

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT – JULY 12, 2021

Members: Richard, Chair; Martin, Vice Chair; Zimmerman, Member; Dudley, Alternate; Burkholder, Staff

Attendees: Richard, Chair; Martin, Vice Chair; Zimmerman, Member; Dudley, Alternate; Rowe, Council President; Ressler, Council Member; Barr, Council Member; Thompson, Borough Manager; Burkholder, Staff; 2 Visitors

The Highway Committee met on June 28, 2021 and discussed the following:

Action Items:

1. The Committee reviewed a letter from Kim Stonebraker, Manager of Safety and Emergency Management, representing WellSpan-Ephrata Community Hospital, requesting to close Third Street for an emergency preparedness drill and mass decontamination exercise on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the request subject to neighbor notifications by WellSpan-Ephrata Community Hospital at their July 12, 2021 meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed and discussed the results of Bid #21-4 2021 Street Improvements. Burkholder advised the Committee that the Borough received a very good price for the prescribed work associated with this bid. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council award the bid to apparent low bidder: New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc. from Ephrata, PA in their total bid amount of \$480,610.57 at their July 12, 2021 meeting.
3. The Committee reviewed Comcast's plans to install approximately 9,407 linear feet of underground cable in conduit within the Sycamore Acres, Eden Gardens, Peyton Acres and Cloister Court developments. Staff has reviewed and approved the latest revised plans. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve Comcast's plans known as Drawing No. 0931920019-D last revised March 26, 2021 subject to a fully executed Street Opening and Cable System Construction Agreement being in a form acceptable to the Borough Solicitor, Borough receipt of a satisfactory performance guarantee in the amount of \$210,723.00 and provision of a certificate of insurance naming the Borough of Ephrata as additional insured at their July 12, 2021 meeting.
4. The Committee reviewed a resolution to adopt experimental traffic and parking regulations under Section 305-5 of the Code of the Borough of Ephrata restricting parking along a certain portion of Railroad Avenue. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council adopt Resolution No. 2021-27 at their July 12, 2021 meeting.
5. The Committee reviewed an application for traffic signal approval to PennDOT for planned signal improvements to install emergency vehicle pre-emption and updated retro-reflective signal backplates at the South Reading Road, Rothsville Road and Parkview Heights Road intersection. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the President of Borough Council to execute the application at their July 12, 2021 meeting.
6. The Committee reviewed an application for traffic signal approval to PennDOT for planned signal improvements to install emergency vehicle pre-emption and updated retro-reflective signal backplates at the South Reading Road and South State Street intersection. The Committee will

recommend that Borough Council authorize the President of Borough Council to execute the application at their July 12, 2021 meeting.

7. The Committee reviewed an application for traffic signal approval to PennDOT for planned signal improvements to install emergency vehicle pre-emption at the North State Street and Locust Street intersection. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council authorize the President of Borough Council to execute the application at their July 12, 2021 meeting.
8. The Committee reviewed plans and a cost opinion prepared by ELA Group, Inc. on behalf of Scott Cover the property owner of 300 West Chestnut Street to install, at his cost and subsequently dedicate to the Borough of Ephrata, proposed storm water facilities along the west side of Park Avenue just north of West Chestnut Street. This work will tie-in existing roof drain pipes from the building at 300 West Chestnut Street to a new storm water pipe at a deeper pipe cover preventing future concrete sidewalk damage due to shallow depth pipes. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve an improvement agreement for the installation of storm water management facilities along Park Avenue adjacent to 300 West Chestnut Street subject to the agreement being in a form acceptable to the Borough Solicitor at their July 12, 2021 meeting.

Discussion Items:

1. The Committee reviewed information provided by Staff regarding the Locust Street parking lot easement agreement and municipal parking lot cost comparison. It was noted that the Locust Street parking lot is difficult to understand what spaces are available for parking and when those parking spaces are available. The Franklin Street parking lot was also discussed concerning leasing of parking spaces. It was noted that leased parking spaces proposed for the Franklin Street parking lot may not be available during the week of the Ephrata Fair which is always the last full week in September. Borough Manager Thompson suggested offering the 16 spaces along the west side of the parking lot for lease at \$50 per space, per month for 24/7 parking. Lease periods should be 6 consecutive months or 12 consecutive months and may be renewable. Committee directed Staff to take a look at the Locust Street parking lot to determine what happens with parking availability outside of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (is entire lot 2-hour parking?) and draft a parking space lease application form for the Franklin Street parking lot for review and discussion at the next Highway Committee meeting.

Old Business Items:

1. Borough Staff continues attempts at communicating 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. Staff will contact the consultant performing the bridge inspection in November to discuss concerns regarding the pedestrian railing/vehicle barrier.