

Benner Township Supervisors
April 15, 2013

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Board of Supervisors 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: Tim Schreffler, Jen Herbstritt, Margaret Herbstritt, Joseph Herbstritt, Alexander Cadman, Nate Campbell, Chris Lambert, Jackie Bilodew-Lanber, Gregory Angle, Eric Michielu, Dennis O'Leary, Don Franson, Lindsay Schoch and Sharon Royer.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Herbie's Hometown Loop Committee: Joe Herbstritt noted that he and his family members were present this evening seeking permission to utilize several township roads for their annual Herbie's Hometown Loop events that benefit the Bellefonte School District Track Facilities. This year they are planning to have a 4 mile run that will strictly be held on Bellefonte Borough streets, a 10 mile run that will be held on Bellefonte Borough streets, Spring Township streets as well as Benner Township Streets and a 14 mile leisure bike ride that will be held mainly on streets in Benner Township. Event course maps were provided to the Board. The Herbstritts noted that they will provide volunteers and fire police along the course routes, especially at any road crossings. It was noted that insurance for the event will also be provided to the Township. Mr. Wise noted that for future events, the Spring Creek Canyon Trail along the stream is available and would avoid vehicle traffic issues.

Amberleigh Homeowners: Greg Angle noted that he was present this evening on behalf of the Amberleigh homeowners association. The Board reported that the paving is to take place by June 30th. Lexon the surety company will be handling the paving and not Michael Glass and that they have hired Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. to do the work. A pre-construction meeting was held on April 12th with the contractor. Mr. Angle noted that the residents of Amberleigh have concerns that the Township will enact a no parking ordinance in the development. The Board noted that while a final decision has not yet been made, they noted that the roads in the development are too narrow to allow parking on the streets and enough room to safely allow for plow trucks, school buses, emergency vehicles and farm equipment to travel the roads with cars parked along them.

Tim Schreffler, Bellefonte Fire Department Chief, was present and stated that he on a couple of occasions with different pieces of fire apparatus attempted to travel through the development. He noted that it is very difficult getting the equipment in and around the development with the narrow streets and tight corners. He commented further that with the cars parked along the streets makes it next to impossible to get through. Mr. Schreffler noted that even once a truck is set you need a lot of room in order to unload the equipment that is required when fighting fires. Mr. Schreffler noted that the location of the

hydrants is also somewhat problematic and will require additional hoses and room should a fire happen in certain locations of the development. Mr. Schreffler stated that the tower truck requires a space 22' wide in order to fully set up and that that is the total width of most of the streets in the development.

Mr. Franson went over a scaled diagram that he prepared with the board showing the various sight distances and passing widths of a road in the development. Mr. Franson noted that while there is enough room to park smaller cars along the street in between driveways, safe sight distances for those pulling/backing out of those driveways isn't there. It was noted that this development was designed for the townhomes to have a parking space in it's garage with two additional parking spaces in there driveway. The single family homes have two parking spaces in the garage and at least two parking spots in their driveways.

Eric Miselli noted that while he doesn't regularly need more parking than what he has when he has visitors or a family party he has a need, as does others, to have additional overflow parking.

The question was raised if perhaps the sidewalk on one side of the street could be removed making the streets wider so that another area for parking could be created. Mr. Franson noted that when a development is in the planning stages stormwater calculations are done for what impervious coverages are being proposed. It was noted that while it is possible to do, the costs involved doing something like this would be tremendous.

Nate Campbell: Mr. Campbell questioned if there was anything that could be done with the ConLime sign. Mr. Elnitski noted that he would contact the company to see why the sign hasn't been repaired.

MINUTES

The minutes of April 1, 2013, 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. Wise – yes

BILLS

The bills of April 15, 2013, 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. Wise – yes

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Franson noted that all of his topics are listed on the agenda.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

*DCNR grant was submitted. The total amount of the project is \$229,888.70 which will require a 50% match. It was noted that we received a commitment letter from ClearWater Conservancy for \$65,000.

*The Zoning Hearing Board will meet on April 17th for the case involving the Centre County Airport Authority that is seeking to have a maximum impervious coverage of 60%. The ordinance currently allows for 40%.

*There will be an additional Zoning Hearing Board hearing for the Berk property which is seeking permission to place a mobile home on the property that is located in the flood plain.

*The Planning Commission will continue to review the goals of the Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission Comprehensive plan. The Commission will also be reviewing the re-zoning request of Kermit Tressler.

