

April 03, 2023

The East Lampeter Township Board of Supervisors met on Monday, April 03, 2023, 7:30 pm at the East Lampeter Township Office: 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602. The statement of recorded meetings was played for all in attendance. Chairman John Blowers called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. In addition to Mr. John Blowers, Supervisors present were Mr. Corey Meyer, Mr. Ethan Demme and Mr. Mike Thornton. Mr. Roger Rutt was absent from the meeting. Also present in the meeting room was Mr. Ralph M. Hutchison, Township Manager.

The meeting was also held using Zoom, an internet web conferencing tool. A recorded statement was played regarding the use of Zoom for this public meeting which included instructions for the public to use in order to participate in the meeting via zoom.

Public Present in Public Meeting Room:

Brenden Curry – LNP
Steve Zerbe – ELTPD
Donna Gribble – Ronks Fire Company
Maggie Gribble - Ronks Fire Company
John King - Ronks Fire Company
Marvin Beiler - Ronks Fire Company
Raymond Workman Jr. - Ronks Fire Company.
Kim Herskovitz - Lafayette Fire Company
Tara Waltman – Sejia Trauma Canine Family
Pam and Vic Amano – Sejia Trauma Canine ELTPD
Julia and Warren Hoak – Witmer Fire Company
Dakota Hoak - Witmer Fire Company
David S. Beiler – Millcreek Fence
John Keyhor
James Paulding – Dutch Wonderland
Rex Clark – CSE / Dutch Wonderland
Austin Kling – Witmer Fire Company
Reuban Lapp – Witmer Fire Company
Dave Gribble – Ronks Fire Company

Also, In attendance via Zoom:

None

Public Comment for Non-Agenda items:

None

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of the April 3, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting agenda
- b. Approval of the Minutes of the Monday, March 20, 2023 Regular Meeting
- c. Approval to pay invoices from all funds: Total: \$290,490.08

Of the funds, Mr. Blowers stated that \$17,776.00 was given to the County Drug Task Force for the 2023 contribution.

Motion made by Corey Meyer to approve the Consent Agenda which was seconded by Ethan Demme and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Volunteer Fire Service Recognitions

Chairman John Blowers stated that East Lampeter Township is fortunate to have four volunteer fire companies, some of which are well over 100 years old. East Lampeter Township maintains a very healthy, volunteer group of individuals in the community that support these four fire companies. Each year, the fire companies recognizes a member from each one of their companies. John Blowers and Michael Thornton handed plaques and clocks to the following individuals:

Gerald Petersheim – Hand in Hand Fire Company (absent from meeting)
Kim Herskowitz – Lafayette Fire Company
Raymond Workman Jr. – Ronks Fire Company
Dakota Hoak – Witmer Fire Company

Chairman Blowers thanked the firefighters for their service and told them that we all are grateful and he thanked them for their time and their efforts.

Three firefighters were recognized for 25 years of service. They were handed plaques and their names will also be added to the plaques in the Township's lobby. Chairman Blowers stated that we appreciate all that they do, thanked them for their service and said that the community is well served.

John S. King – Ronks Fire Company
Marvin Beiler – Ronks Fire Company
Lonnie Kaufman – Hand in Hand Fire Company (absent from meeting)

Swearing in of Trauma Canine - Seija

The Chief of Police, Stephen Zerbe lead with the history of how the Township came to have Police Trauma Canine Seija. The trauma dog program was the idea of Sabina Mattern and her non-profit organization, Alpha Pack Veteran K9s Unleashed. Ms. Mattern had the idea and started the trauma dog program in Lancaster County. The opportunity came to East Lampeter as well as several of the other police departments in the county that now have trauma dogs in training. Seija was introduced as well as her handler, Detective Heather Waltman for the first ever swearing in of a trauma dog. Chief Zerbe read the swearing in oath and took her paw print since she obviously can't speak. "I, Seija, being duly appointed police dog of East Lampeter Township in Lancaster County Pennsylvania do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States, the constitutional laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the ordinances of East Lampeter Township. That I will serve its citizen's honestly, faithfully by discharging the duties of my office with honor and integrity. I will perform all my duties as a police dog in accordance with the law. I will obey orders and conduct myself at all times in accordance of the rules and regulations set forth by the department. I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without any consideration of class, color, greed, condition, race, sex, age, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, handicap or disability. Never deploying unnecessary force or violence and never excepting gratuities, except the occasional treat..." Chief Zerbe described the duties Seija will be performing after she is fully trained. She will be trained to offer emotional support to officers, township employees and citizens. Seija's siblings that were present were introduced as well as their handlers.

