

MINUTES OF THE OLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 11, 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 Richard Almquist was also in attendance. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of the 9/11 attack that occurred twenty-two years ago today. 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. No public comment was heard on any of the listed agenda items.

There being no changes to the August 14, 2023 regular and workshop minutes, a motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2023 regular and workshop meetings as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

The police department report for the month of August 2023 was read indicating 198 calls for the month. Chief Ray Serafin said the search for escaped prisoner Danilo Cavalcante is making its way into the Pottstown area.

The road department report for the month of August 2023 was read. Duane Howard had obtained an estimate for the guiderail for the Reider Road/Mill Road bridge, after some discussion it was decided to not guiderail off the entrance to the bridge, he does have a unit price for the guiderail, he believes the total now is 175 feet of guiderail that is needed so the estimate is now \$8,050 rather than the original of \$10,050. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to approve the estimate from Collinson, Inc. in an amount of \$8,050 for guiderail installation at the Reider Road/Mill Road bridge and not cutting off the bridge at this point. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize purchasing appropriate signage to make Mill Road a one lane roadway at the bridge. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried. Mr. Howard said the contractor will begin milling Main Street tomorrow and begin paving on Wednesday into Thursday.

The Fire Chief's report for the month of August 2023 was read indicating a total of 48 calls for the month.

There was no Ambulance Chief's report for the month of August 2023.

The Richard Hartline property located at 336 Main Street is in violation of failing to call for final inspection on a building permit, citation to be filed. Stop work order issued to Brian M. Miller, II & Kaylee A. Wallace for property located at 2876 West Philadelphia Avenue for building a detached garage without any permits, citation issued. The Allen & Susan Standhardt property located at 15 Rose Virginia Road is in violation of unsafe structures and equipment,

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sanitation, and weeds, owner will hire someone to help cleanup property and was granted an extension of time. The Kevin S. Mitchell property located at 3339A Friedensburg Road is in violation of unsafe structures and equipment, temporary safeguards, sanitation, accumulation and disposal of rubbish or garbage, electrical facilities, and electrical equipment, citations issued and DEP given all information regarding outdoor storage of chemicals. The Matthew & Marisa Horne property located at 711 Main Street is in violation of weeds, citation issued. The Old Roman Catholic Church Diocese of PA, Inc. property located at 5813 Oley Turnpike Road is in violation of unsafe structures and equipment, sanitation, accumulation and disposal of rubbish or garbage, property being cleaned up.

Received letter dated August 30, 2023 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Mast Roofing & Construction, Inc. (Doxa Holdings, LLC, owner) for property located at 3095 West Philadelphia Avenue for construction of new building to be used as a garage with solar panel installation on the roof, building construction to be metal siding and metal roofing, five overhead garage doors, stone retaining wall to include concrete stairway to second floor, refer to submitted plans for specific details, finding of fact is that all the materials proposed for this building are all currently used on the property. This application was reviewed and discussed. Kerwin Mast said the stone retaining wall should be changed to a concrete retaining wall. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Mast Roofing & Construction, Inc. (Doxa Holdings, LLC, owner) for property located at 3095 West Philadelphia Avenue for construction of new building to be used as a garage with solar panel installation on the roof, building construction to be metal siding and metal roofing, five overhead garage doors, concrete retaining wall to include concrete stairway to second floor, refer to submitted plans for specific details. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated August 30, 2023 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Darren & Sandy Rhoads for property located at 1728/1734 Memorial Highway for construction of a new 3,400 square foot house using ProVia manufactured stone, vinyl siding, vinyl double hung six over six windows, AB Martin entry doors with the front door having side lights on both sides, and Timberline HDZ asphalt architectural shingles, refer to all submitted sketches for specific details, finding of fact is that this house will be approximately three hundred feet from a public roadway and the front of the house will face east. Received letter dated August 30, 2023 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Darren & Sandy Rhoads for property located at 1728/1734 Memorial Highway for construction of a new 4,000 square foot barn, siding and roofing to be metal ABM panels, windows to be double-hung single pane, metal doors, refer to all submitted sketches for specific details, finding of fact is that this barn will barely be visible from the public roadway. Received letter dated August 30, 2023 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Darren & Sandy Rhoads for property

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located at 1728/1734 Memorial Highway for construction of a new 4,000 square foot garage, siding and roofing to be metal ABM panels, windows to be double-hung vinyl single pane, four metal garage doors, refer to all submitted sketches for specific details, finding of fact is that this garage is adjacent to the barn and will barely be visible from the public roadway. These applications were reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Darren & Sandy Rhoads for property located at 1728/1734 Memorial Highway for construction of a new 3,400 square foot house using ProVia manufactured stone, vinyl siding, vinyl double hung six over six windows, AB Martin entry doors with the front door having side lights on both sides, and Timberline HDZ asphalt architectural shingles, refer to all submitted sketches for specific details; for construction of a new 4,000 square foot barn, siding and roofing to be metal ABM panels, windows to be double-hung single pane, metal doors, refer to all submitted sketches for specific details; and for construction of a new 4,000 square foot garage, siding and roofing to be metal ABM panels, windows to be double-hung vinyl single pane, four metal garage doors, refer to all submitted sketches for specific details. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Incoming communications:

1. Received August 25, 2023 from Robert A. Noll a proposal for the modification of the Agricultural Security Area to include his property located at 430 Basket Road in Alsace Township. Received August 25, 2023 from Joshua E. Noll a proposal for the modification of the Agricultural Security Area to include his property located at 380 Basket Road in Alsace Township. Received August 31, 2023 from Kimberly Kline a proposal for the modification of the Agricultural Security Area to include her property located at 6451 Daniel Boone Road in Exeter Township. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to accept the proposals for the modification of the Agricultural Security Area to include the properties of Robert A. Noll located at 430 Basket Road in Alsace Township, Joshua E. Noll located at 380 Basket Road in Alsace Township, and Kimberly Kline located at 6451 Daniel Boone Road in Exeter Township subject to the applicants agreeing to pay for any associated costs of this inclusion process. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

