

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

February 21, 2018
7:30 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Heimbecker, Paulus, Wegfahrt, Lawlor, Woolley; J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire; Al Kortze, P.E.; Vicky Roth; Josephine Romano

Absent: 0

Attendance: 5

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Approval of Minutes: February 7, 2018 Regular Council Meeting

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the February 7, 2018 Regular Council Meeting and accept same as presented.

Paulus, Heimbecker: Moved and Seconded
Heimbecker, Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Reports:

1. Vicky Roth
Acting Township Manager
 1. Mrs. Roth reported the sewer billing for the majority of the Township is now out and has been billed and put in the mail. The Developers from the Airport Center complex has requested to be placed on the March 21, 2018 Agenda in order to give a presentation to the Board on Middle Lloyd Street. The Board stated they would welcome this presentation on this date.
 2. The Township received a letter from the Salvation Army concerning their charity event the Seventh Annual Rock 'N Run 10K Kids Fun Run to be held on Saturday, May 12, 2018. The Salvation Army requested a support letter from the Township supporting this event and this letter needs to be submitted to PennDOT. The Board approved letter to be sent to the Salvation Army in support of the Fun Run.
 3. Mrs. Roth apprised the Board of a commercial facility in the Township having a myriad of issues including code violations for quite a period of time. It was determined by the Acting Township Manager that the Code Officials, the Chairman, the Township Solicitor, the Fire Chief, the Fire Marshal, the owner and their representatives of this commercial facility would meet to discuss and conclude all of these issues. That meeting was held on Tuesday, February 20. All serious issues were discussed and this facility was put on notice that they would have 15 days to complete the immediate issues and a maximum of 30 days to

- rectify the roof issues. After the meeting, the owner and staff of this facility met with our Code Officials and Fire Marshal to continue the discussion. Since this is a life and safety issue, the Township Attorney has stated all items needed to be immediately rectified and this could become a court action if it continues and the court would decide if this facility would be shut down. It was also noted they do not have a CO at this time since they have quite a few outstanding violations.
4. The Acting Township Manager apprised the Board of a telephone call she had received from a Township resident concerning crows in the area. The resident stated that all of the trees are loaded with crows in his neighborhood as well as along Route 22 at the old LSI building. He stated the sheer volume of between 4,000 and 5,000 birds was such an issue that he was requesting the Township write a letter to the U.S. Wildlife Service to gain some help in combatting this issue. He was informed Mrs. Roth would review this matter with the Board to see if we should go forward with his request. The resident gave Mrs. Roth the name of the supervisor at the U.S. Wildlife Service and his telephone number. Mrs. Roth did place a call to Mr. Wood of the U.S. Wildlife Service and discuss this issue with him. It was stated the Township had options of harassing these birds on their own, doing nothing or possibly have a joint venture with the City of Bethlehem (who it appears has the same problem), the airport, and the Township. They estimated this to be approximately \$2,000 to \$3,000 of which, if we would go forward, a concrete estimate would be given to us. He stated these efforts that were spent needed to be a long-term effort and also said the communal roosters roosting time frame would end in approximately two to three weeks. He said the between early December and late January is the prime time for the roosting of the crows. This has been an issue in the last four to five years in the Lehigh Valley and it could go so far as to apply something toxic in order to alleviate this situation, but the Game Commission would also need to be involved and various other permits would need to be obtained. It was determined that we are at the end of the communal rooster season therefore the Board determined we would not go forward in sending any letters requesting assistance from the Federal Government and Mrs. Roth would notify the resident of this result.
2. Al Kortze, P.E.
Township Engineer
 1. Mr. Kortze stated at the prior meeting he has brought up the Sherwood Park Ballfield Bid and stated a determination would be made at this meeting. After further discussion, the Board concluded that we would go forward using the standard paper bid to be advertised instead of PENNBID since there has to be a change to our Ordinance on bidding.
 2. Concerning the swale on the side of the Saylor's Mobile Home Park, the Engineer noted that since this is a private swale he has obtained the adjoining owner's names and will be sending letters to all of them stating the problems associated with them not addressing the swale issue. He said the commercial owner on the east side of the swale had received a letter from the City of Bethlehem.

