



PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 4, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: William Patterson, Chairman
Richard Kratz, Vice-Chairman
Janet Heacock, Member
Dean Becker, Member

ABSENT: Gordon MacElhenney

OTHERS PRESENT: Cecile Daniel, Township Manager
Kenneth Picardi, Township Solicitor
Kevin Conrad, Township Engineer
Shawn Motsavage, Road Master

William Patterson called the October 4, 2016 meeting of the Perkiomen Township Board of Supervisors to order. Mr. Patterson informed the public that there would be a public hearing on a Conditional Use Application prior to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

PUBLIC HEARING: H&K Group, Inc. d/b/a Reading Site Contractor – (Meyers Farm). H&K Group, Inc. filed a Conditional Use Application requesting permission to allow the clearing of vegetation and grading, including the addition of fill, on steep slopes of greater than 15%, but less than 25%, on property located at 141 Miller Road, Schwenksville, PA. The public hearing was conducted by Solicitor Kenneth Picardi.

Scott Drumbore of the H&K Group and their attorney, Joseph LaFlamme were present to present evidence to support the Conditional Use Application filed by H&K Group, Inc. d/b/a Reading Site Contractors, Inc. The property owner of 141 Miller Road, William R. Meyers, was present at this meeting and indicated that he granted to H&K Group permission to file this Conditional Use Application on his behalf. In addition, Mr. Meyers testified that he supports the Application and has no objection to the disturbance of steep slopes on his property.

Mr. Drumbore explained that Reading Site Contractors Inc., a subsidiary of H&K Group, Inc., was awarded a contract from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for a major road project. This road project is the S.R. 4044 Reconstruction Project otherwise known as the PennDOT Plank Road Realignment Project. This project will require the installation of certain detention basins and the excavation of a portion of the steep rock slope that is located along Route 73 at Plank Road. H&K Group is looking to place this fill on property located at 141 Miller Road; thereby allow for more area of the property to be used for pasture area and cropland. In pursuit of the necessary permits to allow for

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this fill to be placed on Mr. Meyers' property, it was determined that an area of steep slopes would be impacted.

Mr. Drumbore explained that, as part of this PennDOT Project, Mr. Meyers lost 2.4 acres of his ground for the installation of one of the detention basins for this project. The construction of this basin will require the removal of 20,000 cubic yards of material. In addition, there will be an additional 25,000 cubic yards of material coming from the rest of the project. In total, Mr. Drumbore indicated there would be 45,000 cubic yard of material that Reading Site Contractors would be looking to find a place to haul it to. This area and the other areas to be excavated would result in 3,700 tri-axel loads of material to be transported to other areas. By allowing the fill to be deposited on Mr. Meyers' property, the results would be to: (1) add usable property for cropland and pasture, and (2) reduce the wear and tear on the roads and travel time for the tri-axel trucks.

Mr. Drumbore explained that the limit of disturbance is being proposed in two phases. Phase 1 limit of disturbance is 7.67 acres. Phase 1 was the original submission to the MCCD for the NPDES Permit. Phase 2 limit of disturbance is 5.6 acres. A revised NPDES Application was submitted to MCCD to include both phases in the application. The total limit of disturbance is 13.27 acres of the 38 acres of property owned by William Meyers.

The finished slopes that will be created by the fill will be approximately 6 percent. To keep the finished grades, a 2:1 slope at the transitions back to existing grade on the downhill sides will be created. The 2:1 slope was the result of trying to provide the greatest amount of ground to allow for cropland and pasture area. These slopes will be permanently stabilized with erosion control blanket and permanent vegetation. A 20-foot-wide access buffer will be maintained between the toe of the fill slope and the existing tree line. This access buffer will provide a method for Mr. Meyers to maintain the slope area. With this buffer area, there is no proposed activity that will affect the existing tree line.

Mr. Drumbore indicated that the fill material would be placed in vertical lifts not to exceed twelve inches in height. The existing top soil will be removed and set aside. Once the fill material had been placed on the property, the top soil will be spread, stabilized, and seeded so that the property will return to a meadow cover condition for use by Mr. Meyers. With the installation of the fill and replacement of the top soil and the reestablishment of meadow cover conditions, there will be no increase in storm water runoff or erosion on the property.

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Mr. Drumbore explained that this is not a development project, but a grading of steep slopes. This project will change the existing steep slopes by flattening the amount of existing steep slopes on Mr. Meyers' property. The project will be an improvement to Mr. Meyers by making the property more usable for the existing cropland and pasture areas. This project proposed no physical improvements such as buildings, structures, roads, or parking areas.

Upon the completion of the presentation and review of the application and plans, Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to approve the Conditional Use Application of H&K Group, Inc. d/b/a Reading Site Contractors, Inc. subject to the following conditions:

1. All grading, fill, and stabilization shall be done in strict conformity with the Conditional Use Application including the plans, drawings, other submissions, and permits (NPDES and E&S);
2. The grading at the toe of the slope parallel to Miller Road, located behind the utility shed, shall be stabilized to prevent erosion in this area.
3. In the event the Township needs to use its employees, agents, and/or experts to identify, correct, or enforce compliance with conditions 1 or 2 above, all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the Township shall be paid by the Applicant within 20 days of receipt of an invoice from the Township.

