

SALFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Work Session Meeting

February 1, 2017

Chairman Barb Lynch called the meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 7:30 PM with a Pledge of Allegiance. Present were:

Barb Lynch, Chairman
Vice Chairman
Jim Styer, Supervisor

Karen Landis, Secretary
Doug Hedrick, Road Superintendent
Wayne Mensinger, Zoning Officer
Curt Klingerman, Zoning Officer

Chairman Barb Lynch welcomed and introduced representatives from Montgomery County Assets and Infrastructure (Chris Smith, Gretta Riley, Susan Guisinger-Colon) who were present to discuss, take public comment and answer questions regarding the future of King Road bridge.

KING ROAD BRIDGE: – Chris Smith thanked the township and BOS for the opportunity to engage in feedback regarding the bridge. Chris summarized the timeline from 2012 to present on how County has been identifying structurally deficient bridges. Based on the low level volume of traffic, County offers three (3) options to the township for King Road bridge and is seeking final guidance from BOS to accomplish acceptable results to BOS and residents:

1. Montgomery County will engineer and re-construct bridge to PennDOT standards for vehicular traffic.
2. Montgomery County will engineer and re-construct bridge to PennDOT standards for pedestrian traffic.
3. Montgomery County will safely demolish bridge.

Tony Mielich (Allentown Road) inquired about the number of deficient masonry bridges in County and advantage of Township taking ownership.

Denis Wampole (Hill Road) commented on current low volume of traffic and how long the bridge would last until rehabilitation was needed again. Also inquired about weight limit restrictions, inspection cycle and terms of agreement between County & Township.

Jerry Coleman (King Road) commented costs to rehab and/or maintain would be less for a pedestrian bridge. His personal preference is would love to see bridge remain but not see an increase in traffic.

Denis Wampole (Hill Road) commented on requiring emergency access during natural disasters.

Scott Elsesser (Fire Chief Captain) commented on behalf of the Fire Company the vote is to keep the bridge open – as resident he prefers to see the bridge open as well.

Jeannine Harrell (King Road) noted she's had the pleasure of speaking with bridge inspectors. Commented on the specialty of the area where King Road and bridge meet; residents treasure that area. She's concerned about the aesthetic appearance of a PennDOT standard bridge, hesitant to demolish bridge, encourage to keep with the green area concept.

Tom Neff (Camp Green Lane Road) commented he wishes the bridge to remain – there are very few ways to access that area of the road. He recommended taking head from “professionals” such as Fire Company, Public Works, and Post Office for practical purposes.

Brad Herlinger (King Road) requested additional information on pedestrian bridge with ballards installed for emergency access.

Ann Marie Kirk (Camp Green Lane Road) commented her family has lived in that area since 1920's and respects the value of the bridge. She recommends keeping the bridge to maintain public safety and enhance the quality of all township residents.

Bette Bleam (Badman Road) commented it's a “given” to keep the bridge for safety. She inquired about the costs to construct either pedestrian or vehicular. Substructure costs remain the same – difference would be aesthetics.

Daniel Harrell (King Road) commented on the 3 options, initial and long term maintenance costs. His preference is a pedestrian bridge to maintain area aesthetics.

Scott Elsesser (N Dietz Mill Road) commented on the lack of aesthetics if demolished and the need for turnaround for trucks. His preference is to keep for vehicular traffic.

Jim Styer (BOS) inquired about the approximate cost of bridge inspections. Jim also commented on past discussion regarding options for weathered steel guardrails.

Daniel Harrell (King Road) asked if township is obligated to maintain to PennDOT standards.

Bill Dingman (Engineer) requested County to provide maintenance costs for each option.

Doug Hedrick (Road Superintendent) inquired about how long after full rehab would it take for the township to have to incur maintenance costs.

Curt Klingerman (Zoning Officer) questioned township financial liability regarding accident damage, etc.

Township BOS will work with Township Engineer and develop a list of additional questions. Further discussion and decision at March meetings.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 18TH MINUTES - Motion 17-037 by Lynch, second by Styer – motion carried 2 – 0.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES - Motion 17-038 by Styer, second by Lynch – motion carried 2 – 0.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **SUPERVISOR VACANCY** - Barb Lynch reported two (2) letters of interest have been received. A special meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 7th at 7:30 PM with the vacancy board to make appointment.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **2017 OBJECTIVES** - Barb Lynch complimented Jim Styer on his organization of objectives but suggested narrowing down into 5 general topic areas.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, **Motion 17-039** by Styer, second by Lynch adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM. Motion carried 2 – 0.

APPROVED: FEBRUARY 15, 2017

MOTION: 17-043 BY: STYER SECOND BY: LYNCH VOTE: 3 - 0

(TOWNSHIP SEAL)

