reminder to have all snow and ice removed from vehicles.

Mental health issues will be revamped was reported at the Chief of police meeting.

Nettles requests to purchase a license plate reader from company-Vigilant Solutions for a price of \$14,925.00. Motion by Barrett second by Maley all in favor to purchase the License Plate Reader.

A discussion was held on seeking of use of body cameras. Barret requests to get Info on the cameras for the next meeting.

Nettles reports 2 theft arrest.

Discussion on increased truck traffic and passing violations on 901.

Discussion on ATV coming out from Sborz Garage.

Complaints of residents pushing snow on or across the road after plowing.

A motion was made by Barrett second by Maley to authorize Chief Nettles to utilize the Township Building to facilitate a Police training workshop On March 3,4,5. All in favor.

Mr. Maley questions on equipment needed for accidents recommended by homeland Security. Nettles reports how gas masks could help Barrett explains how the county had a handle on all issues during the accidents.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Maley reconsider on motion for PLIGIT deferred until contact with Ed Jones Financial to contact a adviser on rates and thinks it is a disservice to the township to have all money in FNCB.

A discussion was held with Mr. Brennan and Benesch to update the Mansion. Maley suggests calling owner to make an offer on property. Motion to proceed to refer it to the Blighted Property Committee by Barrett second Carr all in favor then Defer to the redevelopment property for condemnation. Motion to have Mr. Brennan to contact the owner to make an offer for the Mansion Property by Barrett second Maley second Carr

A discussion was held on the Haney and Hosmer properties preparing them for sale. Brennan to have Holden update the appraisals. Possible sale for April or May.

NEW BUSINESS

A discussion was held on the Schuylkill Chamber Energy Renewal Information for a PP&L contract. Motion to continue to purchase electricity through the Schuylkill Chamber for the next 3 years, authorize the township official to sign the agreement concerning price per Kilowatt by Barrett second Carr all in favor.

Spring Clean-up set for April 15, 2023.

Fall Clean-up set for October 21, 2023.

PUBLIC Q&A SESSION

Discussion on update on internet Mr. Barrett states heating and cooling has been set up in the prefab building. PPL will be contacted. Discussion to go over I-81 to pick-up other customers. Reports equipment still on back order.

Elaina Antonelli holds a discussion on Valley Road request more street lights needed by turn. Complains of dirt on road from Reading Anthracite and start time before 7:00 A.M. Chief Nettles was asked to check Valley Road for dirt issues. Solicitor Brennan will contact lawyer for Reading Jason Kelso. Zoning issues discussed. Brennan suggests Zoning officers be contacted.

Discussion on timbering starting before 7.

Mr. Burmeister reports timber operation is 24-7.

Diane Frank questions if Timber operation will need to plant more trees. Mr. Brennan explains the difference between Mining and Agriculture and reports they will not need to replant trees.

Motion to adjourn by Carr second Maley.