

**LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Minutes of Board Meeting held on June 9, 2020

A workshop meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Lower Paxton Township was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Lowman S. Henry, on the above date in the Lower Paxton Township, Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Supervisors present in addition to Mr. Henry were Gary A. Crissman, Robin Lindsey Chris Judd, and Norman Zoumas. Also, in attendance was Bradley Gotshall, Township Manager, and Steve Stine, Township Solicitor.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Lindsey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Mr. Henry announced that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session before the meeting and they would meet afterwards to receive information from the Township Manager and staff.

Public Comment

There was none.

Presentation on the Red Top Road Bridge Replacement Project

Ryan Hostetter, HRG Inc., introduced the Red Top Road Bridge and Roadway Improvement Plan. Deb Hoover, KCI was also present on behalf of PennDOT. KCI is managing the Red Top Road Bridge Replacement Project.

Mr. Hostetter announced that this meeting is the official public meeting for the Red Top Road Bridge Project. This process is required for the use of federal funds as part of the environmental clearance.

Mr. Hostetter noted that in typical fashion they would have displays and people manning exhibits and answering questions, and the purpose of these meetings is to solicit feedback from the residents. However, due to the recent constraints they would solicit feedback via the website. He will provide a notice to residents by distributing flyers and via the website and solicit feedback through the Township or HRG. The details will be worked out with the Mr. Gotshall following the meeting.

Mr. Hostetter reviewed the frequently asked questions document and the upcoming project timeline. The Red Top Road Bridge Replacement Project will begin in summer 2021 and completed by winter 2021. This project entails the replacement of Red Top Road Bridge over an unnamed tributary to Nyes Road in Lower Paxton Township. The bridge is located adjacent to the intersection of Red Top Road and Nyes Road. The bridge will be replaced with a minor shift of the existing alignment to improve the intersection alignment with Nyes Road. The approach will include road reconstruction, guide rail, and minor signage. The purpose of this project is to provide sustainable, safe, and efficient crossing for the Red Top Road Bridge over a tributary of Nyes Road that will address the project needs by providing unrestricted access to road legal vehicles and emergency responders. Lower Paxton Township is the local sponsor for this project. The federal government will fund 80%, state 15% and local 5% for all project costs. The source of this funding is the Harrisburg Transportation Program. The Red Top Road Bridge will be closed during construction. The through traffic will use a long-term detour from Red Top Road to Copperstone Road, then Union Deposit Road to Nyes Road back to Red Top Road. During construction Red Top Road will be closed to all through traffic and local traffic access will always be maintained. The detour length is approximately 2.7 miles.

Ms. Lindsey asked Mr. Hostetter if the Nye's Road and Devonshire Road Project would be completed before this project begins. Mr. Hostetter explained that the projects would overlap.

Mr. Crissman asked Mr. Hostetter if the property owners had been notified. Mr. Hostetter explained that the property owners would be notified during the outreach process. The property owners received notice that HRG and PennDOT would be on their property surveying.

Mr. Hostetter reviewed the project plans and environmental resources. The proposed structure will not impact the flood plan. The project will move into Final Design before construction in June 2021. The proposed structure will be a box culvert and will widen the structure by 4 feet.

Ms. Lindsey expressed that she had some concerns about HRG notifying the property owners. Mr. Hostetter explained that the Environmental Clearance must be approved before they can notify the property owners and HRG is working on the scoping for the documents. The Township will receive monthly updates.

Discussion on the topic of Trick or Treat

Mr. Henry announced that the topic of when to hold Trick or Treat was the subject of conversation last year, and there were those who urged the Board to consider holding Trick or Treat on Halloween, October 31st as opposed to traditionally having it on the fourth Thursday of October. This year the Board would like to hold the discussions early instead of waiting until October.

Adam Kosheba announced that he discussed the topic with the President of the Dauphin County Chief's Association, and they intend to discuss Trick or Treat at their next meeting. He noted that he believes the Dauphin County Chief's Association will recommend that the individual municipalities choose when they are going have Trick or Treat.

