

M I N U T E S
SHALER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:47 p.m. by Commissioner Cross. He announced that the meeting was being recorded and asked the Secretary to call the roll as follows:

PRESENT: Cross, Boyle, Iozzo
ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Fisher, Mizgorski, Shutter and Wagner; Timothy Rogers, Manager; Chris Lovato, Manager; Judith Kording, Assistant Township Manager; Harlan Stone, Solicitor; Sean Frank, Chief of Police; Robert Vita, Code Enforcement Officer; Mel Crawford, Admin. Assistant

New Business:

Resident Request for a Streetlight at Spencer Woods Drive and Spencer Lane Extension

The first item of business was the resident request for a streetlight at Spencer Woods Drive and Spencer Lane Extension. **Mr. Rogers** stated that he received a call from a resident requesting a streetlight at Spencer Woods Drive and Spencer Lane Extension due to their concern for children's safety while waiting for the bus in the morning.

Mr. Rogers recited the Shaler Township Public Safety Policy that was passed in 1971. **Mr. Rogers** stated that, historically, we have put streetlights at intersections that we have determined to be dangerous or troubled.

Tom Pantone, 700 Spencer Woods Drive

Mr. Pantone stated that they are not asking for streetlights to be put in the plan. **Mr. Rogers** stated that he read the policy so everyone was aware of what our current policy is. **Mr. Boyle** reiterated that this policy is from June 1971, and there have not been any changes made to it since then.

Mr. Pantone stated that he has already spoken with Chris Urich at Duquesne Light who said they would install 2 lights as soon as Shaler Township approves it. **Mr. Pantone** stated they would be 40-watt bulbs which wouldn't be expensive. **Mr. Rogers** stated that Duquesne Light also reached out to him and recommended 30-40-watt bulbs which would be around \$13-\$14 a month. **Mr. Rogers** stated that the developer had the opportunity to install lights and refused to do so. **Mr. Rogers** stated that the problem is where does it stop for the Township? If the Township installs lights at Spencer Woods Drive and Spencer Lane Extension, then we will get requests from other plans at major intersections. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Pantone**, **Mr. Rogers** stated that other residents have made these requests in the past and were denied.

Mr. Pantone thanked **Mr. Rogers** for the street signs that were installed. **Mr. Rogers** stated that we have over 25,000 street signs in the Township. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mr. Pantone** stated that they do make a difference and drivers are more aware.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Mr. Pantone** stated that the kids get on the bus right at the intersection as the bus does not pull in and instead, stays on Spencer Lane Extension.

Upon inquiry from another resident, **Mr. Rogers** stated that if there was an accident or someone got killed, the driver of the car would be responsible. **Mr. Stone** added that's highly speculative and that there are a lot of scenarios including, a drunk driver or someone darting out into the road. **Mr. Stone** stated that the municipality is responsible for acting reasonably, but that the legislature has also given the municipality tort claim immunity.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Pantone**, **Mr. Rogers** stated the \$13 a month isn't the concern. The concern is other residents saying we put this light in for you, so put one in for them. **Mr. Rogers** stated that we don't look at the number of the kids at the bus stop, and that it doesn't matter if it's 1 child or 20 children because they're all important. **Mr. Rogers** also stated that they would send the police out to see if they think the lights are needed.

Mr. Rogers stated that there have been times that we have put lights up and residents complained saying they never wanted any lights. **Mr. Pantone** stated that the resident across the street from the bus stop has already agreed to it.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Cross**, one of the residents stated that there are no houses in that area, so kids are not standing on someone's lawn. This resident also stated that there are a lot of trees, and it is very dark. **Mr. Cross** stated that the first step would be to have the Police Department do a study to determine if it is a dangerous intersection.

Another resident stated that the area is most affected by the dark between 6:28-6:51am. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Mr. Cross** stated that an officer working overnight could go to this bus stop at 6:28am to analyze the situation.

Law Enforcement Asserted Diversion (LEAD)

The next item of business was the Law Enforcement Asserted Diversion (LEAD).

Mr. Rogers stated that Millvale, Etna, and Shaler are part of a cohort and they work with the school district and district judge.

