

ATTENDANCE:

- BOARD** Pam Robb, Chair
Daniel Trevino, Supervisor
Sultan Magruder, Supervisor
Betsy Whitman, Supervisor
- STAFF** Doug Erickson, Township Manager
Alexandra Castrechini, Director of EPZ/Twp Engineer
Tyler Jolley, Chief of Police (via tele-conference)
Lawrence Pegher, Finance Director (via tele-conference)
Ken Soder, Director of Public Works Ops (via tele-conference)
Betsy Dupuis, Solicitor (via tele-conference)
Susan Wheeler, Project Manager (via tele-conference)
- ABSENT** Elliot Abrams, Vice-Chair
- AUDIENCE** C-Net (1)
Robert Zeigler, Zeigler for a Better Tomorrow
Annmarie Rounces, Centre County
Tony Cirge
Stephen Garcia, Resident
Scott Conklin, State Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Robb called to order the June 15, 2022, Board of Supervisors Meeting at 5:30PM.

a. Announcements

A moment of silence for the victims of the Robb Elementary School Shooting in Uvalde, Texas.

b. Pledge of Allegiance – as you are able, please rise and join the Board in the Pledge

c. Additions to the Posted Agenda

There were no additions to the posted Agenda.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. PRESENTATIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Hours of Play for Green Hollow Pickleball Courts

At the May 25th meeting, two pickleball players asked the Board to consider changing the established hours of play. These hours were approved by the Board in September, 2021 and were extended until the new courts are ready in Bernel Road Park with approval of the consent agenda at the February 23, 2022 Board meeting. The current hours are:

11:00 am to 5:00 pm Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

No Hours Wednesday and Fridays

3. PRESENTATIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS (Continued)

a. Hours of Play for Green Hollow Pickleball Courts (Continued)

A Meeting Notice was emailed to parties who participated in the 2021 discussions regarding this matter. (See attached Item 3a.1) Public Comments received through 10 am on Friday, June 10th are included with the agenda materials (Item 3a.2).

Miller Sports Construction is under contract to convert 2 tennis courts at Bernel Road Park into 6 pickleball courts. Their latest estimate is to start mid-July and finish in two weeks. Staff has reminded them of their prior promises to start much earlier. The Township has invoked our right to cancel the contract if the work is not completed by August 8th (see attached item 3a.3).

Additional public comments are included as Item 3a.4.

Mr. Garcia stated he is disappointed in his elected officials and is against any change in the hours.

Mr. Khayat stated that he is in favor of changing the hours of play for Green Hollow Pickleball Courts.

Mr. McDonough stated he is against a change in hours.

Chief Jolley stated that there has been 19 calls since the beginning of the year about pickleball playing during non-hours.

Mr. Trevino is not in favor of changing times at Green Hollow Park or closing the courts at Green Hollow Park until Bernel Road Park's courts are done.

Ms. Whitman stated that there is an end in sight and wants to stick with what we have.

The Board agreed to make no changes.

b. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: Community Diversity Conference

The [Community Diversity Group](#) will hold their 2022 Community Diversity Conference on June 21 at the Penn Stater. Conference [Information](#) and conference [registration](#) are available on their website.

Patton Township is a Conference Sponsor and several members of the Board and staff will be attending.

4. PUBLIC SAFETY

a. Monthly Report

Chief Jolley gave an overview of the monthly report that was enclosed with the agenda.

The Board took a brief recess.

5. PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS

a. Bid Award for 2022 Township Street Overlay Contract

Mr. Soder stated that bids were solicited and opened on June 7th. The work on this contract includes a portion of Devonshire Drive and all of Briarwood Lane and Weymouth Circle.

The agenda materials included:

- A recommendation for award to Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc., and Bid Tabulation from the Director of Public Works Operations (Item 5a)

Mr. Trevino moved to award the base bid, excluding all alternates, to Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc., of State College, for \$355,272.50. Seconded by Mr. Magruder, the motion passed 4-0.

6. ENGINEERING, PLANNING & ZONING

a. Planning Commission Report

The Planning Commission did not meet in June.

b. Fee Change for Zoning Hearing Board Applications

Fees for filing appeals with the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) have not been increase since 2010. At the May 25th meeting the Board directed staff to prepare a Resolution to increase the fees to cover all permissible costs and require the deposit of \$1,500 for most applications. The proposed fee change notes that un-used funds from the deposit will be returned to the applicant.

From May 25th meeting agenda:

The Patton Township ZHB typically hears one to three appeals per year on matters that are generally of minor consequence outside the property in question. The expenses related to a ZHB case include charges for legal advertising, the ZHB Solicitor's fees, reproduction costs for hearing materials and staff time for the Zoning Officer (ZO) and Public Works Secretary. Depending on the nature of the case the Township Manager and/or Director of EPZ may also attend the hearing itself. The Solicitor's fees will run from \$1000 to \$3000 per hearing depending on the complexity of the matter.