Mr. Kosheba deferred the decision to the Board members.

Mr. Kosheba noted that his only concern is when the Halloween falls on a Saturday because of the traffic and the need for more patrol officers.

Traditionally, Trick or Treat has been held on a Thursday (school night) to minimize the traffic. Additionally, the idea around all the communities hosting Trick or Treat on the same night allowed officials to gage the number of children out participating in the activity.

Ms. Lindsey noted that she is in favor of keeping Trick or Treat on the fourth Thursday of October each year with the hope that other Municipalities follow suit.

Mr. Henry noted that it is questionable if Trick or Treat will even take place at all this year because of the Coronavirus, it may be behind us, or it could resurge. The Board would

Mr. Henry read public comment from Forrest Heal. This comment was received via email. Forrest Healy wrote: "I would like to see Trick or Treat take place on Halloween. There have been people upset with planning their holidays when the date keeps changing. What's the point of having Halloween on the calendar if we keep moving it; this township is safe enough that Trick or Treat can take place any day October 31st lands on, just like the good ole days."

The Board members discussed changing the date of Trick or Treat to October 31st each year.

Ms. Lindsey suggested that the Township consider hosting Trunk or Treat instead of Trick or Treat.

Mr. Judd asked Mr. Kosheba how much it would cost to have additional patrol officers out on Trick or Treat. Mr. Kosheba explained that he would do his best to keep the figure very low; he estimated about eight to ten officers on patrol which would be about 5,000 dollars in overtime.

Mr. Zoumas asked Mr. Kosheba if there were any issues to report last year. Mr. Kosheba explained that there was a major weather event last year and a lot of folks stayed inside.

Mr. Henry noted that last year residents petitioned the Board to change the date of Trick or Treat to Halloween.

Mr. Henry announced that he thinks Trick or Treat should take place on Halloween.

Mr. Crissman asked if Kosheba had a recommendation. Mr. Kosheba yielded to the Board for direction.

Mr. Henry announced that the Board would decide next week, which would allow one week for public comment.

The 2020 Adjusted Budget

Mr. Gotshall presented the recommended budget for 2020. It is forecasted that local governments will see a significant drop in revenues. Local Income Tax; 90% Real Estate taxes have been collected. The large commercial property owners. 980,000 Reduction/Gap

He commended the Township Department heads for making the budget cuts. The highlighted areas are the line items that are proposed to be cut. He noted each line item or adjustments. Computer Network Expenses – decrease 46,650 Server etc. July/August might see an increase that would allow the Twp to restore the budget He noted that the unemployment rate demonstrates that there would likely be a decrease in revenues. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics, this is the highest Unemployment Rate in the Township.

Mr. Henry noted that when things reopen that may provide for a bounce back.

Mr. Gotshall announced that he would place the 2020 Adjusted Budget on next week's agenda. In August, reevaluate the budget and determine if it should revert or be amended again. ARLE Grant project will be pushed back by one year, this project can be delayed by one year.

Mr. Gotshall mentioned that he spoke with Lou Verdelli, first time in 28 years, that he has seen a rating of 1.98 percent; overbought stock market. RBC 150 million dollars' worth of

orders on a bond issuance. Reduction in 2020 debt service. There will be further savings. In August Brad will return to discuss the Budget cuts/reversions back to the Board

Mr. Henry commended the department heads for making the revisions to the current budget. Next week for action.

Improvement Guarantees

Mr. Crissman motioned to the Improvement Guarantees called for a voice vote and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

Announcements

Mr. Henry announced that the next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2020, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center. He noted that the Municipal Center is closed to the public and any member of the public who would like to comment on the agenda may do so by calling or sending an email message.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Crissman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Judd seconded the motion. Mr. Henry adjourned the meeting for the Lower Paxton Township at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shellie R. Smith
Recording Secretary

Approved by,



Chris Judd,
Secretary