

MINUTES

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Robert H. Rohner, Jr. called the meeting to order at 3:02 P.M. Also present were Theresa Laino, Vice Chair, Aaron Springs, Supervisor, Sean Logsdon, Township Solicitor, Mike Lamoreaux, Township Engineer, and Edwina Wolfe, Assistant Secretary.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2024:

Motion made by Ms. Laino second by Mr. Springs to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2024 meeting. Unanimous.

AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS ON LIST #1, LIST #2 AND THE TRANSFERS AS PRESENTED:

Motion made by Mr. Springs second by Ms. Laino to approve the payment of the bills on List #1, List #2 and the transfers as presented. Unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. BUSHKILL OUTREACH & COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT:

Mike Lamoreaux reported that work is progressing on schedule. Completion is still slated for February 2025 however he feels the project won't be completed by then and an extension will be requested for site work clean up. To date, there have been 4 (four) change orders which total \$4800.00 with a fifth one on the way for the lumber. The General Contractor (Kobalt) has been paid \$1.8 million which is 46% complete. One of the subcontractors has been paid \$68,000 which is 11% complete, another has been paid \$42,000 at 14% complete and plumbing has been paid \$7000 which is 5% complete. Mr. Lamoreaux stated there are no major issues of concern at this point.

Motion made by Ms. Laino second by Mr. Springs to approve the change orders as presented. Unanimous.

2. SPOILS SITE:

Mr. Lamoreaux stated a permit extension has been requested, but he does not know what the date is. He has not heard from the contractor in regards to their presence to perform any improvements. Mr. Lamoreaux checks on it once a week and the vegetation that is supposed to be present is not there and what they did put there is really starting to burn off. There was some recognition from Conservation District that they thought there were some minor improvements in regards to rutting and things of that nature but nothing has been done since the permit was extended.

3. EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NORTH CAMPUS:

Chief Mills from the school district thanked the supervisors for allowing them to install their training range. It has been completed and has already been used for training. The district is looking at a new metal detection system called Evolve which has the ability to scan 500 students in 15 minutes. If there were 2 units placed at the North Campus it would take 15 minutes to scan every student. They are trying to get grants to help defer the cost.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. RESOLUTION NO. 401 – OPPOSING THE DELAWARE RIVER NATIONAL PARK AND LENAPE PRESERVE ALLIANCE TO CHANGE THE DESIGNATION OF DELAWARE WATER GAP NAT'L RECREATION AREA TO A NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE:

Motion by Mr. Springs second by Ms. Laino to approve Resolution No. 401 – Opposing the Delaware River National Park and Lenape Preserve Alliance to change the designation of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to a National Park and Preserve. Unanimous. The resolution is a part of these minutes on file.

Mr. Rohner stated the 2025 minimal obligation for the Lehman Township Pension Plan is \$135,514.00. Motion by Mr. Springs second by Ms. Laino to approve the 2025 minimum obligation for the Lehman Township Pension Plan. Unanimous.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Mr. Logsdon said the cell tower agreement will be finalized before the next scheduled Supervisors meeting so he may ask the supervisors to have a brief meeting to approve the agreement. Mr. Logsdon mentioned that the State Wide LSA Grant deadline is approaching.

Mr. Lamoreaux discussed the zoom meeting held with Lehman Township Supervisors, Federal Highway Authority & Forestry, and the Middle Smithfield Township Supervisors regarding the replacement of the Route 209 bridge at the intersection of Creek Road. The National Park Service was not in attendance. Bill Collins was present during the meeting and he and Mr. Lamoreaux shared local knowledge and history work they have both done in that area and upcoming county work that is going to be going on in that area also. This may have made them re-evaluate some of their original plans for the replacement. They had intended being ready for a shut down of the bridge in its entirety and creating a detour for construction in 2028. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was decided that they were going to investigate some of the proposed detours they were asked to consider - a temporary bypass bridge and other things that were discussed during the meeting. Mr. Rohner informed those in attendance that the Park Service is the client for FHWA and asked Mr. Collins to share what he informed FHWA about. Mr. Collins said the township has completed studies using FHWA monies regarding aspects of the bridge itself and found options for improving the bridge in question. FHWA has been looking at the bridge for a few years and when they asked the Park Service about a replacement schedule they got no information. FHWA planned to close the bridge completely and detour traffic onto Sugar Mountain Road. They were asked about the possibility of placing a temporary bridge to maintain traffic through that part of the park which serves both park visitors and the general public. FHWA said they were directed by the Park Service not to consider that option. Mr. Lamoreaux added that the detours are lengthy and suggested pushing the idea of a temporary