Joella Marsch, CONNECT Office

Mrs. Marsch stated that they support members of the community, especially police departments, and that they work with 14 communities across Allegheny County.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that social workers and this program work really well together. **Mrs. Marsch** gave examples of a child not wanting to go to school, a child having issues with their parents, and housing. **Mrs. Marsch** stated that those struggling with lower-level issues can get a referral and can easily be taken care of in 1 or 2 sessions. **Mrs. Marsch** stated that LEAD Managers work with those whose needs are not being met, and that they work with 25 individuals at most whereas social workers work with as many as 80 people.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that police officers would still use their discretion on these cases along with their knowledge of the community.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that they have worked with the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Magistrate, and the Court of Common Pleas.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Cross**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that an individual who is shoplifting to feed their family or is on food stamps is a good example. **Mrs. Marsch** stated that some have gone their entire life with trauma, and it is hard forming new habits. The LEAD Manager is there for them to form new habits.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that she would be surprised if there was an increase in crime following the implementation of this program. **Mrs. Marsch** stated that they have done this in a dozen places and that has never happened. **Mrs. Marsch** stated that it would not attract crime as it is showing everyone we want to take this more seriously.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that there is a program they use where they can look at all their cases. **Mrs. Marsch** stated that if an individual is in the program and commits another crime, they would be charged again. The case manager would work with them to make sure they make it to their court date.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Cross**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that this program is for people who have been arrested multiple times and have gone through all of the other programs that are available. **Mrs. Marsch** stated it is a small percentage of people, but they cause a lot of the problems.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that if an individual from another area commits a crime in Shaler, Millvale, or Etna, it would show up in the database that is used. **Mrs. Marsch** stated there is a case management contract through the county, and the case management supervisor here is Andrea.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Chief Frank** stated that if an individual is in the LEAD program and they reoffend here, then we charge them. **Chief Frank** stated that being in the LEAD program doesn't give them a free ticket.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that the database is called Recovery Link and is cleared by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Chief Frank** stated that they can't force anyone into the LEAD Program. **Chief Frank** stated that they ask them, and they decide if they want to be in the program or not. **Chief Frank** stated that we give them paperwork indicating what they are being charged with then there is additional follow up.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Stone**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that the measurements for success on a LEAD candidate are if they are getting the services they have requested. **Mrs. Marsch** asked the following questions: Are they housed? Have they been arrested since last time? Do they have a job? Do they get to see their children? Upon inquiry from **Mr. Stone**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that if the individual's arrests decline, then they consider it a win so even if they reoffend, the program is still worthwhile.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Lovato**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that if the individual is a first time offender, they would refer them to another program that is more specialized with first time offenders, rather than LEAD.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that it would be up to the case manager and the police department to refuse an individual.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Cross**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that if an individual has been arrested again or missed a court date, our program would continue to reach out to them. **Mrs. Marsch** stated they are trying to break the cycle.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that an individual does not get thrown out of the program if they reoffend. **Mrs. Marsch** stated you can refuse them if the police and case managers don't think it is a good fit, but otherwise, they do not stop working with them.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Lovato**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that if an individual goes into LEAD and it doesn't work out, then the police are giving up that one charge.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Marsch** stated that, in Seattle, they are 58% less likely to be arrested again. **Mrs. Marsch** stated that they are working on studies out of New Mexico and Albany, and she can get more statistics to present.

Mr. Rogers recognized **Mrs. Marsch's** work with the Narcan program and its success.

Mr. Boyle commended **Mrs. Marsch** and her knowledge of the LEAD Program.

Mr. Rogers recommends a policy that would support LEAD.

Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by **Mr. Iozzo**, that **Chief Frank** bring all of the guidelines for the LEAD Program to present before the committee at the next meeting prior to creating a policy that would support this program.

Traffic Enforcement Discussion

The next item of business was the traffic enforcement discussion.

