

## HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT – MARCH 8, 2021

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**Members:** Richard, Chairman; Weiler, Vice Chairman; Martin, Member; Reinhold, Alternate; Burkholder, Staff

**Attendees:** Richard, Chairman; Weiler, Vice Chairman; Martin, Member; Reinhold, Alternate; Rowe, Council President; Barr, Council Member; Thompson, Burkholder, Staff; 2 Guests (Rotella and Withum)

The Highway Committee met on February 22, 2021, and discussed the following:

### Action Items:

1. The Committee reviewed a January 7, 2021, letter request from Maria Rotella, Program Assistant at the Ephrata Recreation Center, to conduct the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Memorial Day 5K Race utilizing various streets in the Lincoln Heights area of the Borough on Monday, May 31, 2021, beginning at 8:00 AM. Maria Rotella discussed the event with Committee and provided a copy of the notification letter which will be delivered to residents of Lincoln Heights making them aware of this event. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the request subject to EMC review and approval, Borough receipt of a satisfactory certificate of insurance naming the Borough of Ephrata as additional insured, and compliance with current PA Department of Health and CDC guidelines associated with COVID-19 at their March 8, 2021, meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed a February 4, 2021, letter request from Michael Lillis and Kim Swinko representing the Ephrata War Memorial Association as Co-Directors of the Firecracker Run asking to use the streets of the Borough on Sunday, July 4, 2021, beginning at 8:00 AM, for the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Firecracker Run event. Following a brief discussion regarding the planned event date being a Sunday, the Committee tabled further discussion for their March 22, 2021, meeting at which time the event organizers are expected to provide a revised request for Committee review.
3. The Committee reviewed an Ordinance to amend the Code of the Borough of Ephrata, Chapter 305, Vehicles and Traffic, Section 305-D and Section 305-113.1: Schedule XXXI by amending the days and time or times designated by official traffic control devices indicating the beginning and end of each school zone for segments of South Academy Drive, Oak Boulevard, East Fulton Street, Highland Avenue, and Terrace Avenue. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council enact Ordinance No. 1559 at their March 8, 2021, meeting.
4. The Committee reviewed a budgeted vehicle purchase in the form of a new, leftover 2020 Ford Transit-250 Cargo RWD Medium Roof Van replacing a 2007 Ford Ranger to be rotated in the fleet to the Water Filter Plant replacing Truck 80 which will be removed from the fleet through auction or sealed bid. A disposition of asset form will be provided for Council approval at a future Highway Committee meeting. This new vehicle will be used for meter installations and sign installations/replacements. This new vehicle is planned for purchase from Whitmoyer Auto Group in Mount Joy, PA through COSTARS 025-162 Purchasing Agreement for \$37,775.00 per Whitmoyer's Quote ID 012921-1 dated February 19, 2021, plus \$1,000.00 upfitting costs for decals, safety equipment, floor mats, etc. to be provided by Borough Staff. The budget amount for this purchase is \$50,000. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the purchase of this new vehicle at their March 8, 2021, meeting.

**Discussion Items:**

1. The Committee further discussed truck traffic concerns along Apple Street brought forth at the January 25, 2021, Highway Committee meeting by the property owner of 1423-1425 Apple Street who has purportedly sustained property damage over the years by car carrier vehicles traveling to and from the Garden Spot Auto Auction facility. Staff provided current motor vehicle accident data for the past 10 years. Chief Petrick provided an email stating that his department is unable to weigh motor vehicles and would utilize the PA State Police Motor Carrier Unit where there are major concerns regarding overweight trucks. Staff will research truck restrictions regarding trailer length which directly deals with prevalent safety concerns on Apple Street due to its narrow width and tight turn at its intersection with North Charles Street. Committee was advised that major street rehabilitation for Apple Street will be scheduled upon completion of a water main extension involving Apple Street and that a minor rehabilitation such as base repairs may be planned to preserve the integrity of the street. Staff will contact Garden Spot Auto Auction to inquire about sizes of car haulers accessing their facility and also research trailer lengths available for restrictions and report back to Committee at their March meeting.
2. The Committee discussed motor vehicle speeding concerns along South State Street between Queen Street and Linden Road raised by Council Member Barr. Committee directed Staff to complete the collection of speed data and safe running-speed data collection and report back to Committee at a future meeting.

**Old Business Items:**

1. Borough Staff continues communications with PennDOT regarding the South Oak Street bridge pedestrian railing/vehicle barrier with regards to PennDOT's plans for replacing similar barrier on their West Main Street (SR 0322) over Cocalico Creek Bridge.

**Miscellaneous Items:**

1. None.