

MINUTES
GREGG TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
GREGG TOWNSHIP OFFICE
June 9, 2005

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. The following individuals were in attendance:

Members: Jay Sletson, Douglas Bierly, and Walter Strouse.

Residents/Visitors: Pat Leary, Resident, PVEMS and Zoning Hearing Board; Don Grenoble, Gregg Township Fire Company/EMA; Julie Mason, former Gregg Township Treasurer; Eric Lundy, Nittany Engineering and Associates; Tom Zilla, Centre County MPO; Trooper Kirk Kratzer, PA State Police Troop G Hollidaysburg; and Corporal Hubert PA State Police Rockview station.

Tom Zilla from Centre County MPO:

Mr. Zilla discussed many items regarding transportation issues with the Village of Spring Mills.

- Village sidewalks and bike routes.

The Safe Routes to School is probably the best opportunity to get funding to improve pedestrian traffic within the Village. The uncertainty of the Spring Mills Elementary School makes it difficult to establish a plan. Mr. Zilla recommended a survey to the people to determine if people would be interested in building sidewalks within the Village and if right of way or easements would be given to build the sidewalks. Creating crosswalks on the roadway would be a simple and inexpensive first step to create safer travel for walkers within the Village.

- The Foot Bridge over Penns Creek

Mr. Zilla said a footbridge will take as much money, time and commitment as a car bridge. DEP studies will need to be completed for environmental impact. With an approved grant, the Township might have as much as \$250,000 expense to repair or replace a bridge that it does not own. Since some unknown persons have repaired the bridge, the bridge is no longer roped off. The Township has no legal rights to do anything with the bridge; therefore the matter has been dropped.

- The 45 bridge replacement and its detour route options.

Mr. Zilla felt more public input is necessary to determine the best possible detour for the bridge replacement project. The fire hall would be a good location to hold a public meeting to discuss ideas regarding this project. The major considerations would be:

1. Access issues to and from the Elementary School. The School needs to be contacted for their input.
2. Emergency responders need to get to the fire station as well as get the trucks out to the community.
3. Other emergency vehicles need to get into the Village like the ambulance and EMT service.
4. Public travels in to and out of the village.

The type of detour which uses traffic signals creates a problem since the line of sight is broken between the points of closure. Multiple roads within the Village leading into the blocked section create another complication. Mr. Zilla will help as much as he and the CCMPO can to advocate for our project. Although once the project begins, only the municipalities are typically notified of activities and the CCMPO will not be notified of activities.

Corporal Hubert, Rockview Police Barracks

Corporal Hubert, representing the Rockview Police Station, attended the meeting to address any concerns that the township may have regarding public safety.

1. Speeding on Route 45 and 192 with the commuters to State College holding the greatest concentration of offenders. The area of concern starts outside of Millheim and continues to Boalsburg along that corridor.
2. "Burning rubber" on Brush Mountain Road and Lower Georges Valley Road.
3. CPI (Vo-tech) students leaving Pleasant Gap and race back to the PV High School to meet the school bus. The students drive entirely too fast through the Centre Hall Mountain turn down Route 192 and then cut through Ridge Road to Green Grove Road back to the school. This has happened for the 2002-2003, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 school years.
4. As a snap shot of our community, most of the police calls are vehicular in nature.

Trooper Kirk C. Kratzer Pennsylvania State Police Troop G, Hollidaysburg

Trooper Kratzer is part of a specialized police team dealing with terrorism, extremist groups and other suspicious

hate group activities. Trooper Kratzer asked that the Supervisors or any citizen notify his team with any suspicious activities like Nazi flag posting, white supremacist group activities, and even school activities involving gangs or hate groups.

Another specialized team of officers deals with illegal drug activities. Please report any unknown chemical odors or propane tanks attached to something other than a cooking apparatus. These tanks and unusual odors could be indicative of drug manufacturing or bomb building.

Trooper Kratzer alerted the Supervisors of a known group called "gypsies" who are scam artists asking to do work demanding the money upfront and never finishing the job. The "gypsies" have been reported in Altoona and could possibly migrate toward Centre County.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comments.

SUBDIVISION AND PLAN REVIEWS

Mr. Eric Lundy from Nittany Engineering Associates presented a revised Final Land Development Plan for Penns Valley EMS to the Supervisors for approval.

The Conservation District received a potential location for endangered plants and animals through the PNDI search. This PNDI match is for the Sinking Creek Prairie, a significant distance away from this land parcel. Mr. Lundy anticipates no findings when an on location search is completed by the Western Conservancy and DCNR Forestry Department. Mr. Lundy anticipates a letter to construct in late July or early August.