3. The Township Engineer reported he had reviewed projects for the calendar year 2018. In prior discussions, there was a question concerning the sewer line on Willowbrook Road. These lines are terra cotta lines and he felt should be replaced before the new road is constructed. He said this was a budgeted item with the monies set aside and even though there are no problems at this time that we should replace this line from terra cotta to plastic to prevent any future issues. This saves going back in and tearing up the road which would have an additional cost to include permits from PennDOT which would really ramp up the cost. The cost is approximately \$100,000. The Maintenance Supervisor provided a copy of a sketch to the Board in which showed the Hanover Township, Northampton County line of which the Village View flows which goes from the Village View (which is behind the current CVS property on Weaversville Road) to Fashion Drive in the rear of Fashion Drive in the Township, then flows to Meter 4 which is at the northern end and then flows to the Borough of Catasauqua Treatment Plant. Chairman Paulus questioned how much flow goes through this line and it was reported it was approximately 250,000 gallons per day. The new pipe would be 680 feet of plastic pipe and the Township Engineer stated it would be easier to remove and replace now and we would work with Alston Construction who is the contractor doing the work on Willowbrook Road. There was further discussion and questions concerning the budgeted items for this project in prior Council Budget Meetings as well as in prior Capital Budgets. It was concluded Mrs. Roth would investigate prior Minutes and Budgets and report same to the Board. Mr. Wegfahrt was not sure he felt this was necessary to go forward and Mr. Heimbecker wanted further information from the Minutes and the Budgets.

3. J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire
Township Attorney

1. Mr. Eaton stated he did not have a report at this time.

4. Maintenance (Written)

1. Mr. Mouer stated the City of Bethlehem is changing water meters throughout the Township and reiterated that Sewer billing has now gone out and the Township has completed switching our software to accommodate the way that we will now need to go forward with our billing process.

At this time, there was a discussion from a resident at 1932 Troxell Street concerning his sewer line. It is breaking down and blocked. The line was jetted and the blockage opened up and it was determined this was an old line at the rear of their property and for some reason the prior owner had never connected to the sewer line in the front of his property. Because of the backup in the resident's basement, his insurance company is involved to pay his cost. There was discussion concerning waiving the permit and connection cost as well as the road opening cost. The connection fee would be \$1,000 and the road opening and inspections would total \$250. In that regard, the following Motion was made:

Motion: I move we waive all of the fees totaling, \$1,250 for the cost of connecting and fees for this resident.

Heimbecker, Woolley: Moved and Seconded.

Heimbecker, Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

It was also noted the Township Maintenance staff would investigate the manhole in the Pennsylvania Avenue area near this property and be sure that line is clamped off. Mrs. Roth will notify the property owner in writing of the Board's decision.

Chairman Paulus questioned the repair to the new Mack Truck and it was determined that everything was all warranted items including timing issues and windshield wiper issues. At this point in the meeting, Chairman Paulus stated the Storm Water Coordinator, Mr. Mouer, should present his storm water program MS4 review. An update in that regard. Mr. Mouer showed a power point presentation showing Hanover Township MS4 from the start of the regulation up to February 21, 2018. He stated it is a five-year permit and also that the current MPDES (MS4) Permit is valid from March, 2013 through March, 2018 and a new permit cycle was supplied from September, 2017, but we did not have any DEP response at this time. Thus, we do not know what the length of this permit shall be so Jeff reviewed why the MS Permit compliance is important to and including Federal and State laws, consequences for noncompliance, penalties, etc. He also reviewed the permit compliance minimal control measures, each having separate best management practices to and including public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site storm water runoff control, post construction storm water management new development and redevelopment, and pollution, prevention and good housekeeping. The BMPs were also reviewed with the storm water controls used to capture, retain or infiltrate rain water and remove pollutants such as dirt, oil and trash. Some examples are rain gardens, amending soils, ponds, street sweeping and washing of the vehicles. Due to the commercial makeup of this Township, there are no residential BMPs to be inspected since we do not have any residential construction of more than one acre. He reviewed all of the impacts for the commercial sites to and including grease runoff, trash dumpsters, inlets, etc. Jeff also reviewed the municipal impacts to include increased recordkeeping. There will be increased reporting of annual reports and progress reports in odd permit years. The Township assists in inspections, but Keystone Engineers submits the reports to DEP on behalf of Hanover Township. There are inspections of all BMPs in the Township to include municipal facilities. This has been completed with only minor corrections. We are also in the midst of getting together inventory of all the BMPs listed in the Township. He also stated the inlet inspections have been completed of which there are approximately 180 inlets in the Township. We can repair some but others we will have to get repaired possibly by the bidding process. We will continue educating the Maintenance staff on the BMPs, our street cleaning, cleaning the basins, taking care of the infrastructures, etc. Jeff also stated he needs at least four dry days to check on the registered outfalls and the illicit discharges to waterways in the Township. This inspection is done once per year. Councilman Wegfahrt questioned the inspection of commercial garages and Jeff reported the commercial BMPs would include truck garages in the inspections to be done in 2018. Mr. Mouer stated our

