

**ATTENDANCE:**

BOARD	Elliot Abrams, Chair Bryce Boyer, Vice-Chair Jeff Luck, Supervisor Walt Wise, Supervisor
STAFF	Doug Erickson, Township Manager Brent Brubaker, Township Engineer Lawrence Pegher, Finance Director Betsy Dupuis, Solicitor Eric Vorwald, Planner Susan Wheeler, RAC/ PW Project Manager
ABSENT	George Downsborough, Jr., Supervisor John Petrick, Chief of Police
AUDIENCE	C-NET (3) Cindy Solic, RAC Ann Taylor, RAC Rich Koch, RAC Jeremy Hartley, CDT

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The July 15, 2015 Patton Township Board of Supervisors meeting held at the Township Municipal Building was called to order at 7:00PM by Chair Elliot Abrams.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Boyer moved to approve the June 17, 2015 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Luck, the motion passed 3-0.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**4. PUBLIC SAFETY**

**a. Police Update**

Sergeant Shupenko stated that a copy of the June 2015 Public Safety Report was included with the agenda materials. He stated that there was a drop in service due to school not being in session, a decrease in Part I crimes due to a decrease of retail thefts and an increase of Part II crimes due to an increase of DUI arrests.

**Mr. Wise arrived at 7:04 PM.**

**5. PUBLIC WORKS**

**a. Township Parks Plan**

Mr. Erickson stated that the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) has been working since last fall to update the Township's long-range Parks Plan. The Committee recently concluded their work and forward the Final Draft Patton Township Parks Plan 2015 – 2024 to the Board of Supervisors for review and possible adoption.

5. **PUBLIC WORKS (Continued)**

a. **Township Parks Plan (Continued)**

The intent of the Plan is stated in the opening paragraph:

This plan constitutes the formally adopted Parks Plan of the Township of Patton, Centre County, Pennsylvania ("Parks Plan"). The Parks Plan examines current and future needs for parks and recreation facilities and makes recommendations for development, land acquisition, and design standards. It is the objective of the Township to provide recreational opportunities

for all age groups throughout the year, and the Parks Plan provides the mechanism for meeting this objective.

Additionally, the Township can only require parkland dedication from developers with the adoption of such a plan (Section 503(II) of the Municipalities Planning Code.)

As the Township has done previously in 2004 and 2009, the RAC surveyed residents to gauge their opinion on Township parks and what new facilities are desired. The results of the 2014 survey align well with the previous efforts. See Chapter 5 and the Appendices for additional survey information and results.

The full text of the Plan's Conclusions and Recommendations is found in the Plan, and has been extracted as a single sheet and was included with the agenda materials. In summary the RAC finds and recommends:

Patton Township has an adequate amount of parkland with its current inventory, but the bicycle/pedestrian path system should be expanded.

Bicycle/pedestrian paths should be considered "linear parks" and their development should be included in the Parks Fund, with project priority as established in the Township's Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Plan

Engineering design for Gray's Woods Park should start in 2015, and with Grant funding construction would begin in 2017.

The Bernel Road Park Phase II Master Plan should be re-examined as the Regional Parks are built. Phase II playfields may not be required to satisfy the regional need for fields. A review of the Master Plan should be made in 2016.

The demographic of residents surveyed aged 60 years or older has increased from 13% to 30% of the Patton Township population from 2004 to 2014. Park improvements must meet the recreation needs of this emerging age group.

The Board should consider action to adopt the Patton Township Parks Plan 2015 – 2024 or provide direction to staff on revisions.

Ms. Solic stated that this is the fourth park plan since 1989 and that this park plan gives us guidance and direction of what the staff and residents would like to see in the parks in Patton Township. She stated one of the recommendation from residents was the want for more bicycle/pedestrian paths.

Mr. Luck asked why the Natural Recreation Area is being listed as a deficient. Ms. Wheeler stated it is not technically a deficient but wanted to keep it consistent with all the other recommendations from the NRPA that it should be noted.

5. **PUBLIC WORKS (Continued)**

a. **Township Parks Plan (Continued)**

Mr. Luck stated that the Regional Bike Transportation Land Use Committee is looking into a regional bike survey and the results will strongly support this report.