Since the solicitor was unable to attend this meeting, the Township secretary discussed the options of granting conditional approval by the Supervisors prior to this meeting. Mr. Bob Rayman suggested that if the Supervisors wanted to give a conditional approval, the Planning Commission Chairman and the Board of Supervisors Chairman could sign the plan, but not the secretary. When all the conditions of the approval have been completed, Nittany Engineering could come into the Township office during office hours and get the secretary signatures needed without having to come to another night meeting.

Mr. Bierly made a motion to conditionally approve the Final Land Development Plan for Lot 1 of Penn's View Estates for Penns Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc with the final signature to be added by the Township Secretary when the Centre County Planning Office conditional approval issues are addressed, the Township Engineer concerns are addressed, DEP questions are answered, and the Conservation District has granted approval. Mr. Strouse seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Zoning Officer Signature block for Subdivision and Land Development Plans

As suggested at the May 12, 2005 meeting Mr. Rayman prepared a possible resolution to include a signature block to subdivision and land development plans to require a block for the Gregg Township Zoning Officer. Mr. Bierly made a motion to approve Resolution 06-05-10 to require a signature block for the Zoning Officer on Land Development and Subdivision Plans. Mr. Strouse seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Water Association / Authority update

Mr. Tom Stitzer did not have a report on this matter. He is planning to attend the July meeting to give an update.

Guide Rail Bids

Guide rail bids were not advertised for this meeting. Boggs Township was telephoned for advice on proceeding with this project but never returned the multiple phone messages. After no response from Boggs Township, the secretary inquired to Matt Knepp on the next steps to re-bid. Mr. Knepp has returned the bid sheets and the project will be properly advertised for the July 14, 2005 meeting. The bids will be opened and results compiled after the submission deadline and prior to the meeting.

The project will require a budget amendment to move funds from a reserve source. This project was budgeted for in 2004 but never completed. The money is available to complete the project without causing a deficit in another fund.

Vonada Gap Upgrade

Vonada Gap upgrade plan was discussed. The Supervisors are planning to upgrade the Vonada Gap Road in the next budget year. The residents impacted by the road construction should attend the Supervisors meetings to provide the Supervisors with their concerns regarding this project. This project will include multiple phases. The first phase will be the most costly since it involves cutting away the bank to widen the cart way. Mr. Strouse will contact the potential hired excavator to see if this person is interested in completing this project with the Township road crew.

Bicycle Race Request

The Township Secretary set an email to the contact person without a response. The Penn State Cycling group did not contact Penn's Cave or Centre Visitors Bureau regarding the Cycle Race.

Growing Greener Zoning Ordinance Assessment

As an action at the March 10, 2005 meeting the Supervisors sent the Gregg Township Zoning Ordinance, Gregg Township Zoning Map, the Centre County Subdivision and Land Development Plan, and the Gregg Township Comprehensive Plan to be reviewed by Nature's Land Trust.

The secretary will send the information to Jessica Sheets at ICG, Inc. and the ELA group for a quote and estimate of completion time to incorporate the Growing Greener concepts into the Gregg Township Zoning Ordinance.

Other Old Business

No other old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Company request

Fire Company does not currently have a co-sponsor the carnival raffle tickets. Mr. Bierly made a motion for Gregg Township to be the co-sponsor of the carnival raffle tickets if another co-sponsor cannot be found. Mr. Strouse seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Fire Protection & Prevention Ordinance

The Supervisors have obtained ordinances to potentially generate funds for the Fire Company. These ordinances from other municipalities will be reviewed. No new ordinance has been enacted regarding this matter. The Supervisors asked Mr. Grenoble to discuss the matter with the members of the Fire Company and report back at the next meeting.

Berkheimer resolution

Berkheimer is requesting a resolution to collect processing fees from our portion of the per capita tax collections. Berkheimer has not been our collection agency since 2001. Berkheimer would not give the outstanding account information to the secretary. No resolution was passed.

Other New Business:

Agenda Items for July

- Guide Rail bids to be opened
- Possibly the Nature's Land Partnership Subdivision Plan
- Water Association / Authority update

STAFF/LIAISON REPORTS TO THE BOARD:

1. Gregg Township Fire Company #1

Mr. Grenoble inquired about the status of the Ivan Flood Damage reimbursement request to PEMA.

2. Emergency Management Coordinator

Mr. Grenoble did not have a report.

3. Gregg Township Sewer Authority

Mr. Morrison did not provide a report for this meeting.