educating process for the public will continue of which items are on our website, in our newsletters, both spring and winter, handouts to the public, street cleaning, billboards with cooperation of Adams Outdoor, cooperation with our fire company for the spills and the cleanups in obtaining reports, etc. The next step is the Pollution Reduction Plan. The new requirement under the permit would concern sediment that is coming from the roadway and infrastructure that is running to the waters in the commonwealth, namely, the Lehigh River in Hanover Township. We need to reduce this pollution by 10% per year. It is presently 560,000 pounds of sediment and the goal is to reduce it each year by 56,000 pounds or 10%. If this is approved by DEP, there will be a cost estimate of approximately \$400,000 to reduce this required sediment within five years. The proposed cost projects would include rain gardens, vegetated open channels, inlet filters, small stream restoration project and of course increased street sweeping of 25 times per year. Chairman Paulus questioned using winter salt in the Township and if that would have any impact on this pollution reduction. Jeff stated he did not think this had an impact but when DEP is questioned concerning this they do not have an answer.

5. Storm Water Issues

None at this time.

6. Fire Company Report (Written)

7. Code Enforcement Officers' Reports (Written)

8. Building Inspector's Report (Written)

Chairman Paulus acknowledged receipt of a written Maintenance Report, written Fire Company Report, written Code Enforcement Officers' Reports, and written Building Inspector's Report and same were noted for the record.

9. Treasurer's Report (Written)

Motion: I move we accept the computer printouts dated February 21, 2018, for the General Fund Account, Capital Reserve Account, Escrow Account, Liquid Fuels Account, Sewer Account and Water Account subject to audit.

Paulus, Heimbecker: Moved and Seconded

Heimbecker, Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus:

Aye

Unan.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

1. Storm Water Program MS4 (Review and Update)
Public Questions and Discussions Are Encouraged

This item was reviewed under the Maintenance Report.

Payment of Bills:

Motion: I move Council authorize payment of Postage, Payroll (1/26/18), Payroll (2/9/18), Voucher Nos. 23356-23381 (Prepays), Voucher Nos. 23382-23431, from the General Fund Account in the amount of \$440,239.95; Voucher Nos. 4359 from Capital Reserve in the amount of \$1,885.00; Voucher No. 151 from the Liquid Fuels Account in the amount of \$5,824.81; Voucher Nos. 4606-4608 from the Escrow Account in the amount of \$7,201.00; Voucher No. 4182 (Prepaid), Voucher Nos. 4183-4188 from Water Account in the amount of \$25,801.56; Voucher No. 5587 (Prepaid), Voucher Nos. 5588-5598 from the Sewer Account in the amount of \$459,789.76 for a Grand Total Expenditure of \$940,742.08.

Paulus, Heimbecker: Moved and Seconded
Heimbecker, Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Courtesy of the Floor:

Mike Prendiville from Hanover Township, Northampton County Supervisors questioned whether the Township would have any interest in sharing information and reporting for the MS4 with neighboring communities since this is an unfunded mandate. Mr. Mouer responded the majority of the MS4 work that is done in this Township has been contracted by the Township and we don't go outside of our limits.

Chairman Paulus stated the Board would go into Executive Session concerning personnel matters and would not be returning.

Adjournment:

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Roth
Acting Township Manager