

M I N U T E S
SHALER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL & LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2022

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:31 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, and Shutter; Timothy Rogers, Manager; Chris Lovato, Manager; Judith Kording, Assistant Manager; Harlan Stone, Solicitor; Sean Frank, Chief of Police; Robert Vita, Code Enforcement Officer; Amanda Jennings, Assistant Finance Director; Mel Crawford, Admin. Assistant

New Business:

Discussion Regarding Sidewalk Project on Wetzel and Mt. Royal

The first item of business was the discussion regarding the Sidewalk Project on Wetzel and Mt. Royal.

Ray Gastil, CMU

Mr. Gastil presented on the Better Boulevard Initiative. **Mr. Gastil** stated that the Township has opportunities for more mobility, and they are working with Walk Bike Shaler to possibly find a route to get people to the school, library, and Kiwanis Park. **Mr. Gastil** discussed micro mobility which includes bikes, scooters, and shared bikes, but stated this may or may not be the way to go in Shaler. **Mr. Gastil** stated they are looking for alternatives to getting into a private car to get around. **Mr. Gastil** stated they installed 3 cameras to study movements and patterns.

Robert Tamburo, CMU

Mr. Tamburo stated that the cameras capture images of the street and detect activity of people and vehicles. **Mr. Tamburo** stated that they have created heat and flow maps to capture what the environment is like.

Mr. Gastil stated that their priorities are safety, connections, and incremental steps to get to longer term goals. **Mr. Gastil** discussed the Central Cultural District, Hilltop Shopping District, and the Southern Shopping District, and their lack of sidewalks and/or parking. **Mr. Gastil** stated that their schedule includes completing the computer vision analysis, writing up a report including input from the community, complete analysis, best practices, and recommendation report.

Mr. Boyle stated that he and **Mrs. Fisher** met with them last week. **Mr. Boyle** stated that he mentioned that the state is going to pave Mt. Royal some time next year, but we're not sure where. **Mr. Boyle** suggested that we work with the state on the lining so we can put a sharrow walkway on one side of the road when going north on Mt. Royal up to the cemetery. **Mr. Boyle** stated that if the sharrow walkway has to switch over, we could put in a crosswalk or a walk/don't walk sign at Vilsack, Kleber, and Mt. Royal. **Mr. Boyle** stated this would be easy and cost-effective.

Mr. Boyle stated that the initial talks with Walk Bike Shaler included going from Glenshaw Avenue to Wetzel Road. **Mr. Boyle** stated it might be better to do sidewalks on Wetzel Road from Kiwanis Park up to Mt. Royal and then continue down Mt. Royal on the right side going south. **Mr. Boyle** stated there are no hills on that side. **Mr. Boyle** stated this plan would not be as cost-

effective as going north, but it would still be cost-effective as we wouldn't be affecting property as much.

Mrs. Fisher stated that some of these properties already have a sidewalk, so we could piggyback off of that.

Mr. Boyle stated that some of these sidewalks need repaired or replaced, but they already have something there so it wouldn't be an issue of whether or not they want a sidewalk.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mr. Gastil** stated that he has not installed sidewalks where he had to deal with residents who were gaining that opportunity. **Mr. Gastil** stated that he was involved in a lot of sidewalks in the City of Pittsburgh and the residents there were generally ready for sidewalks. **Mr. Gastil** stated they weren't as concerned as property lines and right of ways were already well established. **Mr. Gastil** stated that they would be working with EPD and others to find out how they have done this successfully. **Mr. Rogers** stated that we would be working with EPD to determine right of ways.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mr. Gastil** stated that their report at the end of the year will have the priorities and what our analysis tells us. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mr. Gastil** stated that the next time we hear from them will be in January for the end of year report.

Mrs. Fisher discussed the number of light poles on the flat side of Wetzel Road and the cost of moving them. **Mr. Rogers** stated that the last time we got a price for that, it was a million dollars a mile.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mr. Chirdon** stated that this was consistent with his schedule.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Mr. Gastil** stated that meeting in January will not affect funding.