4. Roadmaster

The Roadmaster asked Mr. Grenoble if the Fire Company would wash the Koonsman Bridge on Kline Road and the Beaver Dam Bridge on Beaver Dam Road. The Roadmaster also asked if the Fire Company would wet the driveway at the Township shed during the tar and chip project to keep the dust down with the additional truck traffic.

Roads/Bridges:

- Holes were patched on Bitner Hollow and Grenoble Roads.
- The crew is working in preparation for the tar and chip projects to be completed in early July.
- Mowing along the Township roads will begin next week.
- Grenoble Road had 2RC stones added to the berms.

Signs & Signals:

- A road signs were installed for Pine Ridge Lane and Windy Butte Lane.

5. Planning Commission: 5/2/05

- The commission reviewed Chapter IX, Transportation and part of Chapter X Future Land Use with the assistance of Mr. Norm Lathbury and Ms. Linda Marshall from the Centre County Planning Office. The county office representatives noted the comments regarding the chapters. An additional Planning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2005 to finish Chapter X and review Chapter XI.
- Mrs. Sandra Kosik volunteered to represent the Township at the tour of conservation subdivisions in Berks County on Friday June 10, 2005 since the Supervisors will be unable to attend.
- Mr. Russ Schleiden, Mr. Blaine Schleiden and Mr. Dave Sweetland presented some information regarding Natures Land Partnership Subdivision as a portion of the Public Comment. No action was taken by the Planning Commission members.
- Mr. Eric Lundy from Nittany Engineering Associates presented a copy of the revised plan for the Penns Valley EMS Land Development plan. The Planning Commission gave the plan a conditional approval pending the approval and addressing of the issues noted by the Conservation District, Township engineer and Centre County Planning Office.
- Mr. Scott Long addressed the Planning Commission regarding a private road issue. Mr. Long asked that the Planning Commission consider recommend to the Supervisors to change the number of lots permitted on a private road. The County standard is 7 lots for a private road. Mr. Long was told that the Planning Commission was reviewing this issue and he could wait for any change was made to the Zoning Ordinance or appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. Bierly initiated a discussion between the Supervisors to consider Mr. Long's request. The Board is not in unanimous agreement increasing the number of lots on a private road, would be a good change to our Zoning Ordinance.

6. Zoning Hearing Board

No meeting was necessary.

7. Penns Valley Code Enforcement Agency

Glenn Ripka submitted a written report. The report included a list of building permits issued and in progress in Gregg Township as of 5/31/05.

An update on a matter before the District Magistrate involving Mr. Francis Auman's property was also noted. A letter sent to Mr. Auman by the District Magistrate was also included in this information. The Supervisors agreed the Ordinance must be enforced. Mr. Ripka and the Township secretary will co-ordinate the necessary steps to proceed with this matter.

8. Zoning Officer

Jeff Wingert submitted written reports.

1. A list of sign and zoning permits issued since the beginning 2005.
2. Report on subdivision / land development plans.
3. A copy of a letter addressing a complaint made by Mr. Jason Englehart.

9. Penns Valley Regional Planning Commission

The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 27, 2005. This will be a joint meeting for the individual municipal planning groups and governing boards are invited to attend. This will begin the next stage of the review process for the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

10. Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization

The CCMPO accepted some resignations.

The long range transportation projects have been ranked. A Miles Township bridge project was ranked number one. The CCMPO has the power to move the projects to a different ranking position if circumstances of the project change.

SECRETARY / TREASURER REPORT:

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Strouse made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 12, 2005 meeting as submitted. Mr. Bierly seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Review of Township Correspondence

The secretary presented a list of incoming and outgoing correspondence for the Board's information. The following action occurred:

- 1. The BSA Troop 88 requested a donation. Mr. Bierly made a motion to give the BSA Troop 88 a \$100 donation. Mr. Strouse seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Financial Reports and Account Balances

The balances of the accounts effective 5-31-05 are as follows:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| General Fund | \$ 256,016.94 | | |
| Equipment Fund | \$ 21,216.91 | | |
| Liquid Fuels Fund | \$ 87,725.29 | | |
| Capital Reserve Fund | \$ 539,123.98 | | |
| Street Light Fund | \$ 4,020.09 | | |
| Sinking Fund (Loan Balance) | \$ 344,040.00 | (Total Interest Paid) | \$ 17,414.41 |

Mr. Bierly made a motion to approve the financial reports as submitted by the former Treasurer Ms. Mason. Mr. Strouse seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Review and Approve Payment of Operational Bills:

The Treasurer presented a list of bills to be paid for the month of May, which the Supervisors approved by signature.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Bierly made the motion to adjourn at 10:11 PM. Mr. Strouse seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Minutes Submitted by:

Gregg Township Secretary