Mr. Luck stated that he would like to renew his annual request for adult-size fitness equipment at Circleville Park. He stated that it does not have to be a lot just something useful and accessible.

Mr. Luck stated that despite the regional parks there will still not be a rectangular lighted and/or turf fields available for the public. He asked with the completion of Oak Hall Park providing an inventory of six regional adult softball fields whether it makes sense to repurpose the adult softball field at Circleville. Ms. Wheeler stated that this is something that can be investigated.

Mr. Boyer asked where all the people are coming from that goes to Bernel Road Park due to the fact it is out in the middle of nowhere. Ms. Solic stated that she feels since it is one of the nicest parks in the Centre Region that a lot of residents and non-residents come to the park.

Ms. Taylor stated that Bernel Road Park is considered a destination park that people travel to go to the park.

Mr. Wise stated that he saw an email from Mr. Downsborough about the invasive plants at Bernel Road Park. Mr. Erickson stated that he is looking into this and will have something for the August meeting.

Mr. Luck moved to adopt the Patton Township Parks Plan 2015-2024. Seconded by Mr. Boyer, the motion passed 4-0.

b. **Public Works/ Tax Office Renovations & Front Stairs Replacement**

Mr. Erickson stated that with the shift in Earned Income Tax collections to Centre Tax Agency, the Township has excess space in the Tax Office, while Public Works needs additional offices to house their personnel. Fernsler Huthchinson Architects have completed the design and permitting for the renovation as illustrated on the drawings included with the agenda materials. Note the project also includes ADA upgrades to the restrooms, as required by the building code.

**Office Renovations**

As was done with the Road Crew building that was completed two years ago, staff solicited pricing for the construction work through the Keystone Purchasing Network cooperative purchasing program.

A summary of the pricing and correspondence with the architect is included with the agenda materials. The pricing is well above the \$60,000 budgeted for the project. Most of the overage is due to additional items that were not included in the initial estimate. The architects have reviewed the pricing and deemed them to be fair but on the high side of expected pricing.

The Manager recommends we defer the building renovations until additional funding is included in the 2016 budget. The funds included in the 2015 Budget would be encumbered and set aside for the project. Staff will also look at options for reducing costs and possibly taking bids on the project.

**Front Stairs Replacement**

The last two very harsh winters have been extremely hard on the stairs that lead from the parking lot to the main entrance.

5. **PUBLIC WORKS (Continued)**

b. **Public Works/ Tax Office Renovations & Front Stairs Replacement**

The Manager had Fernsler Huthchinson Architects design the replacement of these stairs and it was included in the construction package for the office renovations. It is unlikely that the stairs would remain safe through another winter.

Staff also solicited pricing for the stairs through the Keystone Purchasing Network cooperative purchasing program. Staff recommends awarding the contract to Clark Contractors, Inc., of Bedford, PA in the amount of \$18,331.74

Funds from the Building Refurbishment Reserve Fund originally designated for overlay paving of the parking lots will be utilized for the stairs; the parking lot overlays can be deferred for at least one year.

Mr. Luck asked if it is the design or what has caused this damage to the steps. Mr. Erickson stated between the weather and using salt it has caused damage in the last two years.

Mr. Luck moved to award the Stairs Replacement Contract to Clark Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$18,331.74. Seconded by Mr. Wise, the motion passed 4-0.

6. **ADMINISTRATION**

a. **Financial Trend Monitoring**

Mr. Pegher stated that the Financial Trends Monitoring System is a look at indicators of the financial stability and sustainability for the delivery of Township services to our residents and businesses. The Finance Director will provide a brief overview on using this tool for assessing the financial position of the Township.

The 2004 to 2014 Financial Trends Monitoring System Report was included with the agenda materials. A summary of each measure studied (last 4 pages of the report) was included as a separate attachment to the agenda.

No formal action is required on this item.

Mr. Pegher stated that the Township's population is up 3.2% from the 2010 census. He stated that the millage rate has been stable for the past 4 years at 8.9 mills and that the revenue per capita and expenditure per capita has been stable. He stated that one of the areas that are leaning towards unfavorable due to benefits especially the police pension plan and health insurance. He stated that the debt service will be going up in the next few years due to the Waddle Road Interchange Project loan payments come due. He stated that the unemployment continues to decrease down to 3.8%.