Small Wireless Communications Ordinance

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

Mr. Stone stated that this ordinance is an attempt to update the current Wireless Communications Ordinance so that it addresses small towers and also the most recent regulatory language in the Federal Communications Act. **Mr. Stone** stated that he picked up some minor changes mostly with regard to maximizing certain fees for permit and inspection.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Ms. Jewart** stated that there is a fee to apply and also an annual fee if it is a collocation that is located within a right of way. **Ms. Jewart** stated that Act 50 set certain regulations for collocations for small cell which would be the items that are placed in the right of way. **Ms. Jewart** stated there is an annual fee you can charge for use of your right of way. If you are collocating outside of the right of way, you would be under the Wireless Broadband Collocation Act which does not have a yearly fee.

Mr. Rogers recommended that the Solicitor review for a final draft and produce an ordinance for the Board's consideration. **Mr. Rogers** stated that after 30 days review, the Board can consider adoption of the ordinance. **Mr. Rogers** stated that the issue we are currently facing is advertising

as the Post-Gazette is on strike. **Mr. Rogers** stated other municipalities are using the Post-Gazette to advertise electronically.

Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by Mrs. Fisher, to authorize the Solicitor to draft the final Small Wireless Communications Ordinance and provide it to the Board prior to the regular Board of Commissioners Meeting on the 4th Tuesday in November. The motion was carried.

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 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Rogers
Manager

TJR:ed

M I N U T E S
SHALER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2022

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:02 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, and Shutter; Timothy Rogers, Manager; Chris Lovato, Manager; Judith Kording, Assistant Township Manager; Harlan Stone, Solicitor; Sean Frank, Chief of Police; Robert Vita, Code Enforcement Officer; Amanda Jennings, Assistant Finance Director; Mel Crawford, Admin. Assistant

New Business:

Bus Stop at Grant Avenue and Herman Street Discussion

The first item of business was the bus stop at Grant Avenue and Herman Street discussion.

Danielle Rothmeyer-McElhaney, Etna Resident and Councilwoman

Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney stated that safety is a concern at this bus stop as there are times when vehicles are not able to stop in time for a school bus, stop in an unsafe place, or don't stop at all. **Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney** stated that she has spoken to and worked with **Commissioner Cross, Chief Frank, Chief Rodman, and Assistant Superintendent Bryan O'Black**. **Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney** requested a crossing guard at this bus stop, but knows crossing guards are usually only stationed at schools.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney** stated that the bus stop has always been there and that there are 4 different bus stops at this location: 2 on Beyrleye, Herman and Grant, and Short Street and Grant.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney** stated that the children at these bus stops are all ages.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney** stated that the school district is considering moving the bus stop to Grant and Bittner, but that would make residents unhappy.

Mr. Cross stated that the bus stop could be moved down to where the monument is as that would take the bus off Mt. Royal. **Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney** stated that **Mr. O'Black** was there and thought it would be too narrow.

Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney stated that parents are acting as crossing guards and that **Chief Rodman** advised her not to do this.

Mrs. Rothmeyer-McElhaney stated that **Chiefs Frank and Rodman** had a line painted on the street and instructed the bus drivers to stop there which does block the intersections.

Mr. Cross stated that the safety issue isn't where the kids are standing, but rather that cars are driving past the bus when it stops and puts its lights on.

Chief Frank stated they have been working on this since the 2nd day of school. **Chief Frank** stated that the school district has suggested adding a bus stop rather than moving it which seems to be the best option. **Chief Frank** stated that there aren't any applicants for crossing guards.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Chief Rodman** stated that they do not have any cameras in that area, but a private citizen does and that is where they are pulling their data. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Chief Rodman** stated that buses have cameras in certain areas, but they do not pick up license plates.

Mr. Rogers stated that the issue he has noticed with buses is that they turn on the yellow lights and then travel a good distance.

Chief Frank stated that the reason the school district will not move the bus stop is because the people on Short Street don't have to cross if the bus is coming down the hill.

Mr. Stone stated that any traffic control or signage would have to go through PennDOT since Mt. Royal is a state road.