Mr. Cross stated that residents are always raising issues such as speeding and people passing other people on the road. **Mr. Cross** stated that **Sergeant McBurney** was using a speed limit indicator to determine where to target enforcement. **Mr. Cross** asked **Chief Frank** for an update on this. **Chief Frank** stated had he known this would be discussed, he would have brought statistics with him, and **Sergeant McBurney** could have provided a list of where they have completed traffic studies. **Chief Frank** stated that the police department recently did a Buckle Up Aggressive Driving for 2 weeks and had over 100 traffic stops including 2 DUI arrests. **Chief Frank** recognized **Officer Kevin Cooney** who is going to receive the Top Gun DUI Award. **Chief Frank** stated the latest issues have been on W. Sutter Road and McElheny Road due to the detours. **Chief Frank** stated that he will add information to OneNote prior to the next Committee Meeting so this can be discussed further.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Chief Frank** stated they should consider keeping the temporary stop signs that are at the bridge on McElheny Road. **Chief Frank** stated they had one crash recently on the bridge, but that was prior to putting up the stop signs.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Wagner**, **Mr. Rogers** stated that the county will not redo the bridge on McElheny Road for another 2-3 years. **Mr. Rogers** stated the next bridge they will work on is at the end of Wible Run Road.

Discussion Regarding Permanent No Parking Signs on Koehler Street (from the entrance to the baseball field to Friday Road)

The next item of business was the discussion regarding permanent no parking signs on Koehler Street from the entrance to the baseball field to Friday Road.

Mr. Rogers stated that we have had many complaints regarding this every time Bauerstown is having an event as there are 5 baseball fields there. **Chief Frank** stated they put up temporary no parking signs whenever there was a large event but are recommending putting up permanent signs. **Mr. Rogers** stated there are not any houses on the side of the street where the signs would be installed.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Iozzo**, **Chief Frank** stated that they would put up 6-8 signs.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Cross**, **Mr. Rogers** stated that people could park at Cherry City or go down the next street which is Newland Lane.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Lovato**, **Mr. Rogers** stated that the baseball organization has advertised the parking, but people don't see it.

Mr. Rogers stated that Bauerstown is trying to stagger start times for their games, but they don't have any lights.

Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by **Mr. Iozzo**, to recommend to the full Board of Commissioners the final approval of installing permanent no parking signs on Koehler Street.

Public Comments:

Mr. Rihn stated that September is National Preparedness Month and October is National Car Safety Month.

There being no further business, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Boyle** moved, seconded by **Mr. Iozzo** that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Rogers
Township Manager

TJR:ed

M I N U T E S
SHALER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL & LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:45 p.m. by Commissioner Iozzo. He announced that the meeting was being recorded and asked the Secretary to call the roll as follows:

PRESENT: Iozzo, Fisher, Boyle
ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Cross, Mizgorski, Shutter and Wagner; Timothy Rogers, Manager; Chris Lovato, Manager; Judith Kording, Assistant Manager; Harlan Stone, Solicitor; Sean Frank, Chief of Police; Robert Vita, Code Enforcement Officer; Mel Crawford, Admin. Assistant

New Business:

Small Wireless Communication Ordinance

The first item of business was the Small Wireless Communication Ordinance.

Mr. Rogers stated that a redraft was done on the wireless communications ordinance through NHCOC, and that **Mr. Vita** reviewed it with our Solicitor.

Mr. Rogers recommended putting this item on the agenda for the next committee meeting.

Possible Review of Parking Requirements

The next item of business was the possible review of parking requirements.

Mr. Rogers stated that we may be asking for too many parking spaces in retail lots. **Mr. Rogers** gave the example of Shaler Plaza which has a lot of barren asphalt. **Mr. Rogers** stated that environmentally speaking, we should require areas where trees and bushes are planted to which stormwater would then go. **Mr. Rogers** stated that we are burdening the Planning Commission on parking.

Mr. Sebastian gave the example of McCandless Crossing which has issues in terms of traffic circulation but has green space and stormwater management. **Mr. Sebastian** stated we are looking into working with HRG for ordinance drafting and long-term planning which could cost between \$5,000-\$8,000.

Mr. Rogers stated we are trying to give **Mr. Sebastian** and **Mr. Vita** a little bit of leeway and authority.

Possible Review of Sidewalk Ordinance

The next item of business was the possible review of the sidewalk ordinance.

Mr. Rogers said, as previously asked, do you need a sidewalk in 2 “dead” cul-de-sacs. **Mr. Rogers** stated that he is not convinced putting a sidewalk in is necessary.

Mr. Lovato stated that the discretion is written into the ordinance to waive the requirement when appropriate.

Possible Review of Bike Racks

The next item of business was the possible review of bike racks.

Mr. Rogers gave an example of the bike racks at Taco Bell and other locations where there is no apparent bike traffic.