Chief Zerbe also announced that the department received a plaque from the Crisis Prevention Team recognizing ELTPC for their use in providing resources for people in crisis. There were approximately 1200 calls in 2022 in Lancaster County that were crisis related calls and approximately 450 data sheets of those calls were when officers connected citizens with services the county can provide. Approximately 135 of the 450 were from East Lampeter Township Police Department, the most out of any of the other department in the county. A plaque was presented to the Police Department for the efforts of the officers to get those in need the help available.

Old Business:

- a. Request for Release of Financial Security: Phase 1A Devon Creek Land Development Plan Sanitary Sewer site improvements.

Mr. Hutchison stated that certain improvements required in that phase of Devon Creek have been completed and inspected by the sewer authorities engineer who provided a letter recommending the release of the financial security funds that have been held for those improvements. The amount released will be \$18,536.00 with a remaining balance of \$0.

Motion made by Michael Thornton to release the financial security funds for Phase 1A of the Devon Creek Land Development Plan Sanitary Site Improvements which was seconded by Corey Meyer and unanimously approved by voice vote.

- b. Request for Release of Financial security: Crills Subdivision Plan #2016-25 – 2009 Meadow Ridge Road

There was a recommended reduction of \$2000.00 leaving a \$0 balance. Mr. Hutchison stated that the engineer did also recommend that some clean-up work needs to be done around the inlet box so he asks that the board condition the release upon that work being completed.

Motion made by Corey Meyer for escrow reduction request #3 for Crills Subdivision Plan #2016-25 – 2009 Meadow Ridge Road with full release with the condition stated in the DMA letter to clean the inlet area which was seconded by Michael Thornton and unanimously approved by voice vote.

- c. Request for Reinstatement and Time Extension to record conditionally approved plan #2021 – 17: Greenfield North Land Development

A time extension request was submitted to extend the project until May 31, 2023 instead of March 31, 2023. Mr. Hutchison explained that the prior time extension had expired which is why a reinstatement is needed. They ask that all the conditions that have been set previously would continue. Motion made by Ethan Demme to approve the request for reinstatement and time extension for the approved plan #2021–17: Greenfield North Land Development for 60 days conditioned on all the previously approved conditions which was seconded by Michael Thornton and unanimously approved by voice vote.

New Business:

- a. Resolution re DEP Sewer Planning Module for 458 Mt. Sidney Road Subdivision

Motion made by Michael Thornton to adopt the resolution regarding the PA DEP sewer planning module for the 458 Mt. Sidney Road Subdivision which was seconded by Corey Meyer and unanimously approved by voice vote.

- b. Request for Time Extension for Township Review and Action – Stoltzfus Subdivision Plan #2023-01: 324 Willow Street

A letter from Strausser Engineering requested an extension for Township review and action for Stoltzfus Subdivision Plan #2023-01: 324 Willow Road for 60 days. Motion made by Corey Meyer to approve request for time extension for Township review and action – Stoltzfus Subdivision Plan #23-01: 324 Willow Road for 60 days which was seconded by Ethan Demme and unanimously approved by voice vote.

- c. Dutch Wonderland Stormwater Management Plan #23-02: Penley’s Pub

Chairman Blowers noted that a review letter has been received from the Township Engineering. Rex Clark of Clark Engineering was present with James Paulding, General Manager of Dutch Wonderland to represent the plan. Mr. Clark noted that they received the letter and addressed every item with the exception of the letter of credit. Mr. Clark noted that there were not remaining issues for the applicant. Mr. Paulding indicated that they opened on Saturday, which was the earliest opening they have ever had.

