

Patterson Township Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 12, 2015

The Patterson Township Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Complex, 1600 19th Avenue. Following the call to order and Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed Commissioners Policaro, Hoover, Inman, and Mahosky present. Mr. Bradow was absent.

The minutes of the previous meetings held on January 8, 2015 (Agenda/Regular) were presented for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman approving as presented. Passed unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing was advertised for tonight regarding the MS4 (storm sewer) regulations. Mr. Larry Lennon, Township Engineer gave an overview of the two (2) Ordinances (#446 and #447) scheduled for adoption. Ordinance #446 provides for regulations of storm water, storm drainage, and storm drainage facilities. Ordinance #447 implements the Patterson Township MS4 prohibited discharge ordinance and provides for MS4 permitting, issued by DEP, where applicable.

Township resident John Marzano questioned the affect these new Ordinances are going to have on his upcoming development of the two lots on 11th Street in the Township. He noted a water run-off problem. Mr. Lennon advised that these two Ordinances will have little impact on what he is proposing to build. Mr. Marzano was advised that he will be required to supply the plans for review prior to building permit issue.

Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving the adoption of Ordinance #446. Motion passed unanimous. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving the adoption of Ordinance #447. Passed unanimous.

Public Hearing was closed at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS: Mrs. Jackie Siaus, 17th Avenue Extension advised the Board that she was in attendance to see if a decision is made on what roads will be paved under the 2015 Road Program. She was advised that a decision on what roads to be done may be discussed but no decision yet.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The January Treasurer's Report(s) for the General Fund, Sewer Fund, and the PLGIT Accounts were presented by Mrs. Wagoner. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving as presented. Passed unanimous.

Monthly Bills: The January/February bills were presented for review and approval. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving payment. Passed unanimously.

Engineer's Report: Mr. Larry Lennon, Jr., LSSE distributed the written monthly report and advised the Board of the following: Darlington Court – No response from the Developer (Mr. Betters) regarding status of West 10th Street. Township Building Emergency Generator – Project is ongoing. Gas meter to be replaced by Columbia Gas at no cost to accommodate generator. Contract will replace service line as part of the contract. MS4 Program – Training with Township staff will be scheduled in next 30 days. Also, a presentation at a future Commissioners meeting. Flood Plain Regulatory Update – Current Ordinance needs to be sent to FEMA by February 18th. Revised ordinance will need adopted by August 17, 2015. Darlington Road Sidewalk Project – No change in status. Construction to be scheduled Spring, 2015. 2015 Road Program – A review was made of all of the Township roads. Report is ready for discussion at tonight's meeting. Beaver Falls Wasteload Questionnaire – Document will be submitted next week. Brady's Run Wasteload Questionnaire – Request has not yet been received. Steffin Hill Sanitary Sewer Replacement – Project has been completed. Board was advised of a current agreement between White Township and Patterson Township for maintenance on the Steffin Hill Sanitary sewer line. The section of the line which was shared at one time is solely White Township's line. It is approximately 500 ft. The agreement needs to be supplied and reviewed by Mr. Fawcett and any notices appropriate should be given to White Township regarding the shared maintenance, which is no longer applicable.

Mr. Lennon distributed a document (red cover) making recommendations for this year's Road Repair Program. The first item addressed was to adopt an annual crack sealing program for sealing cracks on roads that have been repaired in the last 5-10 years. He suggested use of a hot applied rubber and fiber modified asphalt to be applied by a contractor (not Township employees) and set aside \$10,000-\$15,000 for this application.

A rating system from 1 to 10 was utilized to rate each road, cross street to cross street, based on current condition of the road. Traffic rating was also given. This method will not only allow for a selecting roads for a current road repair, but will set up the basis for selecting roads for resurfacing in future years. The streets can be re-ranked every year. Options were also provided on methods of repair. Mr. Lennon distributed and explained a spreadsheet including the 30 worse Township roads, in addition to what application should be used to repair (i.e. inverted seal, bituminous milling and paving, or bituminous seal coat, also known as tar and chip). The amount available for this year's program is approximately \$250,000.00 of which \$15,000.00 would be set aside for crack sealing. Mr. Lennon noted page 4, which provided an analysis and conclusion of which roads should be done.

