

DERRY TOWNSHIP REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

The Derry Township Board of Supervisors held its Regular Monthly Meeting, Monday, July 1, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., Township Municipal Building, 73 Reserve Lane, Lewistown.

Present: Chairman	Ronald E. Napikoski, Jr.
Vice-Chairman	Donald R. Warntz, II
Supervisor	John T. Sipe
Solicitor	Timothy Searer, Esq.
Manager	Kelly J. Shutes
Roadmaster	Justin Allen
Zoning Officer	Chris Dobson

R. Napikoski called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

J. Sipe made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Monday, June 17, 2024 meeting. D. Warntz seconded the motion. Motion carried 3 - 0.

SOLICITOR:

Ashley has prepared the overtime policy that includes holiday, vacation and personal time towards actual time worked to determine overtime rates. The Manager asked if the Board would like her to review the entire personnel policy as it has not been updated for some time. They indicated that they would.

VISITORS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeff Copenhaver, Circle Lane, commented that a heavy thunderstorm over the weekend caused the private Circle Lane to wash out. He said that the storm swale that was constructed by the Township cannot handle the heavy rains as it did when first built. Our Roadmaster said that Circle Lane has not been maintained with stone to keep it from eroding and washing into the stormwater swale. He indicated that another storm drain at the top may help the situation. The Board said that we can have our Engineer take a look and see if there is anything we can do. Mr. Copenhaver was reminded that the swale was only constructed to handle 10-year events.

Several residents of Pleasant Acres West made comments regarding the pending decision on the Conditional Use Hearing held May 28, 2024 for the Pleasant Acres West – 16th Addition Land Development. Randy Satzler asked if the Township was confident that the stormwater work will be able to remain within the easements already in place on the property. The Board answered that the plans submitted show that they are sufficient, and our Township Engineer indicated that it can be constructed within the easements. If it is found they cannot, additional easements will need to be procured. Richard Stomackin asked if the types of plantings are indicated on the plans and noted he is concerned about the safety issues surrounding having only one entrance and exit in the development. He also stated his concern that the new development will alter the character of the neighborhood. The Chairman assured them that many of these issues will be reviewed during a new land development submission by the developer.

ZONING OFFICER:

Chris Dobson stated that he has observed new items being placed on the Cody Hunter property. Chris presented a quote from Mike's Landscaping to clean up the property, haul away junk and trash, remove sheds, fill in foundation, regrade and plant grass at a cost of \$11,960. Discussion followed on who is responsible for the property after it is cleaned up. The Solicitor said that Mr. Hunter would be presented with the bill for the cleanup and if he does not pay, we would have to file a new citation to get him to pay. The Manager asked our Solicitor if there are any other remedies that can be instituted that would avoid this

cost. He said that we can have the Sheriff conduct a sale of Mr. & Mrs. Hunter's personal property to recoup the Township's costs for cleanup or force a Sheriff Sale of the real estate. The Board asked the Zoning Officer to seek another quote for cleanup of the property.

ROAD REPORT:

The Roadmaster reported that the alleys in Highland Park have been milled and will be ready for paving as long as the weather remains good. He presented reports from the Solar Speed signs that were located in South Hills and Dry Valley Road. Both reports indicate that the majority of motorists stayed at or slightly below the posted Speed Limit over a 90-day period. There were a couple of high readings. The signs will now be placed on Ewardtown Road and Ort Valley Road as requested by local residents of those neighborhoods.

OLD BUSINESS:

R. Napikoski stepped from the Chair to make a motion to approve the Juniata Valley Group, Pleasant Acres West – 16th Addition Conditional Use Decision as drafted. D. Warntz seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: D. Warntz, Aye, R. Napikoski, Aye., J. Sipe, Nay. Motion carried 2 - 1. Mr. Napikoski read the list of conditions placed on the development from the Decision. All the Party Objectors are entitled to a copy of the Decision and may pick up at the Township office or request to have them mailed or emailed. All others should fill out a Right-To-Know form to obtain a copy.

NEW BUSINESS:

J. Sipe made a motion to direct the Township Manager to move \$500,000 from the General Fund to the Kish Bank Money Market account to get better interest rates. D. Warntz seconded the motion. Motion carried 3 - 0.

D. Warntz made a motion to place a donation box at Kish Park to solicit funds for construction of a new Mini Golf course. J. Sipe seconded the motion. Motion carried 3 - 0.

The Chairman acknowledge that the Board has received a letter from Lauren Grego making her concerns known about the proposed Land Development plan at Pleasant Acres West – 16th Addition. He noted that all comments were taken into account when making the Conditional Use decision.

J. Sipe made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-9 authorizing the Manager to execute the Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement with PennDOT that is a requirement of the ARLE Grant agreement. D. Warntz seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: D. Warntz, aye, R. Napikoski, Aye., J. Sipe, aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

J. Sipe made a motion to accept the resignation of Margaret Stewart from the Derry Township Zoning Board effective June 28, 2024. D. Warntz seconded the motion expressing his regret and thanked Mrs. Stewart for her many services provided to Derry Township throughout the years. Motion carried 3 - 0.

D. Warntz made a motion to approve the Park Use Application for the United Way Day of Caring being held on September 17 & 18, 2024, noting that a valid Certificate of Insurance is still needed. J. Sipe seconded the motion. Motion carried 3 - 0.

The office received a report about a gentleman bringing an aggressive dog to the Dog Park. The lady reported that his Boxer attacked her smaller dog and she had to intervene to get them apart. Others

have reported they have similar instances with his dog being aggressive. The Board suggested that he be contacted and asked not to bring the dog back to the Dog Park since he has exhibited aggressive behavior on more than one instance.

FYI

A letter was received from PennDOT regarding two school flashing signals, one at the East Derry Elementary School and the other at the Mifflin Co. Academy. The Roadmaster noted that the East Derry light was replaced less than four years ago. There should not be any problems with it. The Academy light is old and probably does need replaced. The Manager will reply to the letter and find out what PennDOT requires.

The Township Manager applied for a GIANT-Healing the Planet grant in the amount of \$4,000 to be used to plant between 16 – 20 trees at Kish Park. Awards will be announced in August 2024.

The Township Manager will be speaking with Betsy Lockwood, SEDA-COG, regarding procuring an ARC Grant for the Nolan Drive Bridge project.


The 2024 County Liquid Fuels allocation will be \$9,019.

Capital Blue Cross Vision insurance will remain the same premium as last year.

Chairman Napikoski made a motion to enter into an executive session at 6:10 p.m. regarding possible litigation. D. Warntz seconded the motion. Motion carried 3 – 0.

Executive session ended at 6:45 p.m. and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by D. Warntz and seconded by J. Sipe at 6:45 p.m.

DERRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


Kelly J. Shutes,
Township Manager