

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Mark Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other Supervisors present were Todd Kirsten and Ben Pisoni. Staff present were Amy Smith, Township Clerk; D.J. Liggett, CRPA and Trish Meek, CRPA. Residents & others in attendance: Katie Ombalski, Clearwater Conservancy and Michael Pratt, Keller Engineers. Manager, Susan Steele, on vacation.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Ms. Ombalski stated Clearwater Conservancy partnered with Purple Lizard and completed the Scotia Map. Halfmoon Township was one of the sponsors of this map. Ms. Ombalski stated the map shows the Barrens to the Bald Eagle Corridor. One side of the map explains the ecology and the other side shows the history of the Scotia area along with permitted trails. Ms. Ombalski commented that Mr. Bob Hazelton provided the history of the Scotia Barrens. Ms. Ombalski provided each Supervisor a copy of the map as well as the Township Office. The maps can be purchased through Clearwater Conservancy for \$12.00 a map and if purchased directly through Clearwater they receive \$7.00 a map but are also available at local retailers. Ms. Ombalski stated the parking area in the Wildlife Corridor is completed and two signs will be erected this fall near the parking area.

4. **MINUTES**

- ***MOTION: Mr. Kirsten moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 12th, 2012; Mr. Pisoni seconded; Vote 3-0-0; Motion Carried.***

5. **APPROVAL OF GRAY'S WOODS PHASE 6 – STORMWATER PLAN**

Mr. Pratt provided the subdivision map and explained the subdivision is for a Town Center Neighborhood located south west of Grays Woods Boulevard. Mr. Pratt stated this will be an extension of Grays Woods Boulevard with three new roundabouts with an addition of emergency access to the Deerbrook neighborhood. Mr. Pratt explained this plan will include 137 town home units and single family lots. Mr. Pratt commented that public utilities will be extended to this neighborhood. Mr. Pratt stated there are 43 acres proposed to be dedicated for Parkland in Patton Township. Mr. Pratt explained the reason why the plan needed to be brought to the Halfmoon Township Board of Supervisors is because basin number four storm water retention is located in Halfmoon Township and Patton Township requested approval from Halfmoon Township.

Ms. Liggett stated she had no comments but Mr. Fennessey on the Halfmoon Township Planning Commission raised some questions that were discussed with Mr. Franson and have been addressed. Ms. Liggett reviewed the all comments and stated there would be access and right of entry for both townships. Ms. Liggett stated Mr. Fennessey felt that Halfmoon Township should have the right to inspect the basin. Ms. Liggett stated no alterations could be done unless both townships signed off those alterations. Ms. Liggett stated one comment made by Mr. Franson was he questioned the depth of the cut for the basin and any likelihood of encountering ground water. Mr. Pratt stated the bottom elevation is 1,379 feet and the wetland pocket is downstream with an elevation of 1,370-1,374 feet so the basin is 5-10 feet higher. Mr. Kirsten questioned who is responsible for the maintenance. Mr. Pratt stated Grays Woods would pay for maintenance.

- ***MOTION: Mr. Pisoni moved to approve Gray's Woods Phase 6 Stormwater Plan contingent upon meeting the Township Engineers comment per memo dated July 23, 2012 specifically comments 1, 2 & 4; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 3-0-0; Motion Carried.***

6. **PRESENTATION BY TRISH MEEKS OF POSSIBLE SR 550 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

Ms. Meeks commented that staff met with Penn Dot to discuss ways to improve pedestrian safety crossings on State Route 550 and brought those suggestions and recommendations back to the Board of Supervisors at a previous meeting. After some discussions at that meeting the Board requested Ms. Meeks gather more information. Ms. Meeks provided the charted suggestions, costs, whether there needed to be a permit, location, maintenance requirements and estimated annual costs. Ms. Meeks provided an aerial photo of the village of Stormstown which showed painted cross walks, yield to pedestrian channeling device signs (sandwich board signs), pedestrian crossing signs and temporary expect park activity signs. Ms. Meeks stated the cross walk markings have been approved by Penn Dot and do not need a permit. The cross walk markings are painted in a

