

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
August 26, 2009**

The meeting of the Public Works Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gene Gabel. Committee members present, in addition to Mr. Gabel were Raynard Spaide, Keith Endy, and ex-officio member Frank Deery.

Also present were Council member Lori Carnes, Patricia Spaide, Borough Manager, Dennis Weller, Street Supervisor; Dennis Harman, The Pidcock Company; Ty Thomas, and a concerned citizen.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2009 meeting of the committee was made by Mr. Gabel, seconded by Mr. Spaide, and approved.

Street Supervisor Report

Mr. Weller reported on the activities of the department personnel during the month of August. A discussion was held concerning the loss of trees in the community park as a result of the August 18th storm. Street department personnel have been cleaning up the fallen trees. Earl Township street department personnel provided equipment and manpower to assist with the clean up. Assistance is also being provided by Berks County Community Service. Discussion was held on the large amount of timber at the park and how to proceed with disposal of the timber. Mrs. Spaide noted that she was contacted by a tree service who is interested in removing the timber without cost to the borough. However, Mrs. Spaide noted that he intends to sell the wood for firewood. Mrs. Spaide suggested to the committee that further investigation of the value of the wood should be undertaken prior to making a decision concerning removal of the timber. Mrs. Spaide will investigate the matter and discuss the situation with the borough solicitor.

Unfinished Business

Storm Water Inlet Inspections - Project tabled pending the completion of replacement of the storm sewer at East Philadelphia Avenue and Madison Street.

Biennial Bridge Inspection Report Second Street Bridge – This project is tabled pending completion of the storm sewer replacement at Philadelphia and Madison Streets.

Storm Sewer Madison & Philadelphia Avenue – Gateway Project Management began construction on July 14th. The waterline relocation work is complete. Test pit excavations revealed that the existing waterlines were not as identified on the Borough plans. This required additional test pit excavating and re-design of the waterline relocation. This along with the contractor's schedule caused unforeseen delays in the project and additional costs. The contractor is preparing a change order for review by the Borough and Engineer. As a result of these delays the work will exceed the contract period and a time extension will be required. It was also noted that the contractor has not provided a schedule of work and is often unprepared at the job site to perform the work

planned on any given day. The engineer, solicitor and Mrs. Spaide met with the contractor to discuss the change order and other concerns. Work will resume upon delivery of the storm water structures. The contractor has stated that installation of the storm water structures should require approximately two weeks of work. The Borough has been in contact with the school district Transportation Director concerning re-routing of buses until the project is complete.

Franklin Street Mini Park Sidewalk Public Sidewalk Replacement/ADA Curb Ramps – The contractor is expected to begin work the week of August 31st.

2009 Street Project – Final inspection of Chestnut Street was performed. The contractor will address two punch list items. The project final cost will be under the contract price.

New Business

Thomas-Eagle Scout Project – The Chairman recognized Ty Thomas who proposed to the committee an Eagle Scout Project to replace vandalized boards on picnic tables in the Rohrbach Pavilion. The projected cost of the project material is \$280. The committee agreed to recommend Council approve the project and associated cost.

Other Comments

Mr. Gabel called for public comment and recognized Mr. Leister who state that a curb ramp is needed at Poplar Alley and East Fourth Street.

There being no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. was made by Mr. Gabel, and seconded by Mr. Spaide. The next meeting of the Public Works Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23rd, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Spaide
Borough Secretary