There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

MINUTES: The minutes of the September 6, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting were approved upon motion of Dean Becker and seconded by Richard Kratz. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE: Cecile Daniel informed the Board that some of the regular monthly reports were not received as of this meeting date. The Township was in receipt of the July Meeting Minutes for the Central Perkiomen Valley Regional Planning Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

1. Perkiomen Valley Library: Carol Ewing, of the Perkiomen Valley Library, Aileen Johnson, Branch Library Manager of the Perkiomen Valley Library, and Kathy Arnold-Yerger, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Norristown Public

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Library, were present to update and discuss with the Board the Level of Services the library provides to residents of Perkiomen Township. After that discussion, the Board thanked the library representatives for their attendance and for updating the Board on the library's activities and finances. The Board welcomed the updated information and will consider the information when preparing the 2017 Perkiomen Township Budget.

2. Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract: Signal Service has submitted the two-year renewal for the Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract. This contract covers the maintenance of the Township's traffic signals, the school crossing lights, the blinking light located on Route 73, and the temporary traffic signal located at Gravel Pike, Plank Road, and Ott Road. Ms. Daniel recommended that the Board approve the two-year contact with Signal Service. With the recommendation of Ms. Daniel, Richard Kratz made a motion seconded by Dean Becker to approve the two-year contact with Signal Service to cover the maintenance of the Township's traffic lights, the school crossing lights, the flashing light located on Route 73, and the temporary traffic signal located at Gravel Pike, Plank Road, and Ott Road. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was passed by a vote of 4-0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Picardi informed the Board that, in addition to other items to report as part of the agenda, that the property owner of 534 Gravel Pike submitted a variance application for the Zoning Hearing Board. The Board discussed the application and decided that the Board would not take a position on the variance application; therefore, they did not feel the need to have Solicitor Picardi attend this zoning hearing.

PUBLIC SAFTEY REPORTS:

- **POLICE REPORT:** The Board is in receipt of the PA State Police Report for September.
- **TRAPPE AMBULANCE** – No report was received.
- **PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION** – No Report was received.
- **PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP FIRE COMPANY:** John Moran, Jr., submitted the report of the Fire Company.
- **FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT:** John Moran, Sr. submitted to the Board the Fire Marshall's Report dated October 1, 2016 for activities taking place during the month of September.

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ROAD MASTER’S REPORT: Shawn Motsavage submitted to the Board his Road Master’s Report dated October 1, 2016 for activities taking place during the month of September.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: John Moran Jr. submitted to the Board his Code Enforcement Report dated October 1, 2016 for activities taking place during the month of September.

- 539 Gravel Pike: Mr. Moran submitted to the Board an updated Property Maintenance Report. In addition to that report, Mr. Moran informed the Board that all the tenants have vacated 539 Gravel Pike. As of September 17, 2016, the property of 539 Gravel Pike is vacant of all occupants.

PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Cecile Daniel reported that there was a Planning Commission Meeting held on September 20, 2016, at which time, the Planning Commission considered the Conditional Use Application of H&K Group for a recommendation to the Board in anticipation of the public hearing. The Planning Commission continued to revise and refine the proposed Wireless Communication Facilities Ordinance for the Township.

LOWER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY: Richard Kratz informed the Board that Shannondell Inc., had filed a lawsuit against Lower Providence Township Sewer Authority and the LPVRSa over the issue of the purchase of sewer capacity.

ENGINEERS REPORT: Kevin Conrad reported on the following:

1. 2017 Road/Sidewalk Projects: Mr. Conrad informed the Board that, based upon the recent Road Inspection, the draft 2017 Road/Sidewalk Projects would include the following: Barley Sheaf Lane: select base repair and bituminous overlay; Betcher Road: select base repair and bituminous overlay; Brighton Road: select base repair and bituminous overlay; Haldeman Road: select base repair, storm sewer work, and bituminous overlay; Trappe Road: remove and replace 100 linear feet of 6’ wide sidewalk; Cranberry Boulevard: construct approximately 600 LF of new sidewalk; construct two new handicap ramps and upgrade two existing handicap ramps; and Brighton Road: upgrade four existing handicap ramps. To keep to a schedule of being capable to putting this project out for bid in early 2017, SSM Group is looking for the Board to authorize this work. The Board considered the scope of work to be completed as part of the 2017 Road/Sidewalk Projects and authorized SSM Group to proceed with preparing the necessary documents to bid the 2017 Road/Sidewalk Projects.

