

### **March 17, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes held at the Mahoning Township Building**

Members of the Board present: Chairman Bill Lynn, Supervisors, Larry Robertson, TS Scott, Molly Shultz, John Whelan, Solicitor Jon DeWald, Secretary Carolyn Dragano, Engineer Drew Barton, Dept. of Streets & Infrastructure Lloyd Craig,

Also present were – Jonathon Jones, David Betz, Dave & Bonnie Martin and Joe Sylvester, from Danville News.

Supervisor Scott said the purpose of the Special meeting is to only open the Soil Nailing Bids and for each bidder to give a brief presentation. Questions will be asked by only the board. No public questions or comments. No voting will be done tonight to accept any bids. The bids will be reviewed and properly discussed and voted at the next meeting on Monday, March 23rd.

Engineer Drew Barton said there was only one bid received and it was from Mar Allen, from Ephrata, for \$795,625.00. Drew said no one came to represent Mar Allen, which was part of the bid requirement. Someone from each bidder was to give a presentation, with a question and answer period from the board. Because of this, it may not be a responsive bid. Solicitor Jon will have to review the bid and the requirements.

Engineer Josh from Kleinfelder briefly discussed his knowledge of contractor, Mar Allen. He said they were a good group to work with and that he didn't know they were bidding. Drew said Mar Allen did the new lining on Blizzards Road back in 2016 and other work around the area in the past few years.

Drew said there were at least 12 requests and of the twelve, at least 8 were very interested so he isn't sure why they didn't bid.

Drew said they will review the bid package and will give their recommendation to the board and will also get in touch with other interested contractors that didn't submit a bid, to see what their issues were.

A decision was made by the board to have Solicitor Jon & Drew review the Mar Allen bid in detail, to make sure they can meet the requirements and will be ready to discuss at the next meeting.

Solicitor Jon said the engineer can reach out to the contractor and ask the questions that we would ask had they been present for the presentation, however, there will be no post awarding negotiations relative to the price, but additional clarification or inquiries are fine.

The board would like the engineer to reach out to the bidder to go over the bid package and to clarify and make sure they meet the requirements. The engineer will report all the information back to the board, at Monday's meeting for the board and public discussion and to make a decision of whether we want to accept the bid as presented or if we want to re-open the bid again. Engineer Drew will also talk with the other interested bidders to find out why they didn't bid. Supervisor Robertson said this virus situation could have thrown everyone off too.

Solicitor Jon said there are several things we could do:

- We could award the bid.
- We can reject the bid because the supervisor's questions weren't adequately satisfied.
- WE can start over because we are in uncharted waters due to the COVID-19 Virus, so if that did affect some of those submissions, that would merit the supervisor's consideration of rebidding the project.

Engineer Drew said the bid is much higher than anticipated and feels that the lack of response of the other bidders may be the current virus situation or because of the June timeline. And as of yesterday, all the PennDOT jobs are on hold so this too could impact time.

Supervisor Scott said we may have to consider pushing out the expectation date from June to August 1<sup>st</sup>. Drew will talk to the contractors that didn't bid and check to see if Mar Allen wants to do a presentation. Drew will also check to see if they want to do a presentation.

**Supervisor Whelan motioned to adjourn. Supervisor Robertson seconded. Motion passed.**

This meeting was recorded. These minutes reflect the events and dialog during the meeting but are not transcribed verbatim.

All Reports are available at the Township Building

Carolyn Dragano  
Secretary