

MINUTES OF THE OLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD OCTOBER 14, 2024

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Oley Township Municipal Building by Jeffrey Spatz with Supervisors Lisa Schaeffer and Edwin Pollock in attendance. Solicitor Richard Almquist and Engineer Norman Ulrich were 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.

Mr. Spatz announced that an executive session was held this evening at 6:15 p.m. relative to personnel and no action was taken.

There being no changes to the September 9, 2024 minutes, a motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Jeffrey Spatz to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2024 meeting as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock - yes. All in favor....motion carried. There being no changes to the September 25, 2024 minutes, a motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Jeffrey Spatz to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2024 meeting as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – abstained. Two in favor, one abstained....motion carried.

The police department report for the month of September 2024 was read indicating 224 calls for the month.

The road department report for the month of September 2024 was read. A motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Edwin Pollock to advertise for sealed bids for the sale of the 2015 F550 after receiving the new truck. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried. Mr. Ulrich reported that the Reider Road Culvert/Mill Road Bank Stabilization Project has been completed and went well, the project came in \$55,000 under the projected cost, the contractor performed additional bank work that was not under the contract, the additional Beyer easement would not have been necessary if the contractor would have followed the bid specifications. Received an offer of \$950 for the Alamo grass king mower, the trade-in value at the time of the purchase of the new mower in the Spring was \$500, Mr. Spatz feels we should have a written current trade-in value from a dealer. Mrs. Schaeffer does not feel it would be worth the cost of an advertisement to request sealed bids. A motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Edwin Pollock to accept the offer of \$950 for the Alamo grass king mower after receiving a written current trade-in value from a dealer of less than \$950. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried. Duane Howard requests that LTL Consultants inspect Hoch Road, Tollhouse Road, and Yoder Road bridges for an analysis report on the declining structures to have information for the 2025 budget. A motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize LTL Consultants to inspect Hoch Road, Tollhouse Road, and Yoder Road bridges for an analysis report on the declining structures. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

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The Fire Chief's report for the month of September 2024 was read indicating a total of 23 calls..

The Ambulance Chief's report for the month of September 2024 was read indicating a total of 92 calls. Todd Kegerise reported that the new ambulance is almost ready for delivery.

The Allen & Susan Standhardt property located at 15 Rose Virginia Road is in violation of weeds. The Matthew J. & Marisa M. Horne property located at 711 Main Street is in violation of sanitation, weeds, accumulation of rubbish or garbage, and disposal of rubbish, citations issued. The Vernon N. & Elsie Z. Burkholder property located at 317 Water Street is in violation for failure to obtain Certificate of Appropriateness for demolition of portion of residence, application submitted to HARB. Notice of violation issued to John, Renald & Lorraine Bertolami for property located at 10 Hoch Road for weeds and grass and weed removal, the vegetation on the property remains unkempt. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to issue a citation to John, Renald & Lorraine Bertolami for property located at 10 Hoch Road for weeds, grass, and weed removal. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated October 1, 2024 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township deny the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to Anne Gehret for property located at 197 Main Street to install a new porch and window repair or replacement 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 Anne Gehret for property located at 197 Main Street to install a new porch and window repair or replacement as presented since no action has occurred on this application since 2022. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock - yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated October 1, 2024 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township deny the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to Vernon N. Burkholder for property located at 317 Water Street for replacement of all existing windows except the southern exposure to Simonton 5050 series as presented as this window is not an appropriate replacement as HARB would recommend a simulated divided light window which show the muntins or grids on the exterior for dimension and shadow lines rather than flat panes of glass, HARB provided recommendations for other brands of windows to research that would be a more appropriate representation for the Martin & Suzanne Yoder farmstead constructed between 1803-1831. This application was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Spatz said he is in agreement with HARB, he feels the windows could be vinyl but they should have grid pattern on the outside, he would not put in wood windows due to the quality of wood today. Mrs. Schaeffer agrees with this. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to deny the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness to Vernon N. Burkholder for property located at 317 Water Street for replacement of all existing windows except the southern exposure to

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Simonton 5050 series as presented as this window is not an appropriate replacement but recommend to find a replacement window that is long lasting and hold up to the weather and address the shadow lines for all the windows visible from the public roadway. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock - yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated October 1, 2024 from HARB recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Melissa Stump (Randal & Lori Hoch, owners) for property located at 402A Main Street to install double post sign three foot by four foot double sided panel on four foot by four foot pressure treated painted posts with artwork as presented. This application was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness to Melissa Stump (Randal & Lori Hoch, owners) for property located at 402A Main Street to install double post sign three foot by four foot double sided panel on four foot by four foot pressure treated painted posts with artwork as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock - yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated October 9, 2024 from Oley Township Planning Commission recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township approve the Zook Lot Subdivision Sketch Plan of Record, plan number L24-0213, dated September 12, 2024. This plan was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to adopt Resolution #655-24 to approve the Zook Lot Subdivision Sketch Plan of Record, plan number L24-0213, dated September 12, 2024. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated October 9, 2024 from Oley Township Planning Commission recommending that the Board of Supervisors of Oley Township approve the Lot Annexation Plan (Gift) Sketch Plan of Record, plan number L24-0605, dated September 11, 2024. This plan was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to adopt Resolution #656-24 to approve the Lot Annexation Plan (Gift) Sketch Plan of Record, plan number L24-0605, dated September 11, 2024. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received Zoning Hearing Board decision for Yaakov Schwarzman for property located at 2837 West Philadelphia Avenue denying variances to Sections 27-602, 27-1609, 27-1610, and 27-1903 to permit the installation and use of an event venue as an additional principal use, to permit parking on crushed stone without curbed roadway or the construction of landscaped loading and unloading areas, and to permit a sign along the West Philadelphia Avenue frontage. Atty. Almquist said the applicant would have thirty days to appeal this decision.

