

Swatara Township
Minutes
March 9, 2023

Chairman Kreitzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisors in attendance were Richard Kreitzer and Dean Patches. William Bering, Jr. was absent. Also in attendance were Attorney, Colleen Gallo; Engineer, Kevin Fox; six (6) residents and a reporter.

Public Comments

Mr. & Mrs. Smith – 10 Dead End Road – inquired about the status of the construction of the new portion of Swatara Road. They wanted to voice their opposition to the closing of Dead End Road at Greble. Their concern is that the closing of Dead End Road will delay fire equipment and ambulances should they be needed in the future.

Mrs. Miller – 8 Dead End Road – also stated that she doesn't want the road to be closed. She asked why the farm doesn't add a new driveway out to Greble Road? Before construction begins, they wanted to voice their opposition.

Supervisor Patches noted that the draft Comprehensive Plan includes a map of current and pending farmland preservation areas. The farm at the end of Dead End Road is included as pending. The Township will research this because a road most likely would not be allowed to be constructed through a farm that is preserved.

Zoning / Code Enforcement

4 Zoning Permits were issued in February.

6 Cherry Lane – extension until April 13th.

5 Groy Avenue – is up to date with their account.

587 N. Lancaster Street – the tenants have been evicted and the property owners are beginning the clean-up.

5 Monroe Avenue – Court decision was issued in favor of the Township.

7 Elm Street – Property owners are working with Light-Heigel to replace the home.

191 Moore Road – The Court gave the owners until Monday, March 13th to complete the cleanup

208 Lighthouse Drive – A court date will be set.

40 Clover Lane – An extension was granted for plans to be submitted no later than March 29th.

19 Birch Street – The Board requested that Atty. Gallo send a last chance letter regarding the cleanup of this property.

Meeting Minutes

Supervisor Patches moved to approve the February 9th Meeting Minutes and February 22nd Workshop. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried.

February 2023 Financial Reports

Supervisor Kreitzer moved to approve the February 2023 Financial Reports. Seconded by Supervisor Patches. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Bills Payable

Supervisor Kreitzer moved to approve the bills payable list totaling \$83,364.14 from the M/R Sewer and General Funds. Seconded by Supervisor Patches. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Planning Commission – Dean Patches

The first draft of the Comprehensive Plan was reviewed. Discussion was held as to how the Township should handle stormwater management in large developments in the future, as this has not been addressed in the new stormwater ordinance. He asked if the engineer and solicitor could be allowed to attend the April Planning Commission meeting so this matter could be discussed in detail.

Supervisor Kreitzer moved to authorize the attendance of Atty. Gallo and Engineer, Kevin Fox at the April 6th Planning Commission Meeting. Seconded by Supervisor Patches. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Recreation Board Report – Dean Patches

Planning continues for the August 26th Event. The Recreation Board is seeking bands and a dessert truck.

Township Report – Jennifer Harding

In the past month, the Road Crew trimmed and removed trees, cleaned inlets and swales, performed equipment and building maintenance and repaired potholes. Next month they will begin replacing pipes and continue trimming trees.

An estimate for pipe was reviewed.

Supervisor Patches moved to authorize the purchase of pipe from Fast Supply in the amount of \$8,065.40. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried

Stormwater Management – Kevin Fox

Two projects were submitted and both were exempt from installing stormwater facilities.

Communications:

PSATS sent notification that they will be requesting change to the by-laws at the Conference to increase dues by 3%.

Cleona Borough report until March 1, 2023

Northern Lebanon County Authority Minutes from January 24, 2023

Life Lion Ambulance Report for January 2023

OLD BUSINESS

Mill Street Heights Swale Project

Letters have been sent to the four property owners that have not contacted the Township about the reimbursement for the swale repair. A maintenance easement agreement has been established for 252 E. Chestnut Street. Mr. Fox has been in contact with the contractor and they will be adding additional stone to the swale area at 252 E. Chestnut Street.