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piano key style and she and Mr. Franson noted perspective placements on the map as the best locations for sight distance. Ms. Meeks stated the Township would need a permit for the temporary expect park activity signs which would need to be replaced approximately every 10 years. Mr. Stevenson commented that the sandwich board signs could be placed in the middle of State Route 550 to be more effective. Mr. Kirsten questioned whether the sandwich board signs could be placed permanently on a post to the side of the road. Mr. Stevenson stated a reason not to mount the signs permanently would be due to sight distance issues they would need to sit further off the side of the road which may defeat the purpose if they are not seen. Ms. Meeks commented if the sign were damaged sitting in the middle of the road the township can always ask for new signs. Mr. Pisoni stated he felt placing the sandwich board signs in the middle of the road of State Route 550 would work best. Mr. Stevenson suggested leaving the sandwich board signs there and not just during the park program. Mr. Kirsten stated he thought the sandwich boards and cross walk paintings would be effective. Mr. Stevenson suggested holding off on the temporary pedestrian crossing signs for now. Ms. Meeks said that contrary previous to communications, the sandwich boards do NOT have to be picked up each evening. Mr. Kirsten commented the sandwich boards and cross walks could be tried first to see how they worked out. Mr. Stevenson questioned whether the warning cross walk signs are mandatory. Ms. Meeks stated she did not believe they were mandatory but would check. Mr. Pisoni stated he would like to place the signs and complete the painting this year if possible. Mr. Stevenson requested staff look at the budget and see if the money was there to begin this project this year and discuss this again at the August 23rd meeting. Mr. Pisoni questioned whether there has been a situation where the sandwich boards have caused an accident. Ms. Meeks stated she is not aware of any but would check. There was discussion on the type of paint used for the markings and whether there was any grit in the paint for slippage. Mr. Pisoni suggested contacting Penn Dot and checking to see if a speed radar sign could be placed in Stormstown to determine the speeds before these items are installed and compare those speeds to the speeds after the signage is placed and the cross walks are in place. Ms. Meeks discussed costs and stated the costs include staff time so the costs may be lower but it is a matter of finding staff time. Ms. Meeks explained why Penn Dot does not support the Wig Wag with motion detection lighting stating they would like the Township to try the other alternatives first and then re-evaluate their effectiveness. There may also be malfunction liabilities. Mr. Stevenson reiterated that he would like staff to see if there is money in the budget this year to paint the crosswalks at Houtz Lane and Municipal Lane and discuss this again at the August 23rd meeting.

7. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING CHANGE IN SHARED DRIVEWAY ORDINANCE

Ms. Liggett provided a map that showed the current number of shared driveways. Ms. Liggett commented there are over 1,200 driveways in Halfmoon Township with 24 of those being a shared driveway. Ms. Liggett stated of those 24 there is one that serves five lots, seven that serves three lots and one that serves four lots. There are a total of 60 houses/lots that share a driveway. Ms. Liggett commented she would like to discuss with the Board the future potential. Ms. Liggett stated there are 128 lots in the Agriculture Zoning District that are eligible to develop under the Rural Preservation development regulations which would allow them to develop a minimum of four lots that could add 512 homes on shared driveways. Ms. Liggett commented the Board is trying to address several issues with this one regulation: 911 identification concerns, ensuring emergency services have access, and allowing the agricultural culture. Ms. Liggett explained there is a challenge changing the number of homes on a shared driveway because there are several regulations that involve include this language. Ms. Liggett stated she spoke with Mr. Spackman from the Centre County 911 Office and he suggests having only one house on a driveway. Mr. Spackman's concern is the shared driveways are not named and addresses are not visible. Mr. Stevenson suggested that if the Board kept the number at four on a shared driveway than it could be required that the property owners would be responsible for posting each individual driveway coming off of a shared driveway or every fork coming off the driveway. Ms. Liggett stated Halfmoon Township already has regulations on the size of the numbers for addresses. Mr. Stevenson stated the Port Matilda Fire Company provides address signage that is reflective. Ms. Liggett stated shared driveways are currently only permitted in the Rural Preservation District and not all districts. Ms. Liggett explained the difference between a neighborhood lot and a county lot in RPD developments. Ms. Liggett stated the Planning Commission discussed changing the number of lots from four to two but having it apply to all districts. Ms. Liggett suggested that if the Board of Supervisors is staying with four lots she recommended limiting to the Rural Preservation District. Ms. Liggett discussed construction standards for driveways and how they differ from private roads. Ms. Liggett stated the Ordinance is silent on naming a driveway. Ms. Liggett explained Ferguson Township does not permit private streets or roads. Ms. Liggett commented when speaking with Mr. Spackman he stated he would be happy to assign driveway names. Mr. Kirsten questioned whether Emergency Services use GPS. Ms. Liggett stated they do not use GPS but use the information the 911 dispatcher provides. Ms. Liggett discussed private street requirements. Mr. Stevenson stated he would like to have a full board before making a decision. There was discussion what triggers a driveway into becoming a private road. Ms. Liggett explained that currently a shared driveway can serve four

