

**SCOTT TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES— April 17, 2024**

The Scott Township Board of Supervisors met on the above date in the Municipal Building, 350 Tenny Street (Espy), Bloomsburg, PA. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. In attendance were Supervisors Layne D. Kocher, Kathleen A. Lynn, and Lanny R. Sheehan. Solicitor Matthew E. Turowski from Hill, Turowski, James & Lehman, LLP, Police Chief Raymond J. Klingler, Maintenance Supervisor Douglas Kashner, and Secretary/Treasurer Brittany M. Bacon were also in attendance.

Mr. Kocher stated that the first order of business was the bid letting for the Scott Township 2024 Paving Project for Knights Drive, Sherwood Drive, Greenwood, Fairview, Reichart Road, and Arbutus Park Road. Ms. Bacon opened the bids as follows:

| CONTRACTOR | AMOUNT |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. HRI, Inc. | 108,790.80 |
| 2. Meckley’s Limestone Product, Inc. | 129,831.20 |
| 3. M & J Excavation Inc. | 129,004.00 |
| 4. Kobalt Construction Inc. | 176,202.00 |
| 5. Sokol, Inc. | 146,975.92 |
| 6. New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co.,Inc. | 168,736.00 |
| 7. Lehigh Asphalt Paving & Const., Co. | 147,766.80 |
| 8. Don E. Bower, Inc. | 156,416.16 |
| 9. Big Rock Paving | 131,594.50 |
| 10. Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. | 164,279.00 |

Ms. Lynn made a motion to award conditional approval of the Scott Township 2024 Paving Project to HRI, Inc., pending review and approval by the Scott Township Solicitor and PennDOT. Mr. Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Resident Allen Kile, 26 Willow Lane, requested assistance with flooding in his backyard, resulting in seepage into his basement, caused by water runoff from the stream near Route 11. Mr. Kile stated this happens multiple times each year and is probably caused by debris accumulated in the ditch/stream bed. Mr. Kocher requested Mr. Kashner to go to the property to assess the situation.

Resident Kevin Haughan, 21 Shawnee Road, reported that there is now an infestation of cats and skunks at the condemned 20 Shawnee Road property. Mr. Haughan also stated that the property owner of 20 Shawnee Road

has been at the property during evening hours. Ms. Bacon stated that it is a violation of the condemnation to be at the property from dusk until dawn and the police should be notified of any violation.

Resident Kelsey Smith, 2260 3rd St, stated that throughout the winter months, the pickleball courts were still in use even though the Township took down the nets, and residents continue to be disturbed by shouting, cursing, and loud music from the pickleball players. Ms. Smith requested a timeline for noise mitigation and for a clearer understanding of Phase 2 of the park development plan. Ms. Smith also stated that she did not feel that a private meeting at the municipal building was appropriate to discuss Phase 2. Mr. Kocher clarified that all residents can review Phase 2 Park plans at the municipal building and this should not be misconstrued as a private meeting.

Resident Joyce Hammer, 201 Helcha Street, requested the timeline for Phase 2 of the Park Development Plan.

PARK GRANT

Mr. Kocher provided an overview of the Park Grant, which is a portion of Phase 2 of the Park Development Plan for improvements to the Espy and Scott Parks. Per Mr. Kocher, the Park Grant is now ready for review by the consultants and subsequent re-bid of the project.

Resident Jim Hammer, 221 Helcha Street, asked who will be responsible for maintaining the additional shrubs and trees and asked why the Township does not presently maintain/mow near some property boundary lines. Mr. Kashner explained that complaints have been received from some residents for cutting too close to the boundary lines, while other complaints were received for not cutting close enough to boundary lines. Mr. Kashner emphasized that Scott Township will mow the grass and maintain trees, adhering to boundary lines.

Resident Andrea Bishop, 2270 3rd Street, asked for specifics on the type and age of trees included in the grant and asked if any trees, other than those surrounding the pickleball court, were included in the plan as lack of shade is an issue. Mr. Kocher stated that no additional trees, outside of the noise mitigation, have been included in the grant. Mr. Kocher further stated that shade mitigation is not included in the present Park Grant plan.

PICKLEBALL

Mr. Kocher stated that the Scott Township parks are open, by ordinance, from dawn to dusk and that any violations of those hours should be reported to the Police Department. Mr. Kocher facilitated a discussion between the Board of Supervisors and residents regarding defined hours for the pickleball courts, excessive shouting and music, and enforcement of violations of same. Options discussed included posting signs regarding acceptable behavior, changing park hours, changing hours for pickleball only, and locked gates at the courts.

