

MINUTES OF THE OLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD APRIL 10, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Oley Township Municipal Building by Jeffrey Spatz with Supervisors Mark Hoch and Edwin Pollock in attendance. Solicitor Kenneth Picardi was also in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was observed.

The meeting agenda was posted in the meeting room and the township website twenty-four hours prior to the start of the meeting. The following public comment was heard:

1. Benjamin Raker – He spoke with Senator Judith Schwank’s office, PennDOT, and every resident that opened the door on Main Street between Oley Furnace Road and Water Street regarding the speeding on Main Street. He presented us with a petition signed by those residents requesting the Supervisors to address the speeding and cut-through epidemic which is endangering pedestrians on this section of Main Street.

2. Leigh Urwiler – She spoke with every resident that opened the door on Covered Bridge Road between the covered bridge and Route 73 regarding the speeding on Covered Bridge Road. She presented us with a petition signed by those residents requesting the Supervisors to address the speeding which is endangering pedestrians on this section of Covered Bridge Road.

There being no changes to the March 13, 2023 minutes, a motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2023 meeting as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – abstained; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock - yes. Two in favor, one abstained....motion carried.

The police department report for the month of March 2023 was read indicating 273 calls for the month.

The road department report for the month of March 2023 was read. The road department received a \$3,000 contribution from Oley Valley Community Fair Association for the purchase of a post pounder to be used to install the snow fencing.

There was no Fire Chief’s report for the month of March 2023.

The Ambulance Chief’s report for the month of March 2023 was read indicating a total of 88 calls for the month.

The Tyler Spier property located at 353 Water Street is in violation of rubbish, sanitation, accumulation of rubbish or garbage and disposal of rubbish, citation issued and hearing scheduled for April 4, 2023 but has been continued until later in April. The John Reich property located at 434 Main Street is in violation of sanitation, accumulation of rubbish or garbage, and disposal of rubbish, citation issued, no court date has been set yet. Notice of violation issued to Corey Williamson at 95 Main Street for accumulation of rubbish or garbage and disposal of rubbish, the rubbish has been cleaned up. The Richard Hartline property located at 336 Main Street is in violation of failing to call for final inspection on a building permit.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2023 MEETING CONTINUED

Received letter dated April 4, 2023 from Oley Township Planning Commission recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township reject the Berks Career and Technology Center Subdivision – Phase III Final Plan, plan number E-03-0485-0010, dated October 26, 2021, for all the reasons as listed in the December 2, 2021 review letter from LTL Consultants, Ltd., unless a request for waiver extending the review time period beyond the date of April 17, 2023 is received. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to reject the Berks Career and Technology Center Subdivision – Phase III Final Plan, plan number E-03-0485-0010, dated October 26, 2021, for all the reasons as listed in the December 2, 2021 review letter from LTL Consultants, Ltd., unless a request for waiver extending the review time period beyond the date of April 17, 2023 is received. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated April 5, 2023 from Oley Township Planning Commission recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township approve the Friedens UCC Subdivision Final Plan, plan number 2021-006, dated March 20, 2023, subject to reference to Quit Claim Deed included in the Source of Title notation, surveyor sign and seal the plans, and the certificate of ownership and acknowledgement section completed, and all these items verified by the Township Engineer. This plan was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to adopt Resolution #631-23 to approve the Friedens UCC Subdivision Final Plan, plan number 2021-006, dated March 20, 2023, subject to reference to Quit Claim Deed included in the Source of Title notation, surveyor sign and seal the plans, and the certificate of ownership and acknowledgement section completed, and all these items verified by the Township Engineer. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated April 5, 2023 from Oley Township Planning Commission recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township waive Section 22-902.H.(1) (monuments) of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance for Boone – Lot Annexation of 2023 Sketch Plan of Record, plan number GOTWAL0024, dated March 10, 2023, to permit iron pins in lieu of concrete monuments. This plan was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to waive Section 22-902.H.(1) (monuments) of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance for Boone – Lot Annexation of 2023 Sketch Plan of Record, plan number GOTWAL0024, dated March 10, 2023, to permit iron pins in lieu of concrete monuments. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received Zoning Hearing Board decision for Oley Township Municipal Authority granting variances to permit woodland disturbance of thirty-six percent and permit disturbance of the steep slopes on the premises up to fifty-six percent.

Received Zoning Hearing Board decision for Steven & Donna Lorah granting a variance to permit a side yard variance of not less than four feet.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2023 MEETING CONTINUED

Incoming communications:

1. Letter dated March 23, 2023 from Alan Marsdale expressing concerns of a lack of sufficient off-street parking on Main Street and Water Street for the ten apartment units proposed for the property at 305-307 Main Street. Ryan Wessner said the permit issued was for a renovation of the existing ten apartment units, the owner is marking off spaces in the rear of the building for the ten units, they are grandfathered for ten units, if the renovation consists of more than fifty percent then they would fall under the present ordinance requirements.