Proposed road repairs that fall under the amount budgeted of \$235,000.00 is as follows:

- 18th Avenue from 15th Street (Township line) to 17th Street – shared venture with the City of Beaver Falls.

- 13th Street from Darlington Road to dead end. Entrance to Township Park.
- 3rd Street from 18th Avenue to 8th Avenue (17th Avenue Extension).
- Highland Avenue from 8th Street to 9th Street.

A question was raised on the roads listed, particularly 18th Avenue, as a shared venture with the City of Beaver Falls. This has not yet been discussed with the City and how do we share in the costs. Mr. Fawcett advised that a formal Municipal Agreement would need to be approved and signed by the two municipalities.

Mr. Hoover raised a question on securing a bond issue to do more roads. Mr. Lennon's report indicated the life of a road being 5 years for high traffic and 10 years for low traffic. Mr. Mahosky commented that the oil prices are currently low, indicating a better price for road repairs.

Mr. Hoover proposed to do a larger scale project by borrowing the funds to do more than 5 roads. The question was whether to a bond issue versus bank borrowing. Mr. Fawcett advised that a financial advisor would be necessary and suggested a bond attorney (that he knows) who could come and talk to the Board. He agreed to make that connection.

Mr. Inman advised that he would get in contact with the City of Beaver Falls to inquire whether they are interested in a shared venture for 18th Avenue. He also noted that he would prepare for bid (the 2015 Road Program) for next month's meeting.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Fawcett noted the Ordinances (#446 and #447) scheduled for adoption under his report were approved at the conclusion of the public hearing. He had no additional report.

Committee Reports: Fire/Finance – Mr. Mahosky presented the monthly fire reports for payment. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving payment of 12 fire reports in the amount of \$640.25; 98 ½ hours. Motion passed unanimous.

Mr. Mahosky advised that he was going to proceed with getting proposals to remove the trees on Darlington Road between 11th Street and 12th Street. Although it is believed they are on PennDot property, it would be advantageous to know the cost of removal of these 4 trees. PennDot disputed that they are their trees; however, informally agreed to remove the stumps if the Township would remove the trees. This would be in preparation for a sidewalk project from 11th Street/12th Street, which is unrelated to the sidewalk project approved for a grant (4th Street to 7th Street). Discussion was held on the location of the trees, in regards to the width of the road (25 ft. right-of-way).

Mr. Hoover questioned how the Township can take down trees that don't belong to the Township. Mr. Mahosky advised of the pedestrian traffic that walks through this area,

along with the risk of falling limbs and branches. It is a noted safety hazard. Mr. Cipolla (Public Works Foreman) advised the Board of recent sewer problems in this area. He is waiting for better weather to have the line televised and cleaned. Mr. Hoover expressed that he is not in favor of using taxpayers money to remove trees that don't belong to the Township. He asked Solicitor, Ken Fawcett for a legal opinion. Mr. Fawcett advised that the Township has no liability for property not owned by the Township. If known hazards exist, the Township can use its powers to remove the hazard. He also noted that the right-of-way is in question in regards to PennDot, who may only be responsible for curb to curb. Mr. Policaro believes the state owns the trees. Mr. Inman advised that he may have maps from 1922, which indicate the width of the road, when built. Mr. Cipolla added that Tri-State Maintenance is to come in and televise this sewer line, which will determine the source of the clog.

Mr. Fawcett added information regarding the Township's Sidewalk regulations, which are very minimal. He noted that an updated Ordinance will provide for design, size, base, and maintaining them. He recommended referring this to the Township Engineer for ideas to update the Township's Ordinance. It was noted that there are standard specifications for the upcoming grant project.

Mr. Mahosky called on Fire Chief Graeser to provide an update on fire activities. Chief Graeser thanked the Board for allowing use of the property on Ray Street for training. The training session went very well and it was noted that Patterson Heights also participated.

Parks/Recreation – Mr. Hoover advised that he is working on upcoming projects for 2015 and gave examples of projects that may occur.

