

MINUTES OF THE OLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD MAY 13, 2024

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Oley Township Municipal Building by Jeffrey Spatz with Supervisor Lisa Schaeffer 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. No public comment was heard on any of the listed agenda items.

Action will be tabled on the April 8, 2024 minutes due to not enough members being present from this meeting to act on them.

The police department report for the month of April 2024 was read indicating 184 calls for the month.

The road department report for the month of April 2024 was read. Duane Howard received a Priority 1 Notification for the Hoch Road bridge, LTL Consultants inspected the bridge and found no structural concerns, it only requires pothole repairs on the bridge surface which will be completed, there is some rust underneath so we will keep an eye on this and possibly take some action for repairs in 2025. LTL Consultants hopes to bid the Reider/Mill Road project that we could award at our June 10, 2024 meeting, we received a Dirt and Gravel Low Volume Grant in the amount of \$103,130.06 for this project from Berks County Conservation District. Atty. Picardi said David Beyer has passed away and the property is in a Trust so he will check as to who can sign an easement agreement for this project. Received some complaints about the approach not matching the bridge deck on Fisher Mill Road, this is a County owned bridge and Mr. Howard has contacted the County Engineer, the County has put some cold patch down, we should look at this for future work to be done. Mr. Spatz asked Atty. Picardi to inquire as to what the township owns at this bridge. The Municipal Authority is requesting the assistance of the road crew to install a temporary road cut/construction entrance for the water storage project on Old State Road. Mr. Spatz said he wants to assure that no equipment, soil, materials, etc. would be on the Walker property that is next to the Authority property. Mr. Howard said the Authority will obtain the driveway permit and then apply topsoil, stone, and a fifteen inch pipe that is twenty feet long, he may have to rent an excavator for this project. Mr. Spatz suggested to hire a flagger firm to perform traffic control and appropriate signage when working on this project. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to authorize the township road crew to assist the Municipal Authority to install a temporary road cut/construction entrance approximately twenty feet wide and thirty feet in length for the water storage project on Old State Road with the condition that a firm be hired to perform traffic control, avoid the usage of the Walker property, and the Authority reimburse the township for all labor and materials used for this project. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

The Fire Chief's report for the month of April 2024 was read indicating a total of 38 calls.

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The Ambulance Chief's report for the month of April 2024 was read indicating a total of 73 calls. The request for a loan in the amount of \$225,000 from the Land Fund for the new ambulance had been tabled from last month. Atty. Picardi suggested to roll this loan in along with the existing loan. A motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Jeffrey Spatz to approve a \$225,000 loan from the Land Fund to Oley Fire Company for the new ambulance for fifteen years at two percent interest to be effective August 1, 2024 and roll the remaining balance of \$57,083.35 from the previous loan into this loan. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

The Allen & Susan Standhardt property located at 15 Rose Virginia Road is in violation of unsafe structures and equipment, sanitation, weeds, and chimney repairs, citation filed. 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 Perry R. Good, Jr. property located at 71 Carriage Circle is in violation of unsafe structure and equipment, sanitation, accumulation of rubbish or garbage, disposal of rubbish. The Edward & Catherine Zadvydas property located at 62 School Lane is in violation of nuisance glare and inadequate lighting. The Gary R. Gift properties located at 3282 Friedensburg Road is in violation of sanitation, accumulation of rubbish or garbage, disposal of rubbish. Mrs. Schaeffer said there seems to be no progress on the majority of these code violations, not sure if citations have been issued for these violations. District Justice Steven Chieffo will be contacted to follow-up to determine the status of the citations that were filed. Atty. Picardi said he can contact Ryan Wessner, our zoning officer, to work with him on some of these violations to help move them along by possibly attending some of the hearings.

Received letter dated April 30, 2024 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township deny the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to Andrew & Louise Sabol to replace the front entry door, sidelights, and transom with a new entry door and sidelights as presented. This application was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to deny the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to Andrew & Louise Sabol for the replacement of the front entry door, sidelights, and transom with a new entry door and sidelights as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated April 30, 2024 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Harlan Hoover for property located at 21 Speltz Lane as follows: brick house – add twenty-six foot by twenty-eight foot one and a half story garage with an 8.12 pitch asphalt shingle roof, metal siding, double-hung vinyl windows; stone house – add a twenty-eight foot by thirty-eight foot garage with three east facing raised panel with light garage doors, gable end facing Bertolet Mill Road to have three double-hung vinyl windows, metal siding, finding of fact is that these structures are