OLD BUSINESS

Krout Road Bridge: Mr. Elnitski moved to authorize the advertising of bids for the Krout Road Bridge as soon as the DEP GP11 permit is approved and the approval from PennDot is received. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

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

Amberleigh Building Permits: The Board is in receipt of a letter from Berks Homes asking that permits be issued for one set of six townhome units. Berks Homes is proposing to pay the Township \$3,000 towards Michael Glass's unpaid development expenses that are due to the township. (ie. engineering review fees, attorney fees) They noted that they will then attempt to collect the money back from Glass. The Board noted that they are agreeable to this as long as there is physical evidence that Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. is immobilizing to start the paving work.

Spring Creek Canyon Conservation Easement: Mr. Elnitski noted that there isn't anything new to report.

Kermit Tressler Rezoning Request: It was noted that the Planning Commission will continue to review this request at their next meeting. Mrs. Schoch noted that the Planning Commission has asked her to get additional information for their next meeting.

Surplus Truck Bids: Mr. O'Leary noted that the 2004 Ford T-Tag did not sell during the auction. It was noted that two townships were interested in purchasing the truck. We have received two quotes one from West Beaver Township for \$20,025.00 and one from Union Township for \$21,553.00. Mr. Elnitski moved to award the truck bid to Union Township. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Happy Valley Sprint Triathlon: It was noted that the Happy Valley Sprint Triathlon would like permission to use Fox Hill Road on July 7th for part of their course route. It was noted that the road won't be closed during the time of usage. The Board asked that the normal procedures be followed for the road usage.

CATA Budget: CATA is asking if the Board would like them to attend the next meeting to go over the 2013/2014 budget. The Board noted that it wasn't necessary unless we were going to see an 8% or more increase in our budget contribution.

Nittany Valley Recreation Authority: It was noted that the first meeting of the Recreation Authority has been scheduled for May 8th at 6:00 p.m. at the Bellefonte YMCA.

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Building Addition:

Fencing: Mr. O'Leary noted that he has contacted several contractors for quotes to place fencing going up the hill around the new building addition. The lowest bid that was received was from R & R in the amount of \$1,948.95. Mr. Elnitski moved to award the contract to R & R. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion.

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

Concrete Flooring: Mr. O'Leary noted that Kish Valley has submitted a quote for \$4,700.00 to install at 6" thick concrete floor in the new building addition. Mr. Wise moved to award the \$4,700.00 contract to Kish Valley. Mr. Elnitski seconded the motion.

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

Ehrlich: Mr. O'Leary noted that Ehrlich has begun a roadside spraying program for vegetation removal. He continued that it would be beneficial for this service along several of our roads. Mr. Elnitski moved to contract with Ehrlich for road side spraying for a not to exceed price of \$2,500.00. Mr. Wise seconded the motion.

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

PSU Watershed Sign: Mr. O'Leary noted that PSU has provided us with a letter dealing with the watershed sign that they have asked the township to install along Fox Hill Road. The sign will be installed and PSU will be billed for the materials and one hour labor for its installation.

SCI Benner: Mr. Elnitski noted that he spoke with Senator Corman regarding several issues concerning the new SCI Benner prison. Mr. Elnitski noted that he

would draft a letter to send to Senator Corman on the issues of the MS4 permit for stormwater completely on the State's property, fire payments, complaints on night sky lighting glare and the word "township" being included on the signs.

Benner Commerce Park: Mr. Elnitski noted that he has met with the three potential new owners of the Benner Commerce Park. They noted that they will take over all current surety amounts associated with the development. The new owners also indicated that they would like to further subdivide some of the larger lots to make the park more appealing to smaller companies who can't afford the larger lots.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

1. Engineer review letter Restek Minor Land Development
2. Copy of letter Hanna sent to Dept. of Corrections Re: SCI Benner name
3. Centre County Planning Office
 - a. GM McCrossin easements
 - b. Mammoth Land Development Plans
4. SBWJA Minutes of 3/25/13
5. Geisinger Health Insurance Renewal rates

Mrs. Royer noted that the health insurance renewal rates are increasing about 12.5%. When speaking with others, this increase is really low compared to what others are experiencing. Mr. Wise noted that he would contact the company to see if there is any room for negotiation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned the time being 9:08 p.m.

Sharon Royer, Secretary