Mr. Rogers is recommending to the Board to give the Township Engineer authorization to work with HRG to develop planning modules/recommendations. **Mr. Rogers** stated these modules/recommendations would ultimately be taken back to the Board, and they would review any provisions in the parking, sidewalk, and bike rack ordinances.

Mr. Sebastian stated for HRG's proposal, they want to meet with the Planning Commission prior to drafting, and that their intention is to involve the commission from step 1. **Mr. Sebastian** reiterated the potential cost of \$5,000-\$8,000, but clarified this cost is only related to parking, not sidewalks and bike racks. **Mr. Sebastian** stated that the way the parking ordinance is written, it leaves a lot of room to make a decision.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mr. Stone** stated that the developer is required to show a hardship, but it is not as burdensome as the courts have been relaxing that. **Mr. Stone** stated that the developer must put it in writing, specify a need, and have approval from the commissioner.

Mr. Chirdon distributed and referenced the 5th edition of Parking Generation when giving the example of the daycare on Mt. Royal. **Mr. Chirdon** stated that based on the manual, we were significantly over on parking spots. **Mr. Chirdon** also mentioned the Zamaigas Development where we are reducing spaces, but still significantly over the required number of spaces.

Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mrs. Fisher, to recommend to the full Board of Commissioners the final approval of giving Mr. Sebastian the authorization to work with HRG to develop planning modules/recommendations that would ultimately be taken back to the Board related to parking, sidewalks, and bike racks. The motion was carried.

Report on River Trail

The next item of business was the report on the river trail.

Mr. Rogers stated that **Mrs. Ramage, Etna Borough Manager**, received \$400,000 for the Pine Creek Connector Trail that will connect Kiwanis Park to Etna Park on the riverfront.

Mr. Rogers discussed the contract from PennDOT to design a way to get people from the new Etna park to the Millvale park. **Mr. Rogers** stated it is hard to look at alternatives before Norfolk Southern even talks to us. **Mr. Rogers** stated we have authorized a study for this at no cost to us as it is a PennDOT grant, but it will take a few years.

Public Comments:

Mr. Chirdon discussed installing sidewalks as a safety amenity for Wetzel Road and improving Mt. Royal Blvd. **Mr. Chirdon** stated they are both PennDOT roads, and there is a list of components that must be met per PennDOT. **Mr. Chirdon** stated the main initiative was to fund construction, and that the original grant from SPC of \$365,000 was for construction only.

Mr. Rogers stated that we haven't even met with the residents that would be impacted to see if they are agreeable to sidewalks and maintaining them. **Mr. Rogers** stated he would hate to spend that money only to find out that we are not going through with the project.

Mr. Chirdon stated that the EPD would conduct the public outreach as they were advised that the Township would prefer to not be involved. **Mr. Rogers** stated that the Board would be more comfortable with a public meeting, and nothing can move forward until that happens. **Mr. Cross** stated that when residents are going to be impacted, you invite everyone within a certain radius.

Mr. Chirdon stated the cost would be \$100,000 that would be diffused over a 2-year period. **Mr. Boyle** stated that the sanitary sewer budget is a concern as we have already dealt with other unexpected expenses plus purchasing salt for the 2022-2023 winter season. **Mr. Boyle** stated we need to take a hard look at our finances and decide if we even have the funding to do this. **Mr. Boyle** stated it is his recommendation to not take on any debt as we currently don't have any.

Mr. Boyle questioned the scope of the project. **Mr. Chirdon** was now talking about running sidewalks from Meyer Lane to Mt. Royal and, where needed, from Wetzel Road to the Library on Mt. Royal. His original presentation several months ago ran the sidewalks from Meyer Lane to Mt. Royal and then from Wetzel Road to Glenshaw Avenue. **Mr. Chirdon** said that was correct. **Mr. Chirdon** stated that he didn't have a reason for the change. **Mr. Rogers** stated that if we go in front of the shopping center, we will have to deal with Union Realty, and they have been difficult to deal with in the past.