2. Letter received April 1, 2023 anonymously expressing concerns of bushes hanging out in the sidewalk area at Main Street and Meeting House Lane and vehicles have difficulty pulling out safely from Meeting House Lane onto Main Street. Mr. Spatz said he will contact the owner to trim the bushes.

3. Email received April 5, 2023 from Oley Valley High School BASH Committee requesting to hold a Senior Car Cruise on May 31, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Oley Fire Company fairgrounds and requesting the use of Fire Police for traffic control, route will be a right on Jefferson Street, right on Main Street, right on Pricetown Road, right on Oley Furnace Road, left on Main Street, left at Oley Fire Company, exit fairgrounds right on Jefferson Street, left into Oley Valley High School parking lot. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to permit the Oley Valley High School BASH Committee to hold an Oley Valley High School Senior Car Cruise on May 31, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. beginning and ending at the Oley Fire Company fairgrounds as per the designated route in our township and authorize the use of Fire Police for traffic control. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Atty. David Allebach provided us with the revised deed restriction modifying the construction restrictions as approved at our last meeting for the Trails End Lane property and this will be recorded with the Updegrove Deed.

Atty. Picardi said he spoke with the Manager of OSP for Windstream Communication for the Berks County area regarding the removal of their wires off of the old poles along Main Street so that these poles can be removed before our paving project begins. Duane Howard said he seen they are now working on moving these wires.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to adopt Resolution #632-23 adopting, enacting, and implementing a small wireless facility design manual pursuant to the provisions of Township Ordinance No. 2022-388. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2023 MEETING CONTINUED

Atty. Picardi said we cannot install traffic calming devices because we are constrained by PennDOT Publication 383, there are procedures that need to be followed prior to installing these types of devices. Mr. Spatz feels we need to move forward carefully and do the necessary planning to protect the municipality against unwarranted litigation, he discovered that the most effective in reducing speeds and diverting traffic are speed cushions and speed humps. Mr. Spatz said that Publication 383 recommends that the municipality establish a Local Traffic Advisory Committee which coordinates all requests for traffic calming measures made within a local jurisdiction, this committee includes a municipal engineer, municipal planner, representative of the governing body, representative of emergency services, one or more local citizens, and a representative of public works, he would suggest to schedule a workshop on this matter. Benjamin Raker indicated that Senator Judith Schwank's office had said that State monies may be available for this project. Leigh Urwiler indicated there are no 25 MPH speed limit signs on Covered Bridge Road as you leave the covered bridge traveling toward Route 73. Drew Geary said there are two speed limit signs on each side of that section of Covered Bridge Road. Sharon Moll said since we paved Covered Bridge Road there is now a dropoff at the sides of the road, she was walking her grandchildren along the road and had to get off of the road due to a speeding vehicle and fell into the grassy area alongside the road. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to establish a Local Traffic Advisory Committee as per PennDOT Publication 383 and schedule a workshop on May 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss traffic calming measures. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received the Land Development Agreement and the Financial Security and Escrow Agreement for the parking lot project for New Life Bible Fellowship Church. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize the Chairman and Secretary to execute the Land Development Agreement and the Financial Security and Escrow Agreement for New Life Bible Fellowship Church for the parking lot project. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received proposal from Bartlett Tree Experts for a health care program for 2023 for the Sacred Oak Tree as follows: soil care and fertilization - \$468.00; pest management - \$407.00; lightning protection - \$1,680.00. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to authorize Bartlett Tree Experts to perform the soil care and fertilization, pest management, and lightning protection for the Sacred Oak Tree at a total cost of \$2,555.00 to be paid out of the Sacred Oak Preservation Fund. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – abstained. Two in favor, one abstained....motion carried.

Truist informed us that our two pension plans will be migrated to their standard investment pricing effective July 1, 2023 and this change will entail an increased annual fee which is significantly more than our current pricing. Conrad Siegel would be able to take on our pension's fiduciary and investment duties that Truist currently handles. A cost estimate will be obtained until next month from Conrad Seigel to administer both of our pension plans.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 10, 2023 MEETING CONTINUED

The financial report was called for and read. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to accept the financial report and pay all the bills and salaries. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock - yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Public comment:

1. Kerwin Mast – His business vehicles were recently vandalized of catalytic convertors at his property located at 3095 West Philadelphia Avenue which is located directly across from the Volunteer Park which is owned by the township, they used this Park as a staging area, he asked if this entrance to the Park could be made narrower. He will meet with Duane Howard to see what can be done with the entrance.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley M. Moyer
Secretary/Treasurer

Cc: J. Spatz
M. Hoch
E. Pollock
K. Picardi
D. Allebach
N. Ulrich