Traditionally, the Township has generously subsidized most the of the costs for these hearings, only charging \$360 to the applicant for a Zoning or Sign Variance hearing. See attached Item 6a.1 from Township Fee Schedule.

EZP staff recommends the Township consider an approach more in line with neighboring townships who require a larger up-front deposit that covers most costs and then refunds the unused amount back to the applicant, such as (see Item 6a.2 also for additional detail):

Halfmoon Township - \$2,500 deposit with refund of unused money

Ferguson Township - \$500 for Appeals and Special Exceptions
\$300 for Variances

College Township - \$100 application fee and \$500 deposit

Ms. Whitman moved to adopt Resolution 2022-012 (see attached Item 6b). Seconded by Mr. Trevino, the motion passed 4-0.

6. ENGINEERING, PLANNING & ZONING (Continued)

c. Zoning Hearing Board Grants De Minimis Variance

Ms. Castrechini stated that on May 12th the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) took testimony from the homeowner at 405 Timberton Circle and the Township Zoning Officer regarding a requested variance from the Township's zoning regulations to permit the expansion of a residential garage into the 30-foot front yard setback. The homeowner presented a letter of approval from the Timberton Home Owners Association. No other property owners provided written comments or attended the hearing. On May 26, the ZHB re-convened and took action to approve a de minimis setback variance for the proposed garage expansion, noting the 2 feet 8 inches encroachment of only one corner of the garage "will constitute as 8.867% encroachment into the front yard setback" and "will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood."

For your information – the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) is a quasi-judicial body that operates independently from the Board of Supervisors. The ZHB most commonly hears cases related to requested variances from the Township's zoning regulations but is also empowered by the Code of Patton Township to rule on variances and special exemptions for signs as found in Chapter 140 of the Code. All decisions of the ZHB are reported to the Board of Supervisors by the Manager or designee. If the Board of Supervisors, or anyone else, wished to contest a ZHB decision, the appeal would be filed with and decided by the County Court of Common Pleas.

The agenda materials included the results of the ZHB hearing titled "Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision." (Item 6c)

7. ADMINISTRATION

a. Board Input for the 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Erickson stated that Township staff will begin working on the next five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) in August. The current 2022-2026 plan was included in the agenda materials.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION -- The CIP is a tool that assists in planning for future projects by providing:

- A forum for proposing major capital projects and significant operational increases (e.g., staff increases or COG programmatic changes) several years in advance of implementation,
- A means for establishing a process for evaluating each project's justification and benefits,
- A process for prioritizing projects in the face of limited funding, and
- A platform for evaluating financing alternatives (i.e., bonds/loans, pay-as-you-go, or wait for a grant)

Staff requests that Board members provide input/guidance towards potential new projects or existing projects in the plan.

7. ADMINISTRATION (Continued)

a. Board Input for the 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Plan (Continued)

In prior discussions generated by the federal American Rescue Plan program, the following projects and estimated costs have been put forward by members of the Board of Supervisors:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Dan Trevino | |
| \$24,118 | Towards COG Centre Region Fire Protection purchase of a Gemini Handheld chemical/explosives Analyzer. |
| \$25,000 | Towards recovery of revenue shortfall of the Centre Region Life Link EMS. |
| \$2,500 | Towards the purchase of additional loner laptops by the Schlow Centre Region Library. |
| Anita Thies | |
| \$55,000 | First time home buyers fund – See Item 5a.2 |
| \$50,000 | To Habitat for Humanity GCC for buybacks in Patton Twp |
| \$50,000 | To Centre County Housing and Land Trust for land purchases and rental survey |
| Betsy Whitman | |
| \$30,000 to \$50,000 | Install Solar Panels on Township Buidlings |
| \$15,000 | New township sign (from proposed CIP projects) |
| Pamela Robb | |
| \$90,000 | Sidewalk from Carnegie to Sheetz (CIP project PW-42) |
| \$10,000 | Home Foundation educational program – See Item 5a.1 |
| Elliot Abrams | |
| TBD | Pedestrian Improvements for Atherton Street Intersections |
| Sultan Magruder | |
| TBD | TBD |

No formal action is required on this item. This item will also be on the July and August meeting agendas – please retain your hard copy of the CIP.

b. Audited Financial Statement for 2021

The Township’s appointed auditors have provided a final draft of their audit and review of the Township’s financial activities for 2021. The Director of Finance and Administration will provide an overview of the audit report and will be available to respond to any questions that the Board members may have. The final audit report was included with the agenda materials.

Mr. Pegher gave a brief overview of the of the Audited Financial Statements for 2021.

c. Request for Resolution for Support of House Bill 2596

State Representative Scott Conklin requests the Board to consider adopting a Resolution supporting proposed legislation “to guarantee that any person convicted of domestic violence shall be ineligible to serve in the General Assembly, or of holding any office of trust or profit in this Commonwealth.”

7. ADMINISTRATION (Continued)

c. Request for Resolution for Support of House Bill 2596

A sample Resolution, from the Centre County Commissioners, is included with the agenda materials (Item 7c.1) as a sample. The proposed legislation was included as Item 7c.2.