Chief Frank recommended an additional bus stop and stated we could contact PennDOT and ask them to study the intersection. **Mr. Stone** stated that it would be helpful to get some input from a state representative.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Lovato**, **Chief Frank** stated that if the school district added a bus stop, they would communicate it with the parents. **Mr. Cross** stated that the school district tells you which bus stop rather than giving you the option. **Chief Rodman** stated that **Mr. O'Black** said the school district would reach out to the families in that area to see if they felt unsafe.

Mr. Cross stated that another study was done recently that showed that 80% of parents drive their kids to the bus stop because of the rain or cold rather than safety. **Mr. Cross** reiterated that putting a crossing guard there would be outside of the guidelines and that we're not able to get anyone anyway.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Chief Frank** stated that we have watched the intersection and that in one hour, we wrote 4 citations and a written warning. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Cross**, **Chief Frank** confirmed that the speeding was the issue.

Mr. Rogers stated that we will continue to work with the school district to come up with a resolution.

HSWA Presentation Regarding Fire Hydrants

The next item of business was the HSWA presentation regarding fire hydrants. **Mr. Rogers** stated this will be scheduled for a later date.

LEAD Guidelines Discussion

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

Candace Cosgrove, Director of Community Services at Passages to Recovery

Ms. Cosgrove stated that they offer long-term inpatient treatment, outpatient treatment, certified recovery specialist services which is a peer program, and LEAD case management services. **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that LEAD is a long-term, low barrier, harm reduction focused, case management program. **Ms. Cosgrove** stated they don't focus solely on treatment, but also on the holistic part.

Ms. Cosgrove stated they have 3 different cohort areas: north, east, and south, and they are hiring more people to cover these areas. **Ms. Cosgrove** stated they have been working heavily with **Chief Rodman** in the Etna area.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that their offices are in West Homestead, Edgewood Swissvale, and Downtown Pittsburgh. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that residents would not need to go to one of these offices because the case manager would come to their home as it is a mobile service.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that they get referrals from the medical community and the jail. **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that their inpatient facility is heavily associated with the Allegheny County Jail and that 90% of their inpatient clients are inmates that have been mandated to receive treatment.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that currently there are 2 case managers assigned to each cohort area and that they are looking to hire more, but that has been difficult. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that a master's degree is preferred for a case manager and social work experience, but that they would be willing to interview/hire someone with lived experience.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that they do have a contract with the county, and they are committed to funding the program for 1 year. **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that the National LEAD Support Bureau said that 90% of them are funded beyond the first year.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that their staffing consists of 1 case manager, 1 supervisor, and herself, and the caseload is 1-25. **Ms. Cosgrove** stated the program is participant driven.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Boyle**, **Ms. Cosgrove** stated that they haven't seen anyone leave the LEAD program and come back since they just started in September. **Ms. Cosgrove** stated overall though it is a revolving door and takes the average person 7-10 times in a treatment program before it clicks.

Judge Konieczka stated that this program, if done correctly, can help the community. **Judge Konieczka** stated that he has referred several people to the program.

Chief Frank asked that the committee make a recommendation to the full Board of Commissioners to adopt the LEAD Program.

Mr. Boyle moved, seconded by **Mr. Iozzo**, to recommend to the full Board to authorize the Chief of Police to move forward with the LEAD Program. The motion was carried.

Traffic Enforcement Discussion

The next item of business was the traffic enforcement discussion.

Sergeant McBurney

Sergeant McBurney stated that they have been working to change traffic programs in Shaler and move more towards data-driven policing. **Sergeant McBurney** stated they have developed their own program to deal with the Route 8 corridor. **Sergeant McBurney** stated they recently participated in Operation Safe Stop with school buses where they assigned officers to 17 different routes, and they followed the buses all day looking for any violations. **Sergeant McBurney** stated that the officers reported that there were no violations on any of these routes.

Sergeant McBurney stated they have 3 officers that are child safety seat inspection officers, and that the department also partners with EMS on this. **Sergeant McBurney** stated that they are hoping to set up more checkpoints for this in the next year as 99% of people are installing car seats incorrectly.