bridge and the idea of a one lane at a time replacement so that the temporary bridge only needs to be a single lane. They can use the temporary bridge for one direction of traffic and the existing bridge for the other direction. Mr. Lamoreaux suggested that the township, the county, FHWA, and the Park Service collaborate to make the project better thought-out. Mr. Collins mentioned that to protect the investment in a new bridge the project should also include adequate stream bank protection. Mr. Rohner stated the supervisors agree that a temporary bridge should be put in. The supervisors met with Congressman Cartwright and discussed everything that has been mentioned at this meeting. They also discussed that the temporary bridge can become part of the McDade Trail and get the hikers and bikers off Route 209.

POCONO MT./PIKE COUNTY COG REPORT(S):

No report.

LEHMAN PIKE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES:

Lehman Pike EMS Administrator Susanne Duffy gave the following report:

For the month of August 2024, LPEMS responded to 133 “911” emergency dispatches. 39% (52 calls) were dispatched as Basic Life Support and 61% (81 calls) were dispatched as Advanced Life Support. We lost 6 calls (5%) due to simultaneous dispatches, and we responded to 21 mutual aid calls (16%) for outside agencies. The breakdown of dispatches per Township is as follows:

| | | |
|------------------------|----|-----|
| Lehman Township: | 97 | 73% |
| Middle Smithfield 588: | 14 | 10% |
| Middle Smithfield BEC: | 13 | 10% |
| Delaware Twp: | 4 | 3% |
| Monroe County: | 5 | 4% |

We have been doing the EMS standbys for the ES North’s home football games. We also provided an EMS crew the Polish Festival at Poconos Park, and will have multiple crews at the Berzerkus Concert this Saturday, Sept. 14.

We have been having a wide range of issues with vehicles, and thank the Public Works department for ensuring our ambulances are back up and running as quickly as possible.

Gregory Maresca completed a Heartsaver CPR/AED/First Aid class for residents of Lehman Township. The class was well received, and we have received requests for Ride-Alongs as a result.

Congratulations to Gregory Maresca for being honored as one of Pennsylvania EMS Stars of Life award recipients. Stars of Life recognition is awarded to members of EMS who have gone above and beyond, set examples for others to follow, exemplified EMS in the community, served honorable for decades, and care for patients in a heroic or life-saving way. LPEMS is fortunate to have Gregory on our team, and we wish to congratulate him for all his hard work.

ROADMASTER/PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Assistant Roadmaster Aaron Springs gave the following report:

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

All shoulders in the north portion of the township have been mowed. When the New Holland is back in service (waiting on a part) the crew will work on finishing the south portion. Site lines in the north portion of the township have been mowed. The park walking trail rehab is almost complete for the season. The overgrown brush on the shoulders and intersection were cut back on Pine Lane, Maple Dr., and Walnut Trail in Rustic Acres. The iWork class was completed and the program is up and running and is working great. Midlantic completed painting the lines on the roadways. Willis Tree Care removed a massive dead tree off of Creek Road on the Winona Falls side. Loads of garbage and furniture dumped on the shoulders of the roads throughout the township have been picked up. The brush was cut back on Winona Falls Road by the bridge to improve site distance. Repair work was done on Sugar Mountain West and the ditch line from Chestnut Drive to Round Hill Drive. Gabian was added to slow the water down and stop the erosion of the road. The crew went to Sunset Lake Road and milled out the bad spots and replaced with 19mm. black top. John Deere dropped off a Skid Steer for the crew to demo. General maintenance has been done on all public works vehicles and the EMS vehicles that required service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

LITIGATION – PENNDOT

PERSONNEL

There was an Executive Session regarding Litigation – PennDot and Personnel today at 1:35 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:43 P.M. and go into Executive Session Litigation– PennDot and Personnel made by Mr. Rohner second by Mr. Springs. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by,

Edwina Wolfe
Assistant Secretary