2. Received letter August 28, 2023 from Ross Stiver & Amanda O’Driscoll requesting the posting of signs on the Fisher Mill Road bridge that there is to be no fishing, diving, or loitering from the bridge. Ross Stiver and Amanda O’Driscoll were in attendance regarding this request. Duane Howard said a letter should be sent to Berks County requesting to post these signs since this bridge is owned by the County. Ms. O’Driscoll does not feel the township would need the County’s permission as per Title 67 of the Pennsylvania Code Section 212.114. Atty. Almquist will review this section of the Pennsylvania Code until next month. Mr. Howard said he spoke to the County engineering firm of McCormick Taylor about this matter and they were going to bring it up at the next county meeting. Mr. Spatz said we should check whether the police could enforce this type of signage if it is erected.

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3. Letter dated September 8, 2023 from Oley Fire Company requesting permission to hold the Halloween Parade on October 21, 2023 at 1:00 p.m., requesting that “No Parking” signs be posted along Main Street between Jefferson Street and Water Street from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M., close the eastbound lane of Main Street from Friedensburg Road to Oley Furnace Road at 12 P.M. making Main Street one-way heading west, and close the southbound lane of Water Street from Main Street to Lake Road at 12 P.M. making Water Street one-way heading north. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to grant permission to Oley Fire Company to hold a Halloween Parade on October 21, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. as per their requested route and authorize “No Parking” signs to be posted along Main Street between Jefferson Street and Water Street from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., close the eastbound lane of Main Street from Friedensburg Road to Oley Furnace Road at 12:00 p.m. making Main Street one-way heading west, and close the southbound lane of Water Street from Main Street to Lake Road at 12:00 p.m. making Water Street one-way heading north. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

4. Letter dated September 9, 2023 from Stephen R. LeVan regarding waterways filling in with sediment in many locations and he suggests that the waterways be studied by expert groups. Stephen LeVan was in attendance and spoke on this matter. Mr. LeVan also suggested getting in contact with Arbor Day Foundation regarding the tree population in the area. Mr. Spatz said he would be in favor of any volunteer efforts to address the waterway issues.

The traffic calming workshop meeting was held this evening and has been recessed until Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., the adoption of a resolution of the Oley Township Traffic Calming Policy will be considered next month.

Atty. Picardi prepared the Stormwater Controls and Best Management Practices Operations & Maintenance Agreement, Land Development Agreement, and Financial Security Agreement for the Rota-Mill Land Development (Revised) property located at 784 Memorial Highway and we received the documents that were executed by David W. & Ruth E. Mast. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize the Chairman and Secretary to execute the Stormwater Controls and Best Management Practices Operations & Maintenance Agreement, Land Development Agreement, and Financial Security Agreement for the Rota-Mill Land Development (revised) property. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Atty. Picardi prepared the Stormwater Controls and Best Management Practices Operations & Maintenance Agreement for the Darren & Sandra Rhoads property located at 1728 Memorial Highway and we received the document that was executed by Darren & Sandra Rhoads. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize the Chairman and Secretary to execute the Stormwater Controls and Best Management Practices Operations & Maintenance Agreement for the Darren & Sandra Rhoads property located at 1728 Memorial Highway. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

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Received renewal options for our employee healthcare program, our present plan is the Gold PPO Choice \$3,000 with Capital Blue Cross, the renewal premium increase will be 2.74% but it would change to the Silver PPO Choice \$4,500. Mr. Hoch said we are investigating other options with Capital Blue Cross and Aetna, action will be tabled on this until our next meeting.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to sign the Worksheet for the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligation of the Oley Township Non-Uniformed Employees Pension Plan and the 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligation of the Oley Township Police Pension Plan. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to designate Tuesday, October 31, 2023 from 6PM to 8PM as Halloween Trick-or-Treat night and authorize closure of Main Street at Friedensburg Road and Jefferson Street from 6 PM to 8:30 PM and have volunteer personnel man the positions as blockades at Main Street and Friedensburg Road, Main Street and Jefferson Street, and Friedensburg Road and Legion Drive for the purpose of public safety, and post no parking signs on Main Street between Friedensburg Road and Jefferson Street from 5PM to 9PM. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Any budget items or contribution requests from organizations for 2024 will need to be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer by October 1, 2023 in order to be considered.

The financial report was called for and read. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Jeffrey Spatz 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.

Mr. Spatz said the Sacred Oak Tree visitation had been cancelled earlier in the year and nothing is scheduled for October of this year, our legal agreement with the property owners states the only time it will be open to the public is the first Saturday in June.

Public comment:

1. Matthew Walker – Said the Oley Township Municipal Authority have directed Met-Ed to relocate the pole that is currently on his property into the road right-of-way of Old State Road, Met-Ed has told him that the Municipal Authority told them the Supervisors approved this relocation into the township road right-of-way, if the Municipal Authority would use the pole located on his property for their water storage tank project they would need to obtain an easement from him for this use. Mr. Spatz said the township has not approved the pole relocation into our road right-of-way. Atty. Almquist will contact the Municipal Authority Solicitor, John Muir, on this matter.

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2. Edward Schaeffer – Asked what we are going to do about all the creeks and streams that are filled with debris, stone, and dirt. Mr. Spatz said the scale is so large and the process to clean them out is very complicated. Mr. Hoch will make some contacts at the State level to find out what can be done.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, October 9, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock - yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Shirley M. Moyer  
Secretary/Treasurer

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