

August 14, 2017

The regular meeting of the Mahoning Township Supervisors was held this evening at the Mahoning Township Municipal Building at 5:30 PM.

Members of the Board present:

Ken Woodruff, Chairman

Bill Lynn, Vice Chairman

T. S. Scott, Supervisor

Solicitor Ryan Tira

Zoning: Dean VonBlohn

Engineer:

Police Department Sean McGinley

Street Department, Lloyd Craig

Water and Sewer Department, Brett Levan

Leslie Young, East End Fire Chief

Also attending were Joe Sylvester, Danville News, Bonnie Johnson, Bryan Campbell, Molly Shultz, Rose Pursel, Bill Pursel, Kim Murren, Robert Snyder, Henry Eyer, Tom Landi, Glen Cromley, Lori Cromley, John Whelan and Nancy Whelan.

The reports presented this evening were as follows:

ZONING:

MAHONING TOWNSHIP AUGUST 14, 2017 ZONING OFFICERS REPORT

1. Grass and weeds complaint on 101 Terra Lane, normally not a reportable at workshop however occasionally persons complaining don't believe my office is dealing with this.
2. Storm water damage at the rear of 591 RR Street, this has been continuing to worsen over the last 9 years. Soil Conservation has been notified, DEP issued a report on this property several years ago. Due to a blockage between the two properties, the stream topped the driveway and caused the damage shown in the photos. I shared these photos with County Soil Conservation, they considered this at the critical stage and were going to notify DEP.
3. I have notified our SEO, Gene Polus about two on lot sewer system on Bald Top Road, the owner or neighbor of the worst one has gotten creative he has tried to hide the open sewer by erecting a small fence and small duck pen where he keeps 5 or 6 ducks swimming around in the pond created by the open sewer.

4. I have written a letter to Brian Kissinger, (Woods of Welsh) regarding further testing of the roads, after a very brief phone conversation with him where he mentioned his attorney, I have now turned it over to our Solicitor. Supervisor Scott said a phone call will happen on Friday, the 18 of August.
5. The Planning Commission reviewed three (3) sketch plans on August 7, being that they were submitted as sketch plans no action was taken, however the following are comments and suggestions from our Engineer and Commission after a discussion took place regarding the plans, they are as follows;
 - (a). Frosty Valley Country Club, a 125-space parking area to accommodate the use of the existing barn that is going to be repurposed as a banquet hall. They will make the required stormwater calculations and meet the Sub-division/Land Development criteria and resubmit it as a Preliminary/Final Land Development plan. Dean noted the access would be through PA DOT Driveway Permit and they may also place restrictions besides a "traffic study" on the applicant.
 - (b). 3 Wesner Lane, 1 story building expansion to accommodate the use of a Pediatric Specialty Care residential treatment and day treatment service. Parking and Stormwater was discussed and will be incorporated in the Preliminary/Final Plans when submitted as a land development. Larson Design Group may be required to review the expansion.
 - (c). T & S Realty submitted a sketch plan for the conditional use of a multi-Family Land Development located on the North Side of Bloom Road. Multi-family attached dwelling units up to eight units per structure are allowed in the HR High Density Residential District as a Conditional use, to be heard at a public hearing held by the Supervisors, if the Supervisors approve the conditional use there will be a series of Variance hearings, before going back to the Planning Commission as a Land Development Plan. All the Public hearings will be posted, letters sent to the neighbors and advertised in the newspapers. Dean reported there will be a series of variances needed (1) 3 stories height, (2) More than 8 units, Height restrictions, 125 units in that area, no more than 120 maximum units for 10 acres and they are looking to get everything in place. First the requests must go before the Planning Commission, then to the Supervisors Public Hearing regarding a Conditional Use or not and any resident living within 300 feet would receive a letter of the time and place of the meeting. Dean also sees the Storm Water being a major issue.
6. The new Cannon Scanner, Printer Copier has been delivered, we are scheduling with Me-Push for the final connection to our server.

Dean also presented a group of pictures showing some areas of the stream near the Mexican Restaurant and the Earlston property on Rail Road Street and the damage to the 1920's concrete drainage system and drain pipes.

POLICE: MONTHLY POLICE REPORT – FOR JULY 2017

INCIDENTS (JULY):	344
INCIDENTS YEAR TO DATE:	1,042
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS (JULY)	15
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS YTD	121
CRASH INVESTIGATIONS (JULY):	8
CRASH INVESTIGATIONS YTD:	40
MOTORISTS ASSISTED	14
PARKING TICKETS ISSUED	99
VEHICLE MILEAGE:	
2009 DODGE CHARGER	91,214
2010 DODGE CHARGER	97,820
2014 DODGE CHARGER	33,333
2015 FORD UTILITY	35,863

