

**EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION
Thursday, May 6, 2010**

Those in Attendance:

David A. Kirkner, Chairman
Jay G. Fischer, Vice-Chairman
Hudson L. Voltz, Member
Scott T. Piersol, Township Manager
Mark Kocsi, Chief of Police
Matthew T. VanLew, Roadmaster
Mary Beth Smedley, Secretary/Treasurer

The East Brandywine Township Board of Supervisors meeting of Thursday, May 6, 2010 was called to order by Chairman Kirkner at 7:35 A.M. at the East Brandywine Township Municipal Complex. Also in attendance was George Holmes, the Milemarker Editor.

Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items

Chairman Kirkner asked if there were comments on non-agenda items. There were no comments.

Approval of Planning Commission Minutes for April 7, 2010

Mr. Piersol said that one minor revision occurred last night, which was to remove one of the Ex-Officio members as having attended the meeting. Vice-Chairman Fischer made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Voltz seconded the motion, with all voting Aye.

Resolution 07 of 2010 – Designation of Agent Resolution for FEMA Snowstorm Reimbursement – Disaster Declaration FEMA 1898-DR-PA.

Mr. Piersol and Mr. VanLew have a meeting scheduled with Michael Williams from PEMA today to begin the process to finalize the request for reimbursement. They attended a kick-off session with PEMA and FEMA representatives last Friday morning, and will be considering including damage to the Public Works heater vents and roof protection to the request, or turn those damages into our insurance carrier. Vice-Chairman Fischer made a motion to adopt Resolution 07 of 2010 and name Scott T. Piersol as the Township agent and Matthew T. VanLew as the secondary agent to execute all forms and documents for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act. Mr. Voltz seconded the motion, with all voting Aye.

Resolution 08 of 2010 – Opposing House Bill 2431

Vice-Chairman Fischer contacted State Representative Curt Schroder regarding legislation being proposed that would establish the county as the basic form of government, with jurisdiction over personnel, law enforcement, health and safety. Mr. Piersol provided a draft resolution for the Board's review and consideration. Mr. Voltz made a motion to adopt Resolution 08 of 2010. Vice-Chairman Fischer seconded the motion, with all voting Aye.

Roadmaster Report

New Truck

The new F350 truck was delivered last month. Mr. VanLew said that he will be purchasing tools and equipment and will put it in service soon.

Leaf Collection

Our spring leaf collection was completed the weeks of April 5th and 19th.

Horizontal Grinder

On April 15, 2010 the bids for a Horizontal Grinder were opened at West Brandywine Township. This grinder will be purchased as part of a DEP grant and will be shared with West Brandywine, Caln and West Bradford Townships. The two bids received are Bandit Industries Model 1680 for \$183,086.38 and from Deacon Equipment Model 2600 for \$204,532.00. Last Thursday Bandit Industries demonstrated their grinder at the newly opened West Bradford Recycling Center which is located at the former Strasburg Landfill. Mr. Piersol asked that the Board of Supervisors authorize sending a letter to West Brandywine Township Manager Ronald Rambo supporting the purchase. East Brandywine Township's initial share is \$47,000, but after the grant will be reimbursed for 90% of that cost. The grinder will enable the Township to turn the mulch we currently collect into a much higher grade of material. Vice-Chairman Fischer asked about the noise level. Mr. VanLew said that the level is acceptable. The grinder can be easily towed between all participating municipalities. Delivery is expected within the next eight weeks. Chairman Kirkner asked if the grinder was budgeted for this year. Mr. Piersol said that it was. Vice-Chairman Fischer made a motion to accept the bid and forward a letter approving the acquisition to West Brandywine Township. Mr. Voltz seconded the motion, with all voting Aye.

Winter Maintenance Plan

Due to concerns and questions about our snow removal procedures from residents this year we have produced the Winter Maintenance Plan. The plan has been reviewed by the Police Chief, Township Manager and Road Crew. We anticipate this plan will give residents of East Brandywine Township a better understanding of what they should expect before, during and after a snow fall. Mr. VanLew requested that the Supervisors approve adoption of this plan so we can post it on our web site. Mr. Voltz made a motion to approve the Winter Maintenance Plan. Vice-Chairman Fischer seconded the motion, with all voting Aye.

Hopewell Road

The bid package for repairs and overlay to Hopewell Road is just about complete. The bid opening is tentatively scheduled for May 25th with the award during the June 3rd Supervisors meeting. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for May 19th.

Hadfield Road Bridge #244

The County is in the preliminary design stage for the replacement of Bridge #244 on Hadfield Road. This bridge is located approximately ¼ mile east of Zynn Road. In 1999 the County replaced Bridge #275 on Hadfield Road. The bridge replacement will be funded with 80% Federal, 15% State and 5% County monies. Ms. Martin did not anticipate the additional costs would be permitted to save a tree.

Last Friday Mr. Piersol and Mr. VanLew met with Sandy Martin of McCormick Taylor, Chris Stanford from Michael Baker Corporation, Sheila Fleming from the Brandywine Conservancy and Manfred Prammer, resident at 291 Hadfield Road. Ms. Martin works closely with the County Bridge Unit and is responsible for inspection and maintenance recommendations. Mr. Stanford is part of the team designing the bridge. Due to Federal funding the County has to limit the scope of work, although discussed, the relocation of the bridge in order to protect the tree is highly unlikely. This scenario would require the purchase of land, additional DEP and Army Corps permits.

