

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT – JULY 10, 2023

Members: Richard, Chairman; Martin, Vice Chairman; Musser, Member; Buohl, Alternate; Burkholder, Staff

Attendees: Committee: Richard, Chairman; Martin, Vice Chairman; Musser, Member; Buohl, Alternate
Council: Ressler; Reinhold
Staff: Burkholder; Harris
Guests: Kim Stonebraker, Steve Heffner

The Highway Committee met on June 26, 2023, at 5:30 PM at Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Burkholder provided confirmation of the following:

1. The meeting agenda was posted on the Borough's website and at Borough Hall no later than 24 hours in advance of the time of the meeting.
2. The meeting agenda included a listing of each matter of Borough business that will be or may be the subject of deliberation or official action at the meeting.
3. There were no changes made to the meeting agenda after it was posted.
4. The meeting agenda was made available to individuals in attendance at the meeting.

Committee Chair Richard asked if there were any requests to add a matter of Borough business to the meeting agenda. Steve Heffner of 139 West King Street asked to add ADA ramps on West King Street as a discussion item to the agenda. Mr. Richard asked for a motion to add the item to the agenda. Ms. Martin moved, and Mr. Musser seconded to add the item to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Richard asked for a motion to accept the meeting agenda as amended. Ms. Martin moved, and Mr. Musser seconded to approve the meeting agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Items:

1. The Committee reviewed a May 30, 2023, letter request from Michael Ast, representing UGI Utilities, Inc. requesting a temporary closure to Rose Alley to install a natural gas service to the rear of 34 East Main Street between 7:00 am and 4:00 pm on July 18 and 19, 2023. Borough staff will notify those directly impacted by this alley closure, including Mainspring of Ephrata staff. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the temporary alley closure subject to maintaining access to the Railroad Station and Locust Street parking lots and providing access to emergency vehicles responding to an emergency at their July 10, 2023, meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed a June 13, 2023, street closure request from the Lincoln Heights Planning Committee to close Marilyn Avenue between Hummer Road and Julia Road from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Saturday, September 9, 2023, for a block party. Linda Martin, representing Lincoln Heights Planning Committee discussed the event and traffic control. Linda plans to contact Ephrata Borough Public Works to inquire about the use of traffic control devices for this event. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the request at their July 10, 2023, meeting.
3. The Committee reviewed and discussed the results of Bid #23-3 for 2023 Street Improvements. Project parameters, when available, will be shared with the Committee. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council award the bid to the apparent low bidder: D.H. Funk & Sons, LLC from Columbia, PA in

their total bid amount of \$357,000.00 at their July 10, 2023, meeting.

4. The Committee reviewed a June 15, 2023, email request from Kim Stonebraker representing Boy Scout Troop 38 to use the Borough Hall and Major Winters Memorial Trail parking lots during the 2023 Ephrata Fair to park cars as a fundraiser. 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 at their July 10, 2023, meeting.

Discussion Items:

1. Staff updated the Committee regarding recently revised traffic control and detour plans associated with the C.B. Burkholder sanitary sewer project in Ephrata Township. Since Borough Council's June 12, 2023, approval of the use of designated Borough streets within planned detours, detour routes initially planned in East Cocalico Township were eliminated, detours initially planned in Ephrata Township were modified, and detour routes originally planned in Ephrata Borough remain the same.
2. Staff updated the Committee on the parameters of a planned PennDOT mill and overlay project for West Main Street (SR 0322) from SR 0272 to Wood Corner Road in Clay Township. Bid opening occurred the week of June 26, 2023, with a planned notice to proceed to be issued in late July 2023.
3. The Committee heard from Steve Heffner of 139 West King Street regarding his concerns about the absence of ADA accessible ramps along West King Street including no ramp at his property at the corner of West King Street and Hess Alley. Staff explained that ADA ramps are typically installed to resolve a handicap pedestrian accessibility concern or as part of a street improvement project. Mr. Heffner illustrated that West King Street is a busy pedestrian way leading to and from the Ephrata High School and Intermediate School, Grater Park, Ephrata Community Pool, and Tent City during the Ephrata Fair. The Committee cited examples of other areas within the Borough where no ADA ramps currently exist. Realizing that this issue is Borough-wide the Committee asked staff to check with the Borough's liability insurer for guidance regarding installation of ADA ramps within public rights-of-way and report back to the Committee.

Old Business Items:

1. Staff are formulating a parking kiosk plan which will be included for review in the draft capital project budget for 2024.
2. Three (3) temporary on-street parking spaces will be identified along Julie Ann Court for Hocking tenant vehicles displaced during certain Gross Run Stream Restoration construction activities. These reserved parking spaces will not be enforceable. This item will be removed from future meeting agendas.
3. Due to the uncertainty of actual traffic impacts caused by proposed land developments within the Lincoln Heights area, the HRG, Inc. proposal dated May 19, 2023, to complete a study of the Hummer Road approach to West Main Street will be removed from future meeting agendas and revisited as necessary.

Miscellaneous Items:

1. None.