homes in the RPD. A private road is only allowed to have three homes. Ms. Liggett explained that a private road would have to be brought up to public road standards to serve more than three houses, unless the Board granted a waiver to allow more homes. Mr. Stevenson questioned if the number was dropped from four to two for a shared driveway is the Board still able to grant a waiver. Ms. Liggett stated that is a question to be raised to the Township Solicitor because the Driveway Ordinance is a stand-alone Ordinance and may not permit waivers. The Subdivision Ordinance permits waivers for private roads. Ms. Liggett stated the Planning Commission would like the Driveway Ordinance to stay a stand-alone Ordinance so that it could not be waived. Mr. Kirsten stated this is what he was referring to at an earlier meeting regarding governing by waiver. Mr. Stevenson stated there are three items that should be addressed (1) the number of dwelling units on a shared driveway and should there be a change to the Ordinance so it applies to all zoning districts or just the Rural Preservation District (2) signage at entry of each lane off of a shared driveway and specifications (3) can waivers be granted under Driveway Ordinance. Ms. Liggett stated the shared driveway discussion started with the Planning Commission due to safety concerns. Ms. Liggett stated Patton Township does not permit shared driveways that are longer than 1,000 feet and they must have turn outs or pull offs at 500 feet. Mr. Stevenson questioned what the rationale is for Patton Township for the 1,000 feet. Ms. Liggett offered to check that. She stated the Halfmoon Township fire regulations state a private street can be no longer than 1,500 feet and this applies to any private or public street with a dead end that serves as a fire access road. Mr. Stevenson stated he would also like to get the Planning Commission's recommendations and would like them to consider the three items that were listed as part of their discussions. Mr. Pisoni stated he thinks the full board should come up with a number before sending it back to the Planning Commission. Mr. Stevenson stated that the Planning Commission has been given another avenue to consider to alleviate the safety concerns and would like them to consider the number being left at four with the other conditions we're applying. Mr. Pisoni stated he would like to have a feel from the full board before sending it back to the Planning Commission because the Board may want to change it to two. Mr. Kirsten stated he did not get that feeling. Mr. Pisoni stated he may be in favor of changing it to two. Mr. Stevenson requested this be put back on the BOS agenda for the August 23rd meeting.

8. APPROVAL OF FY 2013 BUDGET CALENDAR

Ms. Steele provided the budget calendar for consideration and approval. Ms. Smith stated the November 5th meeting would fall on the eve of the elections so the room would not be available. The Board agreed to omit November 5th as a budget meeting date. The Board requested Ms. Smith check with C-NET to see if these meetings could be televised and find out how these would be charged. Mr. Stevenson stated he would send the rest of the Board Ms. Steele's performance review to fill out and have ready for a joint review. Mr. Stevenson suggested having an executive session prior to the meeting of September 13th at 6:30 to meet with Ms. Steele to complete this review.

- ***MOTION: Mr. Pisoni moved to approve the budget calendar omitting November 5th; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 3-0-0; Motion Carried.***

9. MANAGER REPORT

Ms. Steele provided a written report. Mr. Stevenson stated the Board would be discussing the letter of agreement with the Fire Companies at the retreat in September.

10. SUPERVISORS' REPORTS

Mr. Pisoni stated he would like to request that staff look to see if there is money in the budget for a new air conditioning system that is capable of being used during meetings. Mr. Pisoni explained how the system worked and explained the condenser would be outside. Mr. Pisoni provided an estimated cost of 2,000 - 2,400. The Board agreed to have staff look at the budget to see if there are monies there for this purchase.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

- ***MOTION: Mr. Pisoni moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 3-0-0; Motion Carried.***

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