

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT – AUGUST 12, 2019

Members: Barr, Chairperson, Ressler, Richard

Attendees: Barr, Richard, Ressler, Rowe, Martin, Thompson, Burkholder, 9
Visitors

The Highway Committee met on July 22, 2019 and discussed the following:

Action Items:

1. The Committee reviewed a June 20, 2019 e-mail from the Ephrata Area Education Foundation (EAEF) requesting to conduct a 5K Purple & Gold Color Run event. The Committee will recommend, as part of the Consent Agenda, that Borough Council conditionally approve the request subject to Chief Harvey's approval and establishment of an Incident Support Plan, Borough receipt of a satisfactory certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured and notification to residents in the Lincoln Heights area impacted by the event at their August 12, 2019 meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed a July 15, 2019 letter from Kim Stonebraker, representing Wellspan Ephrata Community Hospital, requesting to close Third Street between Ephrata Avenue and Penn Avenue. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the request subject to Borough receipt of a satisfactory certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured and notification to residents along Third Street impacted by the road closure at their August 12, 2019 meeting.
3. The Committee revisited discussions tabled at their June 24, 2019 meeting regarding a June 6, 2019 letter of requests from the Christmas in Ephrata Committee of Mainspring of Ephrata and heard from numerous downtown merchants concerning the events and the requested East Main Street closure time of 3:00 PM. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the requests at their August 12, 2019 meeting subject to Chief Harvey's approval and establishment of an Incident Support Plan, Borough receipt of a satisfactory certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured, Borough receipt of a Special Events Permit issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to close a numbered state route, Mainspring of Ephrata attempt to reach out to Nancy Thompson at Uncle Funky's to help with her concerns alleviating her complaints on the day of the event, and that Ephrata Borough Public Works make new no parking signage that incorporates larger, easier to read text defining parking time restrictions.
4. The Committee reviewed a July 6, 2019 e-mail from Lori Weaver, representing Boy Scout Troop 38, requesting to use the Ephrata Borough Office parking lot and the Major Winters Memorial Trail parking lot adjacent to East Fulton Street during the 2019 Ephrata Fair to park cars as a fundraiser. Councilperson Richard inquired if other organizations have had an interest in using Borough property for fundraisers during the Fair. No other organizations have made requests in the past. The Committee will recommend that Council conditionally approve the request as part of the Consent Agenda at their August

12, 2019 meeting subject to Borough receipt of a satisfactory certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured.

5. The Committee reviewed a July 2, 2019 e-mail request, from Curvin Zimmerman representing Pleasant Valley Mennonite Church of Ephrata, PA, to conduct a street meeting. The Committee will recommend that Council conditionally approve the request as part of the Consent Agenda at their August 12, 2019 meeting subject to Borough receipt of a satisfactory certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured and proof of appropriate license to play music, produced by others, within a public right-of-way.
6. The Committee was advised that two of the four pedestrian signal head replacements planned for 2019 will likely be required for replacement as part of future development projects completed by others and should be postponed for future budget consideration as necessary. The Committee will recommend that Council defer replacement of pedestrian signal heads at the South Reading Road (SR 0272) & South State Street and East Main Street (SR 0322) & Bethany Road intersections at their August 12, 2019 meeting.
7. The Committee heard from Project Manager Burkholder regarding previously requested priority installations for Emergency Vehicle Preemption (EVP) by several emergency first-responder agencies. Priority EVP installations are requested at the following intersections:
 - West Main Street (SR 0322) & Market Street
 - West Main Street (SR 0322) & Academy Drive
 - South State Street & Fulton Street

Costs to complete the work are estimated at \$10,000 for engineering, design, permitting, biddable plans and specifications with construction costs estimated at \$40,000.

The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize an unbudgeted expenditure in the amount of \$9,825 funded from the unappropriated fund balance for pedestrian signal head replacements and award a professional services contract to Rettew Associates, Inc. of Lancaster, PA in the amount of \$9,825 for Traffic Engineering Services at their August 12, 2019 meeting.

Discussion Items:

1. The Committee discussed a Comcast request to fast-track plan review and approval for their initial submission proposing to install underground conduit and cable in certain locations within the Lincoln Heights development. If staff has approved plans and agreements in place in a timely manner the Committee has agreed to hold a special meeting of Highway Committee at 5:30 PM on August 5, 2019 to review plans and agreements and make a recommendation for Council action at their August 12, 2019 meeting.