

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT – FEBRUARY 8, 2021

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

Attendees: Richard, Chairman; Weiler, Vice Chairman; Martin, Member; Reinhold, Alternate; Council President Rowe; Thompson, Burkholder, Staff; 3 Guests ((1) Hackett – ERC and (2) Yermolov & Mielnik – Apple Street)

The Highway Committee met on January 25, 2021 and discussed the following:

Action Items:

1. The Committee reviewed a proposed mower purchase. The mower is a new model year John Deere Z970R ZTrak with 72” deck width and mulch kit with material collection system. The mower will be purchased through the Pennsylvania DGS COSTARS cooperative purchasing program contract #4400020085 from Deer Country Farm and Lawn of Allentown, PA in the total amount of \$15,681.06. The budget estimate for this purchase is \$16,000. A disposition of assets to dispose of the existing Howard Price mower will be submitted for Committee review at a future meeting. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve this purchase at their February 8, 2021 meeting.

Discussion Items:

1. The Committee discussed truck traffic concerns along Apple Street brought forth 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 via Apple Street. Staff will research accident reports available for this area and communicate with other staff members to acquire information requested by the Committee and report back to Committee at their February meeting. Staff will maintain communications with the complainant.
2. The Committee was advised that the Borough recently received PennDOT approval of requested modifications to the hours of operation for all Ephrata Area School District School Zone Speed Limit Permits within Ephrata Borough. Staff has requested that the Borough Solicitor prepare an Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1447 providing for revised hours of operation for established school zone speed limitations for Committee review at their February meeting.
3. The Committee reviewed PennDOT’s Lancaster County Municipalities Annual Bridge Inspection Notification advising the Borough that an inspection of their South Oak Street Bridge in compliance with National Bridge Inspection Standards is scheduled to be completed on or around November 4, 2021. Mackin Engineering has been performing bridge inspections for PennDOT in Lancaster County since 2013 and is currently appointed by PennDOT to perform the NBIS bridge safety inspections for Lancaster County municipalities in 2021. Staff will contact Mackin Engineering prior to their scheduled bridge inspection in the Borough to discuss our concerns regarding the pedestrian railing / vehicle barrier conditions summary comments in past inspection reports. The bridge inspection report will be provided to Committee for their review when available late this year or in early 2022.
4. The Committee was updated on UGI, Comcast and Windstream projects planned in the Borough. At the current time only Windstream has Borough Council conditional approval to move forward with their planned underground conduit installation in North State Street near its intersection with

Poplar Alley subject to provision of required financial security. Comcast has numerous plan revisions in queue but have not submitted any revised plans for review at this time. Staff will recommend to Committee that any UGI gas main extensions proposed in the Borough be shelved until UGI has satisfactorily completed all outstanding final street and sidewalk restorations following gas service line installations performed in the past 12-15 months.

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.

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