Mr. Luck stated that the one graph indicates that the number of municipal employees per thousand residents has dropped 3.8% to 3% and wants to show his appreciation to the staff that have taken on more work. Mr. Erickson stated that the Township staff will probably stay the same except for maybe an increase in Police Department and Road Crew.

6. **ADMINISTRATION (Continued)**

b. **Council of Governments (COG) 2016 Program Plan and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)**

Mr. Erickson stated that the General Forum is expected to refer the 2016 Centre Region COG Program Plan and CIP to the municipalities for review and comment. The full plan can be viewed or downloaded from the COG website by [clicking here](#). The 2016 Capital Improvement Plan was included with the agenda materials.

Included with the agenda materials is a matrix with the questions posed by the COG Executive Director's introductory comments, along with preliminary questions/comments from the Township Manager and a section for recording the Boards comments.

The Plans will be reviewed again at our August meeting. This meeting represents an opportunity to identify additional information we may need to provide comments back to COG.

Comments will be forwarded to the Executive Director and the COG Finance Committee following Patton Township's Board meeting on August 19.

Mr. Luck stated that he would like COG to go through some sort of an energy audit in regards to the Energy Efficiency Plan.

Mr. Luck asked about the request for tablets for staff and if the applications are tablet ready.

Mr. Luck suggested that there should be a strategic discussion about IT Services. Mr. Erickson stated that Ferguson Township is now using a private firm for IT services and overall the IT service costs have gone up.

Mr. Luck stated that Hess Field was never part of the Phase 2 discussion for the regional parks and want to make sure the narrative is clear about which parks are included with Phase 2.

Mr. Erickson stated that he will add Mr. Luck's comments to the matrix.

c. **Voucher Report**

Mr. Erickson stated that a copy of the June 2015 Voucher Report is included with the agenda materials.

The Board should consider action to approve the June 2015 Voucher Report.

Mr. Boyer moved to approve the June 2015 Voucher Report. Seconded by Mr. Luck, the motion passed 4-0.

7. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

a. **Sierra Lane Drainage Update**

Mr. Brubaker stated that he met with the residents after the last meeting and that the residents expressed a change since 2009. He stated that an existing inlet was completely buried and the Township cleaned the inlet up. He stated that the next step will be a drainage study and that he is keeping the residents up to date with the study.

Mr. Luck stated that with the drainage issue at Douglas Drive recently, he asked if there is a way to look into other trouble spots. Mr. Brubaker stated that when a road is scheduled for an overlay that he looks into the drainage in the area to see if improvements can be made. Mr. Luck asked if this should be put in the CIP. Mr. Erickson stated that there is not a real serious drainage problems at this time but it could be a CIP project if it is something that the road crew could not fix.

7. **MANAGER'S REPORT (Continued)**

b. **Open Space Task Force Update**

Mr. Erickson stated that the Open Space Task Force members are working thru 70 properties and is hoping to have a priority list in September.

c. **Quarterly Housing Starts Update**

Mr. Erickson stated that the Quarterly Housing Start Update was included with the agenda.

d. **Oak Wilt Mitigation Update**

Mr. Erickson stated that there was a case of Oak Wilt confirmed in Park Forest and that the Township removed the tree at the Township's expense.

e. **Waddle Road Interchange Update**

Mr. Erickson stated that he and Mr. Brubaker attended the pre-bid meeting in Clearfield on Tuesday and he stated that there was at least 4 or 5 contractors at the meeting along with several people from Glenn O. Hawbaker. He stated that bid openings will be held on August 14 with notice to proceed on October 12 with completion date of October 30, 2017.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Boyer stated that Public Services and Environmental met and discussed PSU's request for public sewer service and a draft resolution on Treatment and Discharge Capacity at UAJA.

Mr. Wise stated that Finance Committee discussed the COG/Ferguson Lease Agreement.

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, by Mr. Luck's motion and Mr. Boyer's second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

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Douglas J. Erickson, Township Secretary