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2. MS4: Mr. Conrad and Ms. Daniel presented to the Board work that the Township will need to complete in anticipation of the renewal of the NPDES Permit that covers the Township's MS4 Program. Kent Morey of SSM Group prepared a timeline of work that needs to be completed. Under the present schedule, the NPDES Permit must be renewed by March 15, 2018. To make this date, the Township will need to submit a Permit Notice of Intent (NOI) by September 16, 2017. This NOI must be submitted to PADEP by that date. Per the PADEP, there are four impaired streams in Perkiomen Township (School House Run, Landis Run, and two unnamed tributaries to the Perkiomen Creek). The impairment to these four streams is sediment. As part of the submission of the NOI to PADEP, the Township must prepare Pollution Reduction Plans (PRP) for each impaired stream. The PRPs must state how the Township proposes to reduce this sediment load in each stream by ten percent over the next five years (March 15, 2018 to March 14, 2023). To prepare this plan, SSM Group must determine the sediment load in each stream. Once this has been determined, then SSM Group must determine the loading to each outfall. It is estimated that there are forty outfall structures that must be evaluated. Following this evaluation, the Township must develop and indicate how the Best Management Practices will be implemented to reduce the sediment load in each stream. The Best Management Practices and the cost to implement these practices will become the Township's PRP to be submitted to PADEP. Once this PRP has been prepared, the Township must publish a public notice in the local newspaper. This public notice must contain a synopsis of the plan, where the public can review the plan, and how long the public can comment on the plan. The public notice must be advertised at least forty-five days before the NOI package is submitted to PADEP. Within this forty-five-day period, the public will have at least thirty days to provide comments to the Township. Any comments received must be included in the NOI package sent to the PADEP. Ms. Daniel estimated that the cost to complete this work could be somewhere between \$75,000 to \$100,000. In preparing the draft 2017 Budget, Ms. Daniel is working on including this expenditure in the operating budget. The bigger financial issue will be how to fund the Best Management Practices listed in the PRP.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Cecile Daniel reported on the following:

1. Municipal Waste Collectors: Earlier this year, the Board discussed an issue that was raised regarding the times when trash haulers were picking up trash in the Township. This issue was raised by a resident because the trash haulers were picking up the trash between 2:00 to 3:00 a.m. At that time, the Board discussed establishing the hours of operation for Municipal Waste Collectors in the Township, but no final decision was made. Ms. Daniel informed the Board that the issue was raised again to request the Township establish hours when the Municipal Waste Collectors can pick up trash.

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Dean Becker brought up the subject of bidding out trash collection services in the Township. Presently, there are many trash hauling companies picking up trash. By bidding out the collection of trash, the number of trash hauling companies in the Township could be reduced to just one company and it may be possible to regulate the times when the company can pick-up trash. There was a discussion and it was directed that the matter be investigated. As to the issue of regulation of the times when trash haulers can pick up trash in the Township, the Board discussed establishing this by adoption of a resolution. The Board discussed what those times should be. The point in the morning was the conflict with school bus drivers having to pick up the children for school. In trying to mitigate that problem, the Board set the a.m. time to 5:00 a.m. at the earliest. In the p.m. time, the Board set 9:00 p.m. at the latest. The Board directed that Solicitor Picardi prepare a resolution establishing these hours of operation for the Municipal Waste Collectors in Perkiomen Township. The Board will consider this resolution at the November meeting. The creation of this resolution will be a first step in dealing with this matter. Any further steps will be subject to the issues that come from the enactment of this resolution.

2. 2016 Audit: Ms. Daniel reported that she received the proposal from Dreslin and Company to complete the 2016 Perkiomen Township/Fire Company Audit. The proposal represents a small increase to complete the 2016 audit. As required by the Township Code, the intent to use Dreslin and Company to complete the 2016 Township/Fire Company audit must be advertised for 30 days. Since the Board usually makes this decision at the January Meeting, Ms. Daniel requested permission to advertise its intent to consider making this appointment at that meeting. The Board reviewed the proposal and Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by Dean Becker authorizing Ms. Daniel to advertise the Board's intent to utilize the services of Dreslin and Company to complete the 2016 Perkiomen Township/Fire Company Audit at the January, 2017 Board of Supervisors' Meeting. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

3. Street Lights: PECO was notified regarding the change to the Application for Electric Service requesting the upgrade of the four street lights on Musket Court. This change was a request that the street lights be upgraded to 16000 sodium lumens. Due to the availability of the lights that PECO's contractor had, three of the street lights will be changed before the end of September. The fourth light will be changed sometime in October. Regarding the Township's buyout of the street lights owned by PECO, Ms. Daniel indicated that she is still awaiting the contract from PECO so that it can be reviewed. In addition, since the Township will now be responsible for street light maintenance, Ms. Daniel indicated she has contacted two companies who provide that service. Ms. Daniel and Mr. Motsavage will review the information from these companies to return with a recommendation to the Board.

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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES: The treasurer reviewed the receipts and expenditures for the month of September. After review of same, Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to authorize payment of the September bills. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was passed by a vote of 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

William Patterson informed the public that there would be an Executive Session after this meeting to discuss Real Estate Matters.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned upon motion of Janet Heacock and seconded by Dean Becker.