

The monthly Workshop Meeting of the Marion Township Board of Supervisors was held in the Municipal Building and on Zoom video/teleconference with Supervisors Peter McCarthy, Irene Sileski, James Brooks, Secretary Susan Staaby, Assistant Secretary Melissa Benjamin, and three other interested persons. Also present – Kimberly DeRosa and Joe Boldaz from Hydraterra Professionals. No one participated via Zoom.

Chairman Peter McCarthy called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., followed by The Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: None.

Items for Discussion:

Tulpy Police Donation – Chief Bryan Dronick commented that he has been working on updating equipment since he became Chief. They are very grateful for our past donation. Is requesting Marion Township to purchase new Tasers as they are outdated and cannot be repaired. He has a quote from Axon with a five year payment plan. This includes four Tasers 10, training cartridges, active cartridges. Initial payment is higher, then \$3600 yearly. Quote expires in December. Supervisor Sileski discussed applying for a grant to cover some of the cost of needed equipment for the Police.

Act 537 – Joe Boldaz from Hydraterra Professionals briefly reviewed the Geotechnical Report. Bedrock was hit anywhere from 3 to 20 feet. He estimates 8,000 cubic yards of bedrock would need to be removed for a gravity system. Cost is estimated at \$150-\$325 per cubic yard or approximately \$2.5 million for removal of the bedrock. A low pressure system only needs to go 3-5 feet in the ground, so approximately 500 cubic yards of bedrock would need to be removed, at approximately \$100,000.

Proposed Well Water Ordinance – Joe Boldaz from Hydraterra Professionals contacted Tim Wagner at DEP to see what is needed in the Ordinance. Mr. Wagner's recommendation was to ignore it, that it was something buried in our Act 537 but is not something that they require in the Special Study. Hydraterra will give us documentation of that telephone call.

Sewage Management Program – Hydraterra Professionals are working on getting the new TerraTracker Program started next month and is working with Atty. Macfarlane on updating the Guidance Booklet.

Revised On-Lot Sewage Disposal Systems (OLDS) Ordinance – A motion was made at last month's meeting to authorize Kozloff Stoudt to advertise the Ordinance.

Adopt Sewage Management Program Resolution (2023-5) -- Minor changes were discussed briefly. This will specify the information and documentation required by the pumpers on the pumper reports. Needs to be adopted after the Revised OLDS Ordinance is adopted. Letters need to be sent to property owners and pumpers notifying them of the change.

2023 LSA Category-4 Program (Berks) Grant – We met with District Director Daniel Bost from Senator Gebhard's office on September 13, 2023 to discuss how they can support us in securing critical grant funding to complete the design of our mandated sewer project. We have a meeting scheduled with Representative Barry Jozwiak on Monday, September 25, 2023 to ask for his

support. Several letters of support have been received from residents along with a petition with 56 signatures. Kimberly from Hydraterra Professionals spoke with multiple people at DCED. It would be very helpful to meet with the Berks County Commissioners to discuss the project. Grant submission is due September 30.

Review & adopt revised Resolution (2023-5) for LSA Category-4 (Berks) Grant --
Peter McCarthy made a motion, seconded by Irene Sileski, to adopt the Revised Resolution-2023-5- for the LSA Category-4 Program (Berks) Grant. On a roll call vote, Peter M. - aye, Irene – aye, Jim – aye. Motion unanimously carried.

2023 LSA Statewide Program (PA) Grant – Kimberly from Hydraterra Professionals, recommends that we do not apply for this grant at this time, but rather we should wait until we are in the construction phase of the public sewer project. She feels we should focus on the LSA Category-4 (Berks) Grant because we have support from local officials. The same committee will review these grant applications and the LSA Category-4 (Berks) grant applications. Applying to the Statewide Grant could jeopardize being awarded funds from the Berks Grant.

Schedule Town Hall – Dates are available for November at Conrad Weiser West Elementary School. Rate is \$10-\$15 per hour. Application form needs to be approved at a School Board Meeting. Joe Boldaz from Hydraterra Professionals suggested we schedule in January for Districts 1 and 2, to cover the DEP requirements for education; the Sewage Management Program; and general education for on-lot septic systems.