Mr. Conklin gave a brief overview of how House Bill 2596 has an impact on families.

Mr. Fortney stated study statistics for the House Bill 2596.

Mr. _____ gave a brief overview of the constitution amendments of House Bill 2596.

Ms. Robb stated that she would like to wait until we have a full Board to take a motion and asked Mr. Erickson to draft up resolution for the next Board meeting.

8. CONSENT AGENDA - UPDATED

The items included below are routine in nature and it is not anticipated that any will generate discussion or questions. The actual Consent Agenda with a brief description of each item is included with the agenda packet materials distributed to the Board and available to the public on-line and at the sign-in table. At the request of any Board member, any single item or all items on the Consent Agenda can be discussed and voted on separately. If no items are “pulled,” the Board should consider a motion for “approval of the Consent Agenda items as shown on the agenda.”

a. Public Safety – no items

b. Public Works Operations – no items

c. Engineering, Planning, & Zoning

1) ARLE Grant Application

The Director of Engineering, Planning, and Zoning proposes applying for \$368,725 in grant funding from PennDOT’s Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) program to fund major upgrades for the traffic signal at the intersection of Waddle Road and Vairo Boulevard. No local match is required for this program.

The agenda materials included the revised grant application and the current signal permit drawing for the intersection.

It is recommended that the Board approve the subject grant submission.

d. Administration

1) Minutes May 25, 2022

The draft minutes of the last Board meeting are included with agenda materials. Board members having questions or changes should contact the Township Manager prior to the meeting so revisions can be included in a supplemental distribution.

It is recommended that the Board approve the subject minutes.

8. **CONSENT AGENDA - UPDATED**

d. Administration

2) **Voucher Report**

A copy of the May 2022 Voucher Report is enclosed. Board members having questions should contact the Township office prior to the meeting so the necessary information can be obtained.

It is recommended that the Board approve the above noted Voucher Report.

3) **Mileage Reimbursement Increase**

Due to record gas prices, the Internal Revenue Service [announced yesterday](#) that the allowable mileage rate for business use of a personal vehicle will increase from 58.5 cents per mile to 62.5 cents per mile. The new mileage rate eligibility is effective July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

It is recommended that the Board approve the increase as noted

Mr. Trevino moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Magruder, the motion passed 4-0.

9. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Erickson reported on current matters, including:

- a. Update on Ghaner Parklet encroachment
 - [1] Playground inspection performed May 30 – Does not meet safety standards. Signs in place.
 - [2] RAC to meet June 21
- b. Correspondence (enclosed)
 - [1] DEP Update of PFAs in Benner Township – Public Hearing June 28, 2022 at 6:30PM.
 - [2] SCBWA notice of Application to SRBC
 - [3] Update on Atherton Street Traffic Signal Upgrade project
- c. Announcements
 - [1] Centre County is monitoring mosquito issues in Grays Woods, Marysville, and Toftrees; will treat as warranted
 - [2] **Website “go live”** late June
- c. Upcoming Events
 - [1] Township Office Schedule
July 4 – Independence Day, Office Closed
 - [2] June 16 -- Scotia Road Bike/Pedestrian Connectivity Study Alternatives Presentation 5:30-7:00 PM
[Comment Form](#)
 - [3] [June 21 – CDG Community Diversity Conference – Penn Stater](#)
 - [4] [June 21 -- PA Municipal League Sustainability Web Conference](#)
 - [4] [Oct 6 to 9 -- PA Municipal League Annual Summit, Pittsburgh](#)
 - [5] [Oct 25 -- PSATS Regional \(North Central\) Conference, Boalsburg](#)

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

[Parks Governance](#), May 25 -- Trevino

[Human Resources](#), June 1 – Magruder

Mr. Magruder stated that they discussed a 5% COLA.

[Facilities](#), June 7 – Whitman (report enclosed – Item 10a.3)

[Land Use and Comm. Infrastructure](#), June 12 – Abrams

[Climate Action & Sustainability](#), June 13 – Whitman

[Public Safety](#), June 14 – Robb

[Finance](#), cancelled – Trevino

Future Meetings:

Executive, June 21 – Robb

Parks Governance, June 22 - Trevino

- a. State College Borough Water Authority, April 21 (3rd Thursday) – report enclosed
- b. Centre Area Cable Consortium, [as needed – Trevino \(did not meet\)](#)
- c. Spring Creek Watershed Commission, – Mason (did not meet)
- d. Centre County Metropolitan Planning Org. – June 28, Abrams, Robb Alt.
- e. [Centre County Airport Authority, \(4th Thursday\) Downsbrogh](#) – report enclosed
- f. [Solar Power Purchase Working Group, May 25 – Whitman, Pegher Alt.](#) -- report enclosed

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no other business.

12. **ADJOURN**

Ms. Whitman moved to adjourn the June 15, 2022 Board of Supervisors Meeting at 7:25PM. Seconded by Mr. Trevino, the motion passed 4-0.

Douglas J. Erickson, Township Secretary