

Mr. Blankenbiller called the September 6, 2023 Alsace Township Supervisor's Workshop meeting to order at 7:04PM. Also in attendance were Vice Chairman, Michael Stump, Board Member Kimberly Mallatratt, Township Business Manager Jan Moore, and Solicitor Gary Swavely. The meeting was held as a hybrid with no residents attending remotely.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Blankenbiller led the Pledge of Allegiance

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Tim Sherman, 2701 Old Pricetown Road asked why he had received two invoices from the Township and stated that no work had been done on his project. Mr. Moore explained that the invoices were the result of the Township being billed by Technicon for Mr. Sherman's project. Technicon had invoiced the Township for Technicon preparing a letter concerning Mr. Sherman's pole barn project and for responding to Mr. Sherman's question about utilizing his pond for stormwater management. Mr. Moore explained that these were pass-through costs payable by the resident. Normal practice is for a resident to place funds in escrow for their project which costs are then released from when costs are incurred. Mr. Sherman did not place funds in escrow and was subsequently invoiced for the charges incurred by the Township. It was also agreed that a representative from Technicon would contact Mr. Sherman to discuss his project and to address any questions pertaining to impervious coverage and the size of the planned building.

Jamie Lucas, 41 Poplar Avenue stated that he was in trouble with the Township over an outstanding building permit and that the Township did not follow proper procedures and received a complaint from Keith Blankenbiller concerning this matter. Mr. Lucas further stated that he had notified the State Ethics Office of this matter. Mr. Blankenbiller interjected that he had not filed a complaint concerning Mr. Lucas's property and to make the point that Mr. Lucas's statement was not accurate. Mr. Swavely then stated that due to Mr. Lucas mentioning the Ethics Board, he directed Mr. Blankenbiller to make no further statements concerning the matter. Mr. Lucas continued to talk about a paper street in the Township behind his property that another resident placed a barricade across and apparently stated that the Township authorized the placement of the barricade. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Swavely stated that if Mr. Lucas had an issue with another resident barricading the easement or right of way, he should file a civil complaint against that resident and that the Board of Supervisors was not involved in that matter.

Phil Kline, 41 Antietam Road Temple made a brief statement concerning the upcoming Heritage Society's program on the Lenape Indians which will be held on October 1, 2023 at the Township Building. He provided a handout with details about the program. Mr. Moore stated that the information was listed on the Township's website along with the marketing material provided.

SKYLINE DRIVE PROJECT: Bethany Ayers-Fisher from the City of Reading presented a PowerPoint presentation on the projects being planned for the Skyline Drive area. Specifically, a guiderail installation to help stop some of the illegal dumping and to also protect pedestrians and bike riders further from vehicle traffic. She also discussed the installation of gates to close the area from dusk to dawn. She requested a letter of support for the City of Reading to apply for a grant to help offset the cost of these projects. Following her presentation, Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to provide a letter of support to obtain the grant, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR: Mr. Swavely had no report

STORMWATER: Mr. Moore presented a Stormwater MOU and O&M for 20 Beckers Grove Road for execution and approval. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve and execute the MOU & O&M for 20 Beckers Grove Road, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Moore presented a Stormwater O&M for 153 Bingaman Road for approval and execution. Mr. Stump made a motion to approve the Stormwater O&M for 153 Bingaman Road, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried unanimously.

Metropolitan 10 LLC provided a letter extending the timeframe for the Township to make a formal decision on the Rowe Tract development. The extension would give the Township until January 17, 2024 to render a final decision on the project. Mr. Stump made a motion to approve the extension letter as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Moore presented a request from the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for a donation. After a brief discussion, this matter was tabled.

Mr. Moore requested that the Township designate October 30, 2023 as Trick or Treat night in the Township from 6-9 PM. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to designate October 30, 2023 as Trick or Treat night in Alsace Township, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. Stump provided a brief update on the salt shed construction which is scheduled to begin the second week of September. Preliminary excavation has already been completed.

He also stated that paving equipment was delivered for the paving project at Oley Estates with work tentatively scheduled to begin the second week of September.

PUBLIC SEWER: Property owner of 3118 Pricetown Road submitted a request to have their monthly sewer usage charges reduced following two (2) water meter readings. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve the usage reduction, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried. Mr. Blankenbiller abstained from the vote. Mrs. Mallatratt asked Mr. Blankenbiller why he abstained, and Mr. Blankenbiller stated that since he had a personal interest in the administration of the policy, he wanted to abstain from any vote involving the policy. This reduction will take effect with the September sewer billing.

The property owner of 3142 Pricetown Road submitted a request to have their monthly sewer usage charges reduced following two (2) water meter readings. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to deny the request as presented, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried. Mr. Blankenbiller again abstained from the vote. The board denied this request based on the fact that the subject property consists of six (6) residential units which are required to have individual EDU usage charges.

Mr. Blankenbiller, the owner of 3129 Pricetown Road, stated that he paid his sewer bill, however he paid it in protest and requested that this be specifically recorded in the meeting minutes.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS: Mr. Stump stated that the repairs on the bridge at Seidel Road and mostly completed. He still needs to do some work on the bridge wings with a sealant to prevent any further separation and water seepage. Mrs. Mallatratt briefly reviewed the plans that were provided by PennDOT concerning the Route 12 Safety work. Specifically, the roundabout at Route 12 and Elisabeth Avenue and the proposed traffic light at Route 12 and Skyline Drive. Mrs. Mallatratt also stated that she requested that PennDOT extend the comment period to September 22, 2023 instead of the original deadline of September 6, 2023, to allow residents additional time to submit comments to PennDOT. This

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request was granted. Mrs. Mallatratt also stated that the draft budget would be provided at the October board meeting

ADJOURN: Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Jan Moore, Township Business Manager