Motion by Michael Thornton to approve the Stormwater Management Plan #2023-02 subject to the comments in the David Miller Associates review letter March 23, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Meyer with unanimous approval via voice vote.

Action Items:

- a. Resolution re Submission of Grant Application to DCNR re Lancaster Heritage Pathway

Mr. Hutchison noted that the Board heard the presentation of the Lancaster Heritage Pathway extension from the Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences to the east to the Township line. Cost of improvements is over \$2.8 M with the Township match provided by the portion of the pathway being constructed currently by PennDOT which is over \$3.1 M. Applications due April 5, 2023 and will be assisted through consultant YSM, Ann Yost who presented last meeting. Asking the Board to authorize the grant application submission.

Motion by Michael Thornton to adopt the resolution needed for the grant submission to PA DCNR for the Lancaster Heritage Pathway. Motion was seconded by Corey Meyer with all voting in favor via voice vote.

- b. Resolution re Opioid Participation

Mr. Hutchison noted this is the second request that has come through from the County. This will allow the maximum amount of settlement dollars to the County. Should the Township not wish to join the County, the Township could enter into their own law suit. Mr. Hutchison noted that there is a typo in Lampeter which will be fixed. These funds will not be dispersed to the Township, but will be used for drug prevention through County programs.

Motion by Corey Meyer to approve the resolution for Opioid Settlement Participation. The motion was seconded by Ethan Demme with all voting in favor via voice vote.

Manager’s Report:

- a. Discussion re OPEB Funding

Mr. Hutchison prepared a memo regarding the OPEB funding and provided copies of the actuarial evaluations on both the Police and Non-Uniform side regarding the anticipated expense will be to the Township for the Other Post Employment Benefits, essentially health insurance benefits through age 65.

Over the years the Board has deposited funds into a separate OPEB account which has accumulated to over \$2 M. Based on the actuarial results the Police would be \$1.8 M and Non-Uniform would be over \$900,000. The fund originally was developed to address the anticipated Police expense, recommendation would be that funds in there would be for Police expenses. The excess OPEB funds could be returned to the general fund. Some of those would need to be returned to Upper Leacock Township as they have been assisting in contributions as well for the Police. This would leave the Township funding the Non-Uniform employees on a pay as you go basis through the general and sewer funds. Based on demographics of that group it would be one or two employees at any one time that would qualify. Mr. Hutchison indicated that he would suggest setting up a trust for the OPEB funds that remain to earn all that can be, but not put all the funds in there to help cover the costs forthcoming. The actuary methods are very conservative and Mr. Hutchison noted that it's unlikely to have 70% of both groups qualify and use the benefit. At this time, no new employees are eligible for the OPEB benefit. If there are any funds at that time in the future, those funds would come back to the general fund with some percentage going back to Upper Leacock Township. Mr. Thornton noted that in 26 more year there will no longer be an obligation for OPEB. Mr. Demme noted that if a trust is set up, and we reach the 26 years, then the funds come back in cash to the general fund less Upper Leacock Townships contributions. Mr. Meyer noted a trust board would need to be formed. Mr. Hutchison noted that no current police officers and no current board members can be part of the trust board. Mr. Blowers noted that both combined we would need \$2.7 M and we have \$2 M. Noting this, the Non-Uniformed would come out of the general fund in a pay as you go system. Mr. Thornton questioned if a future contract could change this situation and would look to have the trust written in a way that if this happened. Mr. Hutchison noted that theoretically it could change but the trust would be written to cover those that qualify for other post employment benefits. Mr. Hutchison noted that currently there are no members being paid through OPEB. Mr. Demme questioned if the Upper Leacock Township contributions have gone just to Police, Mr. Hutchison noted that is correct. Mr. Demme noted that he read the actuarial report and wasn't impressed as he read others as well. Actuarial recommendation is an update every two years but because of the number of people we have, we could modify the report and specify alternative methodologies. Mr. Demme noted that he believes a trust should be set up at some cost less then actuarial notes and take remainder and return some to Upper Leacock Township and use to set up a Non-Uniform fund. Mr. Blowers summarized that what Mr. Demme is suggesting is that there remain an OPEB for Police continued, make a Non-Uniform OPEB fund, form a trust for OPEB funds to earn more through the trust so that the Township doesn't end up with \$2 M in the trust with no liability. There was general discussion about having a Non-Uniform OPEB and trust for Police OPEB funds. Mr. Meyer noted that some of the variables in the actuarial report is extremely conservative, changing one of these would result in a significant difference. Mr. Meyer noted that Mr. Demme's point of budgeting a little for Non-Uniform now is a good idea. Mr. Blowers noted he is leaning that way as well to keep something out there for all future boards to see that planning was done for these benefits. Mr. Hutchison indicated that the Township has been through a number of retirees that have been eligible but they have not used the OPEB mainly because they have obtained other employment after retirement from the Township which provides health care benefits. Mr. Hutchison provided a detailed process for the step needed for a separate OPEB for Non-Uniform and Trust process and the amounts for each and get back to the Board.