- 1 The police department has requested bids from two dealers specializing in law enforcement vehicle sales. These particular dealers provide aftermarket “up fitting” of their fleet vehicles which eliminates the need to seek out other specialty vendors to install police related packages in the new vehicles. The department plans to procure a 2018 Ford Utility Vehicle (Police Interceptor) to replace the 2009 Dodge Charger. The new vehicle will incorporate modern emergency lighting, firearm retention systems, and other technologies. We would expect the new vehicle to be in service by years end.
- 2 On Saturday, 08/05, the police department investigated an incident which a township resident was attacked and bitten by dog. The dog in question was already designated as dangerous pursuant to Pennsylvania’s “Dog Law.” The victim received bite injuries to her hand requiring medical treatment. The owner of the dog decided to euthanize the animal, which the police department verified occurred on Monday, 08/07. The police department will retain investigative jurisdiction and will file appropriate charges against the owner of the dog.
- 3 At the request of the Board of Supervisors, an After-Action Review was conducted surrounding the response to the June 24th flooding incident by the Police Department, Street Department, and Fire Department. After Action Reviews (AAR’s) are routinely performed at the conclusion of significant incidents. AAR’s are nothing more than a post-event analysis to identify strengths and weaknesses of the response to the incident with the goal of improving future responses. The report is being finalized.

STREET DEPARTMENT:

WORK SHOP MEETING AUGUST 14, 2017

Items worked on over the past month, Pending Items that were completed.

1. HRI done with paving except Edgewood Drive. pipes are replaced/ installed. They should be here the end of this week to finish
2. Flooding damage. see attached report
3. Front door was installed
4. MPS was on site to start repairs. should finish this week, weather permitting.

Items that need Boards input/ approval.

1. Spouting contractor was called. left message.
2. Overtime since July 7th. 21.75 manhours on pipe installation. 51
manhours on flooding related problems.
3. I will be requesting line painting quotes from 3 contractors
4. Collapsed storm drain off Lindbergh Ave. called 4 contractors and received 3 quotes.

Dave Gutelius excavating and paving \$14,750.00

Don E. Bower Inc. \$11,475.00

Fairchild Brothers Inc. \$8,290.00

Lloyd noted the lowest bidder could start replacing the crushed pipe on this Wednesday. Supervisor Scott then moved to accept the bid of \$8,29.00 from Fairchild Brothers which was seconded by Vice Chairman Lynn. Motions passed.

FLOODING REPORT (7/24/17)

On 7/24/17 at approximately 4:00 pm Mahoning Township and the surrounding areas received somewhere between 4-6 inches of rain in a little over 30 to 45 minutes according to some residents with rain gauges. This was along with a tornado warning issued by the National Weather Service in State College. The resulting heavy rain cause a variety of problems throughout the area. The most notable was multiple roadways being flooded and as a result closed by your Street, Police, and Fire Departments all working in conjunction with each other. On the evening of the 24th, all 4 street dept. employees along with assistance from the water dept. operator worked to close roadways and remove debris so roadways could be passable by motorists and the public, and clear drains that were causing flooding and property damage that could be accessed safely. Our Backhoe, Power broom, were used for several hours in conjunction with hand tools to remove numerous areas of debris from roadways. There were two trees down, one on Bald Top Rd. and one on Clinic Rd, also on a powerline. The Sewer Departments sewer cleaner was also used to clear a storm water pipe on Middle St. that was obstructed by rocks and debris.

The following is a day by day run down of repairs that were made over the two weeks after the event.

On Tuesday July 25th, our priorities began with rechecking roadways and opening storm drains due to the possibility of thunderstorms arriving on Thursday afternoon. Our power broom was also sent to continue roadway clearing.

On Wednesday July 26th, continued work on storm drains, removal of debris from ditches on Bald Top, and the Power broom continued cleaning of roads.

On Thursday July 27th, continue cleaning ditches, start filling numerous washouts along edges of roadways, some of which were 18" deep. Continued cleaning and clearing roads and cleaning up debris.

On Friday July 28th, start to backfill washouts on Bald Top Rd.

On Monday July 29th, Finish Bald Top Rd backfilling, work on numerous areas of washouts throughout township.

On Tuesday August 1st, grind brush from tree that was down on Bald Top Rd., Repair two areas of rock washouts, one on Bald Top and one on Brook St. Finish shoulder washouts in Deerfield.

On Wednesday August 2nd, remove and reset two 20' sections of storm drain on Bald Top Rd that were lifted out of the ground due to a washout.

On Thursday August 3rd, hauled three truckloads of debris from lower stock yard. Rock work in creek behind 1334 Bloom Road that had washed out.

On Friday August 4th, we returned to our normal work load. Although not everything has been fully restored from the storm we will be working on small items as time permits from this point on.

The storm uncovered numerous problems throughout the township, some of which can be corrected with minor upgrades to drains, larger rock to slow the flow of water and slow erosion, and possibly some paving to channel water better. The largest problems encountered by the street department were manpower, the number of roads that were impassable, the volume of debris washed onto the roads, and the volume of debris that blocked drains and pipes.

Manpower is always going to be an issue in a storm of that size, we cannot possibly be in all areas of the township at one time. We needed to start on the higher volume roadways and work down. Some of the roadways that were impassable due to water are slated for correction, I know this is going to take time. The washouts from debris mostly came out of stone driveways, this is an ongoing problem that is not easily addressed. And finally, the debris that blocked a lot of our storm drain facilities is a major issue that needs addressed.