Mr. Kocher asked the Board of Supervisors for any additional comments or motions on the matter. Hearing none, Mr. Kocher stated that since no motions were made to change park hours, the dawn to dusk hours remain the same. Additionally, efforts will continue on the Park Grant with the intention to re-bid as soon as possible and the Board would consider language for a sign regarding appropriate behavior on the pickleball courts.

Mr. Kocher noted the existing controversy over lawn mowing with some residents and requested that residents be considerate of the Maintenance Department workers. If any residents have concerns or complaints, they should contact the Scott Township Municipal Building or the Supervisors directly and not make insulting comments to the workers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting were presented for approval. Ms. Lynn made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

The March 2024 Police, Roads, Secretary, Treasurer, Budget, Zoning, and the Barry Isett & Associates Inc. reports were presented for approval. Additional comments to the monthly reports, as follows:

- **Police** - The 2014 police cruiser sold for \$1,150. There will be increased patrols due to the upcoming Bloomsburg block party.
- **Roads** - The Apple Run street restoration project will begin August 12, 2024 for a two-month duration.
- **Treasurer** - Funds for the PennDOT Green Light Go Grant and Liquid Fuels have been received.
- **Budget** – Receipt of 2024 real estate tax revenue has begun.
- **Zoning** - One Zoning Permit for solar panels on an accessory building was denied per the ordinance requirements of solar panels on primary structures only. An appeal on the zoning permit denial was received and a zoning hearing has been scheduled for April 22, 2024.
- **Barry Isett & Associates Inc.** – April included participation in the PPL Hearing concerning the 20 Shawnee Road property.

Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve the reports as presented. Mr. Kocher seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

The March 20 through April 17 General Fund bills to be paid were presented as two electronic fund transfers and check numbers 18219 and 18222 through 18264 for \$105,208.41. A portion of the payment to Starr Uniform for the police department vests will be reimbursed by a grant. In addition, the Liquid Fuels Fund bills to be paid were presented as check numbers 1940 through 1944 for \$7,346.85. Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Ms. Lynn seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT

SAI Realty Route 11 – Application has been received by SAI Realty Route 11 for subdivision & land development to construct storage units behind the new smoke shop. The Planning Commission recommends approval. Township Engineer, Todd Pysner, recommends conditional approval based on his submitted review letter outlining three specific conditions. Ms. Lynn made a motion to conditionally approve the subdivision & land development with the conditions prescribed by the Township Engineer. Mr. Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

20 Shawnee Road Update - Ms. Bacon reported that, per direction given at the March Board of Supervisors meeting, a constable was hired to personally serve the Township Condemnation Notice to the property owner and the notice was served on March 26, 2024. The property owner has 30 days to appeal the notice or make necessary repairs. To date, no contact has been made by the property owner to Scott Township for permits for necessary repairs nor has an appeal request been received. A title search of the property was conducted. There are no delinquent taxes. There are two small municipal liens by the Scott Township Authority. Demolition of the property could occur on or after May 26, 2024.

20 Shawnee Road Bids – Ms. Bacon reported that bids were solicited for the demolition of 20 Shawnee Road and three bids were received, as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| • G & M Crawford Inc | \$23,800.00 |
| • William J Low Concrete & Excavation | \$17,500.00 |
| • Sokol, Inc. | \$13,780.00 |

Mr. Kocher noted that the cost of the demolition would fall to Scott Township. Solicitor Turowski stated that there are two options for recovery of the funds expended by Scott Township, i.e., placing a municipal lien on the property for 21 years or taking legal steps to take ownership of the property.

Mr. Sheehan made a motion to conditionally accept the bid from Sokol, Inc. for the demolition of 20 Shawnee Road, Bloomsburg, PA, contingent upon completion of the legal steps necessary prior to demolition and demolition to occur on or after May 26, 2024. Ms. Lynn seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Ms. Bacon was asked to notify Sokol, Inc. of the contingent acceptance of the bid and to inform them that demolition will not occur prior to May 26, 2024.

Part Time Maintenance Dept Hiring – Mr. Kashner reported that two candidates were interviewed for the vacant part time maintenance position and recommended hiring Charles “Chuck” Shoup for the position. Ms. Lynn made a motion to hire Charles Shoup as a part time maintenance worker, beginning April 29, 2024, at a rate of \$17.50/hour for up to 31 hours/week. Mr. Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS – There was no New Business to discuss.

Ms. Lynn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sheehan seconded, and the motion carried 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany M. Bacon
Secretary/Treasurer