Mr. Chirdon stated he will get a firm number related to this project from the EPD to present at the next committee meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mrs. Fisher moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried.** The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Rogers
Manager

TJR:ed

M I N U T E S
SHALER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:44 p.m. by Commissioner Mizgorski. He announced that the meeting was being recorded and asked the Secretary to call the roll as follows:

PRESENT: Mizgorski, Wagner, Iozzo
ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Shutter, Boyle, Fisher and Cross; Timothy Rogers; Manager; Chris Lovato, Manager; Harlan Stone, Solicitor; Judith Kording, Assistant Township Manager; Sean Frank, Chief of Police; Mel Crawford, Admin. Assistant

New Business:

Engineering Report of Various Storm and Sanitary Sewer Repairs

The first item of business was the engineering report of various storm and sanitary sewer repairs.

Mr. Rogers stated that we advise the board collectively on storm and sanitary sewer repairs. **Mr. Rogers** stated that **Mr. Sebastian** and the engineer from O'Hara Township give a cost of repairs through the development of the COG annual service contract.

Mr. Sebastian stated we tend to lean heavily on the NHCOC Sewer Repairs Contract for not necessarily emergency projects, but projects that are extremely pressing. **Mr. Sebastian** stated an example of this was the damaged pipe on Hodil Road that deteriorated, and we had to go in and fix it which was a \$50,000 job. **Mr. Sebastian** stated that with this contract, we were able to complete this quickly. **Mr. Sebastian** stated we also lean on State Pipe because it is convenient, and the price is good. **Mr. Sebastian** stated we try to be proactive, not reactive. **Mr. Sebastian** gave another example from Elfinwild where we didn't open cut but lined instead. This cost about \$17,000 which was a quarter of the cost of open cut work. **Mr. Sebastian** also discussed the work recently done on Maryland Drive related to MS4. There was a storm drain outfall that was eroding a hillside.

Mr. Rogers stated that with the transfer to ALCOSAN, we have had to spend millions of dollars upgrading the sanitary sewer lines. **Mr. Rogers** stated that our reserves are down to \$75,000. **Mr. Rogers** stated that we don't have to do anything else to be in compliance, unless something were to come up.

Mr. Sebastian stated we are estimated to receive \$400,000 from the ALCOSAN Grow Program.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Mizgorski**, **Mr. Sebastian** stated that Geyer Road will be repaved by a PennDOT contractor.

There being no further business, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Wagner moved, seconded by Mr. Iozzo that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried.** The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Rogers
Township Manager

TJR:ed

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:58 p.m. by Commissioner Fisher. She announced that the meeting was being recorded and asked the Secretary to call the roll. The Secretary called the roll as follows:

PRESENT: Fisher, Mizgorski, Wagner
ALSO PRESENT: Commissioners Boyle, Cross, Shutter and Iozzo; Timothy Rogers, Manager; Chris Lovato, Manager; Judith Kording, Assistant Township Manger; Harlan Stone, Solicitor; Sean Frank, Chief of Police; Robert Vita, Code Enforcement Officer; Mel Crawford, Administrative Assistant

New Business:

Update on Fall and Winter Programs

The first item of business was an update on the Fall and Winter Programs. **Mrs. Kording** stated, due to how late it is, she will post a memo on OneNote detailing the sponsorships and donations we have received so far for our upcoming events. **Mrs. Kording** also stated that she has posted the expenses and revenues for the Crawford Pool and Shaler Shack on OneNote. **Mr. Rogers** stated this was the best year for the pool in his 30 years at the Township. **Mr. Wagner** congratulated **Mrs. Kording** on a successful year.

Mrs. Kording recommended a fundraiser benefiting the SASD Backpack Initiative. **Mrs. Kording** stated we would save bricks from Jeffery School and anyone who would like one can come to the Township Office to get it and make a donation to the Backpack Initiative. **Mrs. Kording** also stated we would keep the cornerstone from Jeffery School at the Township Office. **Mr. Mizgorski moved, seconded by Mr. Wagner, to recommend to the full Board of Commissioners the final approval of having a fundraiser benefiting the SASD Backpack Initiative by making a donation when getting a brick from Jeffery School. The motion was carried.**

Mrs. Kording reminded everyone that Fall Fest is on Saturday, 10/8 from 6:00-9:00pm. **Mrs. Kording** also stated that Trunk or Treat is on Saturday, 10/15 followed by Hocus Pocus.

Commissioners Comments:

Mrs. Fisher thanked everyone who made the pool a success this past summer.

There being no further business, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Mizgorski moved, seconded by Mr. Wagner that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 9:02 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Rogers
Township Manager

TJR:ed