Sergeant McBurney stated that they also do abandoned vehicle removals in the Township. **Sergeant McBurney** stated their goal is to get people in compliance with the state and local regulations.

Sergeant McBurney stated that they initiated a local traffic study program in 2019 with the purchase of 2 traffic signs that measure speed and volume. **Sergeant McBurney** stated that since then they have gotten 2 more signs and 2 message boards through a grant program through the state.

Sergeant McBurney stated that through October 21st they have written 969 citations, issued 297 warnings, and had 88 DUI arrests. **Sergeant McBurney** added that these numbers have already increased in the last few days.

Sergeant McBurney stated that these programs are through the Pennsylvania Highway Safety Program. **Sergeant McBurney** stated that we receive grant money through this program based on statistics but receive more money as a result of the programs that we are doing here, and the number of citations issued.

Sergeant McBurney stated that in addition to the signs received from the grant, they also received money for metal signs that they are putting in certain areas to let drivers know they are targeting this area. **Sergeant McBurney** stated that they are trying to change driver behavior on Route 8 with enforcement of speeding, traffic light violations, etc. **Sergeant McBurney** stated that the radar signs have saved the Township millions of dollars in man hours, and that they use the signs to get the data they need to see where they need to be doing enforcement. **Sergeant McBurney** stated they target 28, Route 8, and Mt. Royal Blvd.

Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Sergeant McBurney** stated that officers accept the program, but are sometimes hesitant to write a citation. **Sergeant McBurney** stated he recommends to the officers that they stop and give a warning at least. **Sergeant McBurney** stated he prefers a written warning, but would like verbal warnings added into the system as well.

Sergeant McBurney complimented the magistrate on how he deals with traffic issues and educating people.

Sergeant McBurney reviewed the summary of data from the traffic studies. **Sergeant McBurney** stated that drivers are typically driving at lower speeds than residents realize. **Sergeant McBurney** stated that they use the data to see which areas needs an officer assigned for enforcement and at what times of day.

Sergeant McBurney stated that most of our local streets are in compliance with speeding, and that drivers have to be 11 miles over the speed limit for them to be cited.

Sergeant McBurney reiterated they work to educate people rather than discipline them.

Public Comments:

John Rihn

Mr. Rihn thanked the Board and the Township for use of Jeffery School for multiple training agencies over the past few months. **Mr. Rihn** stated that this was a great training gesture on behalf of the Township. **Mr. Rihn** stated that the school was used as a school shooting scenario for SRT training.

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 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Rogers
Township Manager

TJR:ed

M I N U T E S
SHALER TOWNSHIP FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2022

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:16 p.m. by Chairman Boyle. He announced that the meeting was being recorded and asked the Secretary to call the roll. The Secretary called the roll as follows:

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

Mr. Rogers stated that Mr. Wagner is at a conference and Mr. Mizgorski is sitting in for him.

New Business:

Motion to Adopt a Resolution Authorizing Payment of Just Compensation for Fawcett Fields Eagle Canyon Trail Condemnation

The first item of business was the motion to adopt a resolution authorizing payment of just compensation for Fawcett Fields Eagle Canyon Trail Condemnation.

Mr. Rogers stated that management is requesting a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing payment of just compensation for Eagle Canyon Trail Condemnation. **Mr. Rogers** stated that the trail crossed over vacant property, and we have to place in the courts an estimated payment for just compensation. **Mr. Stone** stated that this resolution is to pay the estimate of just compensation in the amount of \$10,000 to the court so they can distribute the money to the record lien holders, and that the owners would not receive this money. Upon inquiry from **Mr. Rogers**, **Mr. Stone** stated that the Township can waive taxes, but the county and school district will not. **Mr. Rogers** stated the Township will not waive the taxes.

Mr. Cross moved, seconded by **Mr. Mizgorski**, to adopt a resolution authorizing payment of just compensation for Fawcett Fields Eagle Canyon Trail Condemnation. The motion was carried.

There being no further business, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Cross** moved, seconded by **Mr. Mizgorski** that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Rogers
Manager

TJR:ed