Road Occupancy Permit Ordinance Amendment – Motion made at last month's meeting to authorize Atty. Macfarlane to prepare and advertise.

Proposed Air BnB Ordinance – Motion made at last month's meeting to authorize Atty. Macfarlane to prepare the Short-Term Rental Ordinance draft.

Robo Calling/Emergency Alerts – We received quotes from Civic Ready and OnSolve Code Red Alerting. The Supervisors continue to review the documents.

Additional Enforcement Action against Property Owner of 1117 William Penn Blvd. – Discussed the condition of the property. We are waiting for the report from Kraft Municipal Group.

Stonecroft Village Deed for Open Space Lot 215 #8 which contains all open space property and fronts William Penn Blvd., has been conveyed to Stonecroft Village HOA when it should have been conveyed (and deeded) to Marion Township, as it involves our Right-of-Way because it abuts the roadway. Will check if Atty. Macfarlane has heard from Landmark/StoneGroup.

Emergency Management Coordinator Report – Commented that Police Departments have requested he help with searches using the drone; also used the drone for pre & post flood damage of culverts/bridges which is safer than climbing down the stream banks to take photographs. Showed several short videos that he has taken. Reviewed the various classes he is taking.

Creekview Dairy Operation, 952 Route 419 – Engineer Hess has received the As-Built Plans and issued a review letter. BCCD did an inspection on August 22, 2023. Report not received yet. Letter of Credit balance is \$40,222.88.

Culverts and Related Site Improvements on Marion Drive North, Sheridan Road, Marion Drive South & Paving/Guiderail Improvements on Reichert Road – Marion Dr. N is finished. Reichert Rd. needs line painting. Sheridan Rd & Marion Dr. S culvert were set and paved and need guiderails.

Temporary Construction Easement & Permanent Drainage Easement for Culvert Replacements – Engineer Hess is working on getting these signed by property owners.

Bollinger Road – Fill Overflow Matter -- Tabled.

Bollinger Road – Fill Overflow Agreement – Tabled.

Guiderails – Needed on Bollinger Road, Hickory Road, and William Penn Blvd. -- Tabled.

Extend stormwater pipe along Marion Drive to Main Street – Tabled.

Building Demolition/Proposed New Building – Motion made at last month's meeting to hire Olsen Design Group. We are waiting to hear back from them to schedule a meeting.

Comcast Franchise Renewal – Supervisors are reviewing the draft agreement that was received from Cohen Law Group.

Western Berks Joint Zoning Ordinance Section 403, The keeping of pets & small domesticated farm animals – other municipalities are interested in participating. The September meeting was cancelled and has not been rescheduled yet.

112 Forge Rd. Municipal Repository Bid Acknowledgement Form -- Bid must be accepted or rejected and returned to the County.

Advertise Road Crew and Assistant Secretary Positions on Indeed – The Supervisors will review the draft advertisement.

2023 Volunteer Fire Relief Association Funds -- \$14,018.00 was direct deposited by the PA Auditor General on September 21, 2023. Act 205 requires us to give these funds to Marion Fire Company Relief Association within 60 days and complete form 706B. *Peter McCarthy made a motion, seconded by Irene Sileski, to authorize disbursement of the \$14,018.00 to the Marion Fire Company Relief Association and complete 706B. On a roll call vote, Peter – aye, Irene – aye, Jim – aye. Motion unanimously carried.*

Stormwater Management Ordinance and Fees Update – Tabled.

2024 Proposed Budget – Tabled until next month.

Supervisors' Comments:

Peter – No further comments.

Irene – Asked who maintains the park and ball field. Chairman McCarthy commented that our Road Crew maintains it because it is township property.

Jim B. – No further comments.

Secretary/Assistant Secretary – No further comments.

There being no further business, *Peter McCarthy made a motion, seconded by Irene Sileski, to adjourn the meeting at 12:09 p.m. On a roll call vote, Peter – aye, Irene - aye, Jim – aye. Motion unanimously carried.*

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Staaby, Secretary