Comprehensive Plan

Supervisor Patches provided highlights of the draft Comprehensive Plan. The plan is designed to promote the rural nature of Swatara Township. It recognizes the need to deny

rezoning requests in order to meet that goal. Also noted that while sampling farmers, they stated that they have been declining requests to sell for various development options. A note was made that a reference to Pine Ridge Village formerly being farmland needs to be corrected.

Cemetery Road Stormwater – Ronald Myer

Mr. Meyer is requesting a letter stating that once he has installed the stormwater facilities then he has met the requirements of the plan. The Township's policy is to have the facilities inspected once installed and they are functioning, they can be signed off. The inspection report will be provided to Mr. Myer upon completion of the installation. Mr. Myer inquired if Cemetery Road would be paved. He also commended the road crew for their efforts maintaining Cemetery Road.

Roadside Spraying Quote – Tabled

TCC Alternate Representative

The other municipalities in the Northern Lebanon School District are also in the process of putting forth names for consideration.

Ag Security Update Resolution #2023-05

Supervisor Patches moved to adopt Resolution #2023-05 and have it recorded for the inclusion of .39 acres owned by Harold and Dawn Eisenhauer in Ag Security. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Food Waste Regulations

The Conservation will be performing an inspection to confirm that the food waste applications are in compliance with the plan.

Stormwater Ordinance #2023-01

Attorney Gallo stated that this Ordinance has been properly advertised for adoption.

Supervisor Patches moved to adopt Ordinance #2023-01 updating the stormwater management requirements. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Bunker Hill Fire Company Equipment Planning

Supervisor Kreitzer provided an update on the new EPA emission requirements that will be put in place for 2026 and the impact it will have on truck engines, including fire trucks.

NEW BUSINESS

Paving Packet for Advertising

A bid packet has been prepared for the paving of N. Mill Street from SR 22 to Mowery Road.

Supervisor Patches moved to advertise the paving packet for N. Mill Street. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Road Maintenance

A request had been made to look into prices for Oil and Chipping of other Township Roads.

Supervisor Kreitzer moved to prepare bid packets for the Double Chip Seal of Hain Avenue and Old State Road and to work with Bethel Township for the Oil and Chipping of the portion of Sunset Drive in Swatara Township. Seconded by Supervisor Patches. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Local Government Week Resolution #2023-06

Supervisor Kreitzer moved to sign Resolution #2023-06 allowing Swatara Township to participate in Local Government Week April 10-14. Seconded by Supervisor Patches. All voted in favor; motion carried.

The Township will be hosting an Open House on Wednesday, April 12th from 10am – 2pm and cake will be provided at the Township Meeting on April 13th.

Home Based Businesses Ordinance Regulations

Attorney Gallo brought to the Supervisors attention a potential conflict between the Zoning Ordinance, Ag section and Conditional Use section pertaining to Home Based Businesses. The information will be reviewed.

Sale of Township Equipment

With the arrival of the 47X Western Star, the 1998 GMC will be advertised for sealed bids. Also, to be listed for sale will be an engine hoist, jack, lawn cart and miscellaneous hand tools.

Supervisor Kreitzer moved to advertise the sale of the GMC with plow and spreader, engine hoist, jack, lawn cart and a list of hand tools in Lancaster Farming and the Lebanon Daily News. Seconded by Supervisor Patches. All voted in favor; motion carried.

2023-24 Salt Contract

Supervisor Patches moved to participate in the 2023-24 CoStars Salt Contract for 200 tons. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried.

County Liquid Fuels Funding

Supervisor Patches moved to submit application to Lebanon County for Liquid Fuels funds to be used for line painting. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Appointment of Barley Snyder as Legal Counsel Effective 1 April 2023

Atty. Gallo stated that the merger will be in name only as the building, staff and fees will remain the same.

Supervisor Patches made a motion to appoint Barley Snyder as legal counsel due to the merging of firms effective April 1st, 2023. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Mark Tayler inquired who is responsible for Grace Avenue as there are no speed limit signs from Horst Drive south to the Township Line in the southbound lane. This will be reported to PennDot.

Solicitor's Report – nothing further to report.

Engineer's Report – nothing further to report.

An Executive Session was not needed.

Adjournment

Supervisor Patches moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Seconded by Supervisor Kreitzer. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Harding