A lot of the limbs, brush, grass, leaves and yes even dead Christmas trees that were cleared from pipes and inlets are placed along streams and channels by residents. This is very evident given the fact that the ends were cut and not broken on many of the items removed. There should be a wide spread effort to first educate the residents of the hazards of this practice and followed by ordinances prohibiting such dumping in and along streams, only if they can be enforced.

As with any storm, it could have been worse. Thankfully we did not have large areas of wind damage along with the water. Although we lost two weeks of normal summer work, I do not feel things went to bad considering what we had to deal with. Anyone with ideas or thoughts on issues that arose please feel free to bring them to my attention.

Lloyd also mentioned that some of the blockage of the streams were caused by people putting in the stream bed cut logs, swimming pools and even Christmas trees. He was upset with the Christmas Trees since the Township spends weeks picking up the trees and then chipping them at the Street Department site. Lloyd reported that by evening all Township roads were open to traffic following the storm event.

Supervisor Scott mentioned that both he and Vice President Lynn were going around immediately following the storm picking up large diameter tree limbs and removing them from the road surface. They both noted there were many limbs that were cut and apparently put into the stream beds.

Supervisor Scott praised the Street Department personnel for the great effort and they were everywhere across this township. It was awesome and inspiring to see the team effort. Scott thought an ordinance should be looked into regarding the dumping of various items in the creek bed, he saw soccer balls, beach balls and other items that would block up drain pipes. This is unacceptable to allow this to occur.

WATER AND SEWER: JULY USAGE

Total pumped to tanks: 7,619,059 gals

Daily Average to tank 245,776 gals

RT:11 pump station total: 9,165,157gals

RT:11 pump station daily avg: 295,650gals

RT:11 and monthly. Village diff.: 1,546,098 gals

Woods of Welsh total usage: 219,880gals

Woods or Welsh daily average: 7,093 gals

(Purchased water)

RT:11 meter: 11,225,000 gals

Bloom Rd. meter: 600,000gals

Total purchased from Danville: 11,825,000gals

Daily average from Danville 381,452 gal

Present monthly usage; 11,825,000gals

Previous monthly usage: 11,620,000gals difference:
205,000 gals (more)

Sewerage pumped rt:11: 3,122,413 gals

Sewerage pumped daily: 100,723gals

Previous monthly usage: 2,492,196 gals

Difference: 630,217 gals (more)

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Scott reported the update of the sale of the Water and Sewer Department is that a meeting was held today with 3 largest water and sewer companies being Mid-America, Aqua and Suez in attendance. All expressed interest in purchasing the Water and Sewer Department and the Supervisors are anticipating the response date about a month to give the people more time to put their packages together. An in conjunction with that it was necessary that us to hire a valuation company on our system. There are only 3 companies that are approved by the Commonwealth of PA. to provide this service. This will give us knowledge of what our Water and Sewer System is to be worth. The company is Scottmadden Management Consultants of Westborough, MA. And the cost of this service is \$30,000.00. Vice Chairman Lynn made a motion to accept the plan for \$30,000 for the assessed value of the Water and Sewer Department. Supervisor Scott second. Glen Cromley asked if the costs incurred for the sale are going to be recorded. Supervisor Scott said the figures will be in the accounting system. Motions passed.

Vice Chairman Lynn then moved to accept the Suncom cleaning contract with the cost being \$90.90 per week to clean the building. Supervisor Scott second. Motions passed.

Supervisor Scott also reported the **MS4 program** (silt that is discharged to the Susquehanna River Program Monitoring Government Mandated Program) is proceeding but has taken a step backwards, requires that we reduce the amount of silt that flows into the river. The initial plan was retention ponds and engineer them in a way that the silt is collected and the water passed off and from time to time we go in, meaning the township collects out this silt and then deposes of it in a proper manner. What was found was that as we went around the township to identify areas that we could do this in and calculated that this will give us this much and this will give us that much, what we found and especially just after this flooding was that we don't have to just use the retention ponds or sewer cellars, we can impact the creeks and the streams and they will yield us 45 pounds of silt per foot. We looked at that and we were like here's an opportunity to impact areas that have affected the township negatively for several generations. We asked our engineer to go back and formulate a plan to see how we could impact this stream that runs behind Knapper. As well as the one that comes down behind Knapper, there is some problems there. This would allow us to satisfy the requirement that we can't get out of the MS4 but at the same time, instead of digging more holes out in the middle of nowhere and cementing the bottom of them, actually impact something that has been adversely affecting the township for generations, so more to come on that. I'm actually excited about it now because this MS4 project is something that might actually have a very positive impact to us in the long run. But we will – when the planning is completed, have a public meeting that will be advertised so that people can come and obviously see the entire plan and can have comment, input but what we found.

Vice Chairman Lynn moved for adjournment, second by Supervisor Scott.

This meeting was recorded.

Joe Oberdorf, Secretary