

West Earl Township Board of Supervisors, 157 West Metzler Road, Brownstown, PA 17508

In Attendance:

Chairman:	David Thornton	Roadmaster:	Neil Stoltzfus
Vice Chairman:	John Ford	Code Enforcement:	Brian Brandt
Member:	Dale Wissler	Police Chief:	Eric Higgins
Manager/Secretary:	Jenna Seesholtz		

Members Butch Keppley and Keith Kauffman were absent.

Call to Order

Chairman Thornton called the August 23, 2021 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Thornton announced that the Board was in executive session to discuss personnel performance issues prior to the start of the regular meeting.

Approval of Minutes

August 9, 2021 regular meeting minutes – Vice Chairman Ford noted two changes. Under the Roadmaster’s Report the first sentence should read “The Township has not yet received the HOP for the East Main Street project. Lastly, the salary for part-time Police Officer Joseph Wehrer is \$25 per hour. Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Wissler to approve the August 9, 2021 regular meeting minutes as amended. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Special Business

None

Subdivision/Land Development Review

None

Additional Agenda Item

1. **1380 Diamond Station Rd. WESA endorsement** – Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Wissler to add 1380 Diamond Station Road sewer service to the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.
 - Moved by Vice Chairman Ford, second by Member Wissler to authorize the Township Manager to work with Akron Borough and other agencies to extend public sewer service from Akron Borough to 1380 Diamond Station Road. Motion approved unanimously.

Correspondence and Communications

1. **Letter from Carrie Bair, 196 Zooks Mill Road** – Ms. Bair addressed a letter to the Board of Supervisors which contained multiple signatures from her neighbors. Ms. Bair would like to see speed bumps installed in her neighborhood to slow down traffic. Manager Seesholtz said in her experience speed bumps increase the speed of traffic. There was a consensus among the Board members that speed bumps are not the best option to reduce speed, but they are in favor of additional speed enforcement by the Police department. Manager Seesholtz will send a response to the residents’ letter.

Old Business

1. **Main Street Sidewalk project update** – Roadmaster Neil Stoltzfus reported that the Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) was again returned to the Township from PennDot. It was noted that the HOP has not changed but PennDot continues to come up with reasons to return it the Township. Roadmaster Stoltzfus said the turnaround time will be at least 20 days which means the start date for the project will have to be pushed back to March 2022. Manager Seesholtz will prepare a letter to notify the East Main Street residents about the construction date change. The Board directed Manager Seesholtz to contact Representative Greiner about this issue.

New Business

1. **2021 Trick-or-Treat Night** – Moved by Member Wissler, second by Vice Chairman Ford to set Trick-or-Treat night to Friday, October 29, 2021. Motion approved unanimously
2. **Lions' Club Halloween Parade** – Moved by Member Wissler, second by Vice Chairman Ford to authorize the Fire Police to help with traffic control during the Halloween Parade on Thursday, October 28, 2021. Motion approved unanimously.
3. **Lions' Club Annual 5K Country Run** – Moved by Member Wissler, second by Vice Chairman Ford to approve the 5K Country Run and to authorize the Fire Police to help with traffic control if needed. Motion approved unanimously.
4. **Act 50 Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act** – This will be coming before the Board at the end of September.
5. **2022 Budget Meeting Schedule** – The Board will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 18, 2021, Tuesday, November 9 and Wednesday, November 10, 2021.

Financials

1. **Payment of bills** – Moved by Chairman Thornton, second by Member Wissler to pay the bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.
2. **Treasurer's Report** – None
3. **Budget vs. Actual** – Provided for the Board's review.

Reports

1. **Zoning Officer's Report** – Report provided for the Board's review.
2. **Manager's Report** – Nothing further to report.
3. **Code Enforcement Officer's Report** – Mr. Brandt reported that the Township has received calls from 3 residents about sinkholes that have opened-up on their properties. He said two appear to be caused by swales that were filled in.
4. **Police Chief's Report** – In addition to his written report Chief Higgins reported the following:
 - On Friday, August 20th they had 3-hour training for the crossing guards from West Earl and Akron Borough.
 - The next liaison meeting will be on September 7th at 7:00 p.m.
5. **Roadmaster's Report**
 - Bank mowing will be done this week instead of next week.
 - Conestoga River Club requested to use the building at the Sylvan Fisher Park to store their kayaks. After a brief discussion the Board to further consider this request. No action was taken.
 - CDL training – Mr. Stoltzfus asked if the Board is in favor of offering CDL training to future road crew employees. Ideas discussed included having the employee pay for the training up-front and then get reimbursed after a year of employment and payroll deductions. The Board directed Mr. Stoltzfus to check with other municipalities to see how they handle CDL training.

Public Comment

Chief Eric Higgins – After reviewing the letter from Carrie Bair he asked the Board if they would object to him contacting the residents who signed the letter. The Board members said they would not object.

Karen Stauffer, 151 Pleasant Valley Road – Ms. Stauffer asked if Blessings of Hope have submitted anything to the Township. Manager Seesholtz said no and that she would contact Ms. Stauffer when anything is submitted by Blessings of Hope.

Supervisors' Comments

John Ford – Vice Chairman Ford asked the Manager to talk to the Township's Solicitor about the WESA dissolution and the LGH escrow. Vice Chairman Ford asked if the Farmersville Fire Company has submitted their financial statements. Manager Seesholtz said they have not. Vice Chairman Ford directed the Manager to contact Farmersville Fire Company and request the annual financial statements before releasing the LST funds to them.

David Thornton – Will not be at the meetings in September.

Action Items

- Contact Representative Keith Greiner about the PennDot HOP matter.
- Send letters to East Main Street residents about the change in construction dates for the project.
- Ask the Solicitor about the WESA dissolution & the LGH escrow.
- Contact Farmersville Fire company and ask for their financial statements.

Adjournment

Moved by Member Vice Chairman Ford, second by Chairman Thornton to adjourn the August 23, 2021, regular meeting at 8:02 p.m. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Sara Service
Zoning Officer