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approximately four hundred feet from a public roadway. This application was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Jeffrey Spatz to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Harlan Hoover for property located at 21 Speltz Lane as follows: brick house – add twenty-six foot by twenty-eight foot one and a half story garage with an 8.12 pitch asphalt shingle roof, metal siding, double-hung vinyl windows; stone house – add a twenty-eight foot by thirty-eight foot garage with three east facing raised panel with light garage doors, gable end facing Bertolet Mill Road to have three double-hung vinyl windows, metal siding. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated April 30, 2024 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Michael Kline for property located at 593 Old State Road to install a two story prefab single car garage at end of the driveway, asphalt shingles, one man door white steel, one overhead door steel with lites in top panel, wood vertical siding, vinyl window, refer to all sketches submitted with application, finding of fact is that this building has already been installed. This application was reviewed and discussed. Michael Kline said the individual from LTL Consultants told him that he will need to fasten down the structure and when he asked the individual how to do this they told him they did not know, he does not feel that LTL Consultants is doing their job very well. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Michael Kline for property located at 593 Old State Road to install a two story prefab single car garage at end of the driveway, asphalt shingles, one man door white steel, one overhead door steel with lites in top panel, wood vertical siding, vinyl window, refer to all sketches submitted with application. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received proposals from Seidel Planning & Design and Urban Research & Development Corporation to perform updates to the Oley Township Zoning Ordinance. A joint workshop session with the Oley Township Planning Commission has been scheduled for May 30, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.to have each of these firms make a presentation.

Received variance application from Paula DeLaRosa & Olga Rodriguez for property located at 65 Clay Slate Road from Section 27-602 to allow three dwelling units on one parcel.

Incoming communications:

1. Letter dated April 9, 2024 from PennDOT informing us they will conduct a traffic and engineering study of Memorial Highway in the area of Bertolet Mill Road and Mine Lane for our request to lower the speed limit on this section from the current 55 MPH. In order to further review our request for the intersection warning signing they would need the township's written agreement to purchase, erect and maintain the appropriate signs. It was agreed to wait until PennDOT conducts the traffic and engineering study to make a decision on the intersection warning signing.

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2. Received April 18, 2024 from Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission (PHMC) the Certified Local Government Master Agreement between PHMC and Oley Township for our execution, the term is January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2030, they also attached a Worker Protection & Investment Certification Form that will need to be executed. A motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Jeffrey Spatz to authorize the Chairman and Secretary to execute the Certified Local Government Master Agreement between PHMC and Oley Township and a Worker Protection & Investment Certification Form for a term of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2030. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

3. Letter dated April 22, 2024 from Ethan & Katelyn Shane requesting a waiver of the Drainage Plan requirements for Lot 1 of the Toll Bell III Subdivision. Daniel E. Levensgood indicates that the drainage plan requirements are much more restrictive than similar ordinances in other municipalities in the Schuylkill River Basin. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to grant a waiver of Section 22A-401 of the Stormwater Management Ordinance and forward this information to the Oley Township Planning Commission for their review of the Stormwater Management Ordinance for possible amendments. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

4. Letter dated April 29, 2024 from Candace Hollenbach regarding the accumulation of trash at 12 Water Street which results in trash blowing into neighboring yards and onto the street and there have been mice sightings in the vicinity of the trash cans. Mr. Spatz said it appears they may be bringing trash in from other areas since they perform house cleanouts. This complaint will be forwarded to our zoning officer to investigate and address.

5. Email received May 3, 2024 from Matt & Laurel Walker requesting to amend/remove restrictions on their property on Reiff Road for the type of siding permitted on their future home and remove language that states “neighbors can enforce our restrictions”. Mrs. Schaeffer does not feel the neighbors should have the ability to enforce the township’s restrictions. Mr. Spatz said he has no issue with amending the deed restrictions for these two items. Mr. Walker asked about lighting requirements for his structures. Mr. Spatz suggested to Mr. Walker to prepare a lighting design for our review prior to the next meeting. Atty. Picardi will notify the adjoining property owners of the proposed amendments that may be made at our next meeting.

Received the commitment from Kimberly Kline of Exeter Township to pay for associated costs to include her property at 6451 Daniel Boone Road into the Oley Township Agricultural Security Area. We will now proceed with the required process in order to have this property included into our Agricultural Security Area.

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Atty. Picardi said the Volunteer Park could be sold at a public auction with the deed restriction attached, the owner of the property would have to adhere to this deed restriction, he will proceed to apply to the Orphan's Court to have them lift this deed restriction in order to sell the property, he will have to convince the Judge that it is not in the township's best interest to retain this property.

Mrs. Schaeffer is working on amendments to be made to our Personnel Policy, our current policy is very outdated.

Request received from Christopher Hartman for a closure of Moravian School Road on June 9, 2024 for approximately two hours for a Cub Scout soap box derby. Mr. Spatz said we would need a certificate of insurance naming the township as additional insured. Duane Howard said this roadway was recently oiled and chipped with a steep hill and would not be ideal to hold such an event. It was agreed not to grant permission to close Moravian School Road on June 9, 2024 for a Cub Scout soap box derby.

The Sacred Oak Tree public viewing will be held Saturday, June 1, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (weather permitting).

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

No public comment was heard.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, June 10, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley M. Moyer
Secretary/Treasurer

Cc: J. Spatz
L. Schaeffer
E. Pollock
K. Picardi
D. Allebach
N. Ulrich