b. Review of Mount Sydney Road pedestrian analysis

At the last Board meeting this analysis was discussed peripherally with the 458 Mount Sidney Road project. Mr. Hutchison wished to go into a little more detail regarding the full analysis in regards to the other two intersections that were studied. Stumptown is another opportunity. Southview is a more challenging intersection however there may be an alternative to this area if Witmer Fire Company would be willing to allow pedestrians through the parking area over to Sue Ann. Mr. Hutchison noted that more information would need to be gathered to determine where on the parking lot and how. A map of the sidewalk deferrals was provided to the Board for reference. Discussion was had about the residential

development not having been developed with sidewalks. Mr. Demme provided that walking through the fire company property is a good idea. Mr. Blowers indicated he liked this idea as well. Mr. Keylor provided that he lives on the corner of Stumptown and Mount Sidney. Mr. Demme noted that the intersection of Sue Ann and Mount Sidney was approved by the Board with the 458 Mount Sidney development. The next recommendation from the traffic engineer would be at Stumptown and Mount Sidney which would involve at least ramps and signed crossings with piano keys on the north side of the intersection. Mr. Keylor noted that many people walk in the neighborhood and provided that Mount Sidney is hard to walk on. Mr. Keylor had a few questions about the improvements at Sue Ann and Mount Sidney. Mr. Blowers went over the improvements that were approved previously with the 458 Mount Sidney Road development. Mr. Hutchison noted that the improvements at Stumptown would be ramp and landing area to cross Mount Sidney Road. Mr. Keylor noted that at times there are traffic issues with the school, but that will change going to a grade school. As parents wish to pick up kids, cars are lining up and double stacking. Mr. Thornton noted that there is now a one way through the driveway on the school property. Mr. Keylor thanked the Board. Mr. Hutchison questioned if he should start a conversation with Witmer Fire Company, the Board indicated yes. Mr. Hutchison questioned if the Board wished for staff to move forward with the crossing at Stumptown and Mount Sidney as well. Mr. Demme suggested that this be revisited once the crossing is installed at Sue Ann and Mount Sidney to see if there are any differences in traffic speed. Mr. Hutchison also noted that he'd like to send a letter to PennDOT to paint the white lines at 10 foot lanes rather than where they are now, this would require a motion.

Motion by Ethan Demme and second by Corey Meyer with all voting in favor to have staff send a letter to PennDOT requesting that the lines be painted to provide a ten foot cartway on Mount Sidney Road.

Public Comments

Mr. David Beiler noted that something must be done to Mount Sidney Road as school buses take up the entire area and there will not be room for walkers and bikes.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Mr. Meyer and a second by Mr. Thornton with all voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm. The next Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 7:30 pm in the East Lampeter Township Office, 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA, 17602 and via ZOOM, check the Township website at www.eastlampetertownship.org for more information.

Respectfully submitted,
Ralph M. Hutchison
Township Manager