They discussed the Swamp Oak tree located adjacent to the bridge and what impact construction would have on the tree. Ms. Fleming presented her report discussing the tree and its importance to the scenic quality while traveling along Hadfield Road. It has been determined that the tree is located within the Township right-of-way which is twenty-five feet from the approximate center of the road. The diameter of the trees canopy is estimated to be 100+ feet and the root system should be half that distance. Ms. Martin discussed the construction and how it would impact the tree. The preliminary design would include a hydraulic study and soil analysis. The over dig to install the bridge footings and wing walls would more than likely cause damage to the root system although the size and location of the footings have not been determined. Also the posts for the guide rail installed to protect the bridge abutment and the tree would have to be driven through the root system further damaging the tree. There is a concern that if the tree is damaged and ultimately can't survive, that the Township will be responsible for costs they may not otherwise have incurred to remove the tree, and the roots under the roadway.

Mr. Stanford will look at alternate designs and possible solutions to protect the tree during construction once the site conditions and location of the bridge and its footings are established but won't commit to anything at this point.

Horseshoe Pike Improvements

Mr. Piersol and Mr. VanLew attended a meeting with representatives from PennDOT, Pulte Homes and Heritage Metal Works, as well as Claudio DiGiamberardino to discuss improvements to the Horseshoe Pike and Bondsville Road intersection.

For north-bound Bondsville Road, Pulte is planning to add an additional left turning lane. This will require some additional right-of-way from property owners on both sides of Bondsville Road. This land will start at the driveway entrance to Heritage Metal Works and continue to the intersection. The majority of the widening will be on the creek side of the road so it won't impact the Fire Company apron.

For Horseshoe Pike there is additional right-of-way acquired from Mr. DiGiamberardino on his road frontage for an additional west-bound lane. This widening on the south side of Horseshoe Pike will require moving the traffic signal located at the southeast corner and eliminating the parking lot in front of the General Store. A driveway will be constructed between the General Store and the proposed Weaver Memorials buildings that will be shared by both buildings. This driveway will be right-turn only when leaving the premises. There are three or four parking spaces in front of Weaver Memorials, with the majority of parking to the rear of both buildings.

Additional right-of-way will be needed from the Ulrich property for widening to accommodate an additional west-bound lane.

The planned lane changes are for an additional west-bound lane to be added. There will be a left turn lane, through lane and a third lane will be a through lane and right turn. On the west side of the intersection in front of Sunoco two west-bound lanes are planned with the existing east-bound left turn lane shifting south to accommodate the additional lane. East-bound traffic will remain relatively the same with the exception that all lanes will shift to the south.

During the 1990's the passing lane on the portion of Horseshoe Pike from Buck Road to Corner Ketch Road was changed to a two-way left turn lane (TWLTL). This was recommended due to the number of accidents on this portion of roadway and has, in fact, reduced these traffic accidents.

The passing lane on Horseshoe Pike west of the Village to Croppers has become a race area for motorists to pass slower vehicles and then merge by the Brandywine Village Shopping Center. At the merge Mr. VanLew often sees vehicles being cut off.

There have been numerous incidences of motorists almost getting rear-ended when they try to turn into the Township Building. There are also several side driveways and one road on this portion of Rt. 322. A traffic light was planned to be installed several years ago. With possible improvements planned for North Guthriesville Road south to Brandywine Village this light may not be necessary.

Mr. VanLew is proposing that a letter be written to PennDOT to eliminate the passing zone west of Guthriesville and installing a two-way left turn lane. This installation would permit safer left-turns into the Township Complex and all along Horseshoe Pike. This work could be done along with other improvements in Guthriesville and wouldn't require road widening or any additional right-of-way. The Supervisors discussed their concerns about how close Rt. 322 will now be to the Guthriesville General Store porch and also if having a center lane might cause difficulties for trucks traveling up the hill in inclement weather. After review of the plan, the Board of Supervisors unanimously supported Mr. VanLew's proposal. Mr. Holmes suggested that the Supervisors also consider a deceleration lane at North Guthriesville Road.

Planning Commission recommendation to delay further action on the Village Extension and Mixed Use Districts

The Planning Commission voted to table consideration of the proposed changes to these two Zoning Districts at their May 5th meeting. It was recommended that the Ordinance Task Force give further consideration to the County Planning Commission's suggestion for the four remaining residential parcels, and the one commercial use currently located in the MU District, which would become non-conforming if the MU District designation remained. Vice-Chairman Fischer said that he thought the MU District near Corner Ketch Road was being eliminated altogether. The Zoning map should be revised and the area will revert to the R-2 Zoning District. The Village extension District revision was also tabled pending further consideration of the pending changes to the Applecross Country Club plans.

Mr. Kirkner had previously suggested that a meeting be scheduled with the Plank family to discuss their concerns and possible zoning revisions which might mitigate some of those concerns. The Planning Commission agreed that this was the best way to proceed. Mr. Piersol will arrange for a meeting.

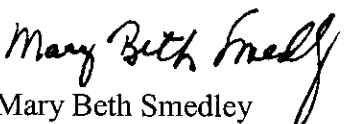
Closing Public Comment

Mr. Holmes asked for an update on resolving police related issues. The Board hopes to resolve some personnel related issues shortly, but other police matters may remain outstanding for some period of time.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice-Chairman Fischer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 A.M. Mr. Voltz seconded the motion, with all voting Aye.

Respectfully submitted,


Mary Beth Smedley
Secretary/Treasurer