Received Zoning Hearing Board decision for Paul DeLa Rosa & Olga Rodriguez for property located at 65 Clay Slate Road granting a variance to Section 27-602 to permit two units to remain in the existing dwelling of 65 Clay Slate Road and to permit one unit in the existing dwelling at 63 Clay Slate Road subject to conditions.

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Incoming communications:

1. Email received October 5, 2024 from Oley Valley School Board President Jamie Freed requesting the Supervisors to attend a collaboration meeting between the school board and township leaders to discuss the possibility of a School Resource Officer to be proactive in maintaining the safety of the school district. The proposed dates are October 22, 24, or 29, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Spatz said this should be a school board decision and the school would need to pay for this resource officer. Chief Ray Serafin said he understands they want the township to use this officer on the off-school months. Mrs. Schaeffer said this should be between the school board and the police department. Chief Serafin said the school board has already met with him regarding a school resource officer. Mrs. Schaeffer said one of the Supervisors could attend their collaboration meeting or let the school board have their meeting and then they can attend one of our public meetings to share with us their plan for this resource officer. Mr. Spatz said the only dates he would be available to attend their meeting would be October 22 or 24, 2024, this will be relayed to Mr. Freed.

Mrs. Schaeffer is still in the process of working on amendments to our Personnel Policy, she asked if we could obtain an estimate for our Solicitor to perform a legal review of this document prior to finalizing it. Atty. Almquist will prepare an estimate for our next meeting.

The request from Randall & Melissa Bortz to modify or eliminate some of the deed restrictions or language on their Reiff Road and Old State Road parcels was tabled since no one was in attendance.

Atty. Almquist said that the township engineer had provided an analysis of the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) as it relates to street trees for the Meadowview Farms development and the SALDO does require the replacement of any street tree removed for any reason, the trees are outside of the dedicated road right-of-way so the question is whether the homeowner is responsible for the tree replacement or the Homeowners Association and this should be memorialized in the Homeowners Association declarations and he will review this document to determine whether the township needs to be involved in an enforcement capacity. Debra Wright said the Homeowners Association's lawyer had reviewed their Homeowners Association document and determined that the Homeowners Association is not responsible for the tree replacement. Atty. Almquist said he will review this document and our ordinances to provide an answer by our next meeting. Mrs. Wright said the width of an average lot is sixty feet and asked how can another tree be planted in the same spot due to the root system of the deceased trees. Mrs. Wright said some residents of the Meadowview Development asked why there are no public street lights in this development. Atty. Almquist said this would have been addressed as part of the subdivision process and whatever ordinances were in place at the time this subdivision plan was approved. Mr. Spatz said if the township installs public street lights the residents would then be assessed a street light tax to cover the cost of these lights.

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Representatives of Heidelberg Materials US Cement, LLC were in attendance regarding the planned dewatering operation of Oley #2 Quarry. Mr. Spatz said when he met with them previously to discuss this project they had agreed to speak with all the adjoining property owners prior to beginning this project and he hopes they have spoken with all these property owners due to the noise that may be generated from this generator. Noah Hish said they have spoken to a majority of the property owners with the exception of Prout's. Mr. Hish said a test of this generator was performed and it was very quiet. Atty. Almquist suggested to have the township engineer present to do a test run to check the noise level. Austin Schaeffer suggested that they contact fire and emergency medical services to provide a tour of this facility to acquaint them with the facility in the event of an emergency. Mr. Spatz suggested to have a public meeting at some point in the future regarding this project to address any concerns the public may have. Mr. Hish said they hope to start the dewatering project by the end of this month.

The discussion on the amount of deductible the employees are to be responsible for on the health insurance program was tabled from our last meeting. A motion was made by Lisa Schaeffer and seconded by Edwin Pollock that the employer (township) will be responsible and reimburse to the employee a maximum of up to \$5,000 deductible per employee for the employee healthcare program with the employees being responsible for all the co-pays. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Maillie, LLP has been contacted requesting a proposal for auditing services of the township and tax collector for the fiscal years of 2024, 2025, and 2026 with the stipulation that the audit be performed on-site in the township building. We should be receiving this proposal within the next two weeks.

The Oley Valley Country Classic ten mile and five kilometer foot race on November 3, 2024 beginning and ending at the Oley Valley High School had been approved at the March 11, 2024 meeting but action was tabled until this meeting for the "No Parking" restrictions. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize "No Parking" signs to be posted for the Oley Valley Country Classic ten mile and five kilometer foot race on November 3, 2024 on Main Street from Water Street to Jefferson Street from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

The routes for the Breakthrough Bike Challenge held September 15, 2024 and the Shoo-Fly Classic Bike Ride held September 28, 2024 were inspected and were satisfactorily cleaned up. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to refund the \$1,000 security deposits to Breakthrough Bike Challenge and Berks County Bicycle Club for the Shoo-Fly Classic Bike Ride. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

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It was agreed to schedule a budget workshop meeting for Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

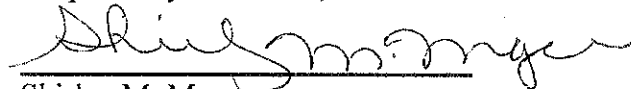
The financial report was called for and read. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to accept the financial report and pay all the bills and salaries. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

No public comment was heard.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, November 11, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Lisa Schaeffer to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Lisa Schaeffer – yes; Edwin Pollock - 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