

Benner Township Supervisors
April 23, 2012

The Benner Township Board of Supervisors meeting of April 23, 2012, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Chairman, David Wise with members Randy Moyer and John Elnitski, Jr. present. Also in attendance were Lyle Beal, Terri Breon, Dave Breon, Nate Campbell, David Pike, Renee Swancer, Helen Alters, Marilyn Engle, Genie Robine, Don Franson, Tim Schoonover, and Sharon Royer.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

David Pike: Mr. Pike from Sweetland Engineering was present to present the Final Plan for the Disposition of Commonwealth Real Property at the State Correctional Institution at Rockview. It was noted that approximately 1,850 acres are being separated from the Rockview lands and being transferred to Benner Township, Penn State, PA Fish Commission and the PA Game Commission. Mr. Pike noted that the declaration of access easements have been worked out by the State's attorneys.

Mr. Pike noted that a waiver is needed from the Street Standards Ordinance, Section 5.10 a. (2) for the North Rockview Road because there will be three properties having an easement to use this private driveway and not two as permitted by the street standards ordinance. Mr. Elnitski noted that this driveway will be used limitedly and isn't for a home that will be used on a daily basis. Mr. Elnitski moved to approve the waiver request allowing three properties access to this private driveway. Mr. Wise seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

Mr. Elnitski moved to approve the Final Plan for the Disposition of Commonwealth Real Property at the State Correctional Institution at Rockview. Mr. Wise seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

Marilyn Engle: Marilyn Engle was present to represent the East End Partnership in the request for a zoning amendment to allow for "Quadplexes" in the R-2 zoning district. It was noted that this request has been reviewed by Harry Roth of Roth Plan and the Planning Commission who both are recommending approval of this amendment. Mr. Elnitski moved to forward this proposed amendment to the County and the Municipalities in the Nittany Valley Planning Commission and to proceed with advertising the public hearing. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

Jarrold Howard: The Board is in receipt of a letter from Jarrold Howard asking if there is anything that the Board can do to have the Discount Remodelers clean up and conceal the construction materials that they have stored outside of their building. Mr. Elnitski noted that he has spoken with individuals at the Discount Remodelers and some clean up has taken place.

Genie Robine: Mrs. Robine thanked the Township for allowing the Road Crew to pick up the trash that was collected during the Spring Creek Clean up.

MINUTES

The minutes of April 2, 2012, were presented to the Board for their review and comments. Mr. Elnitski moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

BILLS

The bills of April 23, 2012, were presented to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. Elnitski moved to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Krout Road Bridge RFPs: Mr. Franson reported that the Board has received 6 letters of interest in this project. He noted that he feels that any of the firms that submitted proposals are very capable of doing the work requested. Upon reviewing them and giving scores to the various categories of the proposal the three top scoring firms were: Keller Engineering, Gwin Dobson Foreman and Uni-Tec. The pros and cons of each firm were gone over.

Mr. Franson noted that it seems as though PennDot may have changed their mind on what will be required for the abutments. They are now requiring that core borings be done. He noted that depending on the results of the drilling the scope of what will be required for both engineering and construction could change dramatically.

Mr. Elnitski moved to approve Uni-Tec to perform the engineering work for the Krout Lane Bridge with Keller Engineering being the alternate all contingent that the contract may be modified based on PennDot’s review and comments. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

Core Boring Proposal: Mr. Wise moved to approve the contract with CMT in the amount of \$2,050.00 for the core boring being required by PennDot. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski - yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recreation Authority: Mr. Wise noted that the Committee that has been meeting to discuss the creation of a joint Recreation Authority met and toured the Park Forest Pool. Cost estimates are being formulated on what improvements will be necessary at the Kepler pool and the formula for payment of those improvements.

OLD BUSINESS

Spring Creek Canyon: Mr. Elnitski noted that he met with representatives from Clearwater Conservancy to discuss the conservation easement that they are to have on the property that the Township will be receiving from Rockview. He further reported that the cost estimate for this easement has escalated from \$14,000 to \$26,000. Mr. Elnitski noted that he will draft a letter for the Board’s approval regarding this issue to be sent to Senator Corman and Clearwater.

ROW Regulatory Ordinance: This item remains tabled.

Krout Lane Bridge: This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Zoning Amendment Requests: The Board noted that the zoning district changes for Walkers and Witherites be drafted and forwarded on to the County Planning Office and the Nittany Valley municipalities for the necessary reviews and public advertising.

Vacancies:

Zoning Officer: Mr. Wise noted that the Board conducted interviews of two candidates on Friday afternoon and that a third option has also been discovered and will be discussed further among board members in executive session at the end of tonight's meeting.

Township Engineer: Mr. Wise noted that with a number of other issues facing the township that this topic will be further discussed in the month of May.

Beezer Hill Road Closing: It was noted that a meeting was held with Mr. Glass regarding the Amberleigh development and that he has indicated that he plans to pave the roads in the development and close off Beezer Hill Road this paving season. Mr. Franson noted that he will be meeting with ELA to go over the roads and the scope of work for all of the roads in the development.

Opequon Hills Development: Mr. Franson noted that he and Mr. O'Leary will be getting together in the next several days to come up with a new cost estimate to complete the roads in the Opequon Hill development.

SEO Services: It was noted that a meeting is scheduled with Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority on May 14th to discuss possible SEO Services and the creation of a septage management plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Patrick Burns: Mr. Elnitski moved to pass the conditional use request application from Patrick Burns to create an automotive sales lot along the Benner Pike on to the Planning Commission for their review and comments. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski – yes

Tar & Chipping Contract: Mr. Elnitski moved to sign the tar and chipping contract with Pine Creek Township for tar and chip surfacing on sections of Barnes Lane and Valley View Place roads in the amount of \$25,514.45. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Elnitski – yes Mr. Moyer – yes Mr. Elnitski – yes

Graymont – Gyp Road Repairs: Mr. Elnitski noted that he has met with representatives of Graymont to discuss the condition of Gyp Road. Mr. Elnitski reported that the company seems open to helping the Township pay for improvements to the road. It was noted that Mr. O'Leary will be coming up with cost estimates for the road improvements to forward on to Graymont.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

1. PSATS News Belletin
2. SBWJA – Minutes April 23, 2012
3. Engineering review Graystone Court @ Eagle Point

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting was adjourned the time being 8:37 p.m.

Sharon Royer, Sec.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board held an executive session to discuss personnel issues from 8:38 p.m. until 9:12 p.m. All three board members were in attendance.