Public Works – Mr. Inman provided a report on the deterioration of the salt shed and advised of possible solutions to fix or replace. Various ideas were provided to fix temporarily until the weather breaks. Jersey barriers were discussed for placement on the left and right side, since the back wall is bad. Mr. Inman advised that he is getting proposals for replacement. In the meantime, the suggestion was made to move the salt to the middle or right side and put concrete barriers against the back wall. Currently, there is a lot of snow on the roof of the building, which increases the added weight. Mr. Policaro made the suggestion to move the salt out of the salt shed completely and tarp it, which will remove the reason for the drivers to go in the building. Mr. Inman noted that he will continue to look into a new building and will instruct the employees to stay out of the building.

Mr. Inman provided a report on the non-uniform pension status, which was discussed in the work session prior to this meeting. In order to bring Mr. Cipolla's annuity up-to-date and remove some of the shortfall that exists regarding funding his pension, a motion was made by Mr. Inman to take \$6,000.00 from the General Fund and deposit into Mr. Cipolla's MetLife annuity. The motion died, lack of a second to the motion.

Ordinances/Policies – No report in Mr. Bradow's absence.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Morrow’s written monthly report for January was distributed for review. No comments / questions at this time.

Police/Township Office/COG – Mr. Policaro noted the distribution of the monthly Police report for January. The items listed on the agenda regarding the Township building (door locks/security measures) was continued.

Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving all the Committee Reports as presented. Passed unanimous.

Unfinished Business: None

Township Agencies: Civil Service Commission – Mr. Mahosky advised of recent meetings held by the CSC and the final results of testing. There is one name for the eligibility list: Mr. Anthony Moreno, 1127 Ridgeway Avenue, Aliquippa. In addition to distributing minutes, Mr. Mahosky provided the Board with a copy of CSC hiring checklist, of which included a 12 step process. Upon review of the 12 step process, an amendment to the Ordinance may be needed. Mr. Fawcett recommended holding off taking any action on this until next month, giving him time to review.

Planning Commission - The John and Susan Marzano, 2 lot subdivision was presented for approval. The Secretary noted that the plans have been reviewed by both the Beaver County Planning Commission and the Township Planning Commission. The mylar has been signed by the Township’s Planning Commission indicating approval. It was noticed that a resolution is needed in order for the Board of Commissioners to approve. Therefore, it was tabled until next month.

Communications: A letter and check was received from Comcast in the amount of \$51,073.74 representing the 2014 franchise fees collected.

Notification was received regarding the 2015 Beaver County Community Development Block Grant program. The Secretary noted that applications are due Friday, March 6, 2015, if the Board has any projects that they want her to apply for.

A letter and documentation was received from the Bradys Run Sanitary Authority providing the Township with the estimated 2015 Sewer Treatment Costs. The letter indicated an increase of 5.6% for 2015. The letter indicated that the 2014 actual costs will be received shortly.

A notice was received inviting the elected officials to a “Leaders Serving Beaver County” meeting.

New/Miscellaneous Business: The invoice for the quarterly transfer from the sewer fund to the Patterson Township Municipal Authority for loan payment(s) was presented. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman approving the transfer of \$26,976.57. Passed unanimous.

The Secretary advised the Board of a proposed project that she wants them to consider. The use of a student, college intern, or scout to research those residents who have served Patterson Township for 20 + years (or whatever the Board would determine). Honor them in some way by either a brick sidewalk, monument, wall display, etc. The intern (student) would provide a presentation to the Board with their idea. Seed money could come from the recent monies received from the Recreation Board (which will take care of honoring Mr. Chauncey Parsons in some way) to do the project, once it is decided on what to do. There was no objection to moving forward with this project. The Secretary will keep the Board advised.

Mr. Hoover publicly thanked Mrs. Wagoner for her efforts in the production and recent distribution of the Newsletter/Directory sent to all of the residents.

Executive Session: None needed.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, motion was made by Mr. Hoover to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Mahosky the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Paula J. Wagoner, CMC
Township Secretary

Copy: Kenneth G. Fawcett, Esq.
Larry Lennon, Jr., P.E.
Board of Commissioners

