

UPPER OXFORD TOWNSHIP
JULY 24, 2017

Upper Oxford Township Board of Supervisors held an advertised, scheduled work session at the Township Building, 1185 Limestone Road, Russellville, PA on Monday, July 24, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Scott A. Rugen
 Howard Reyburn
 Charles Fleischmann

 Jane Daggett, Secretary

OTHERS: Dave Underwood Karen and Bill Hovis
 Elizabeth Randolph Harold Bryson
 Karl Herr Denise Rugen
 John Theilacker, Brandywine Conservancy Gino Sainte-Rose, Eco-Site
 Attorney Christopher Schubert, Riley, Riper, Hollin & Colagrecio

The work session was called to order by Supervisor Scott Rugen. Scott made introductions of all present. Mr. Theilacker attended the meeting at the request of the Planning Commission who had questions regarding riparian buffers. The Supervisors are looking for recommendation from the Planning Commission to draft an ordinance regarding riparian buffers for our township. The session was turned over to Mr. Theilacker who provided a background and discussion regarding a model ordinance put in place to provide for special watershed facilities. Disturbance over one acre needs to comply with riparian buffers within so many feet to protect the streams. The Conservancy started working with Stroud Water Research Center and came up with a buffer in the amount of 100' from streams. The Conservancy is working with six Townships to establish this ordinance. If a farmers have a conservation plan and continues to implement the plan, the buffer can be reduced to 35 feet. This ordinance is fairly new and has not received any legal challenges yet. Supervisor Reyburn questioned who would be responsible for the cost if a challenge comes up. Mr. Theilacker stated that the Conservancy can only give technical assistance, not financial assistance. Another question was forestry clearing and how it relates to riparian buffer ordinance. The Natural Fish and Wild Life Organization is anxious to help with programs. Mr. Theilacker stated that the Elk Creek is considered a high quality watershed. Funding sources for review and enforcements would be triggered at the land development application with established fees collected. Citizens can help by contacting their representatives in Harrisburg. Protection of farmers was discussed and keeping residential district from becoming fire hazards. Conservation plans are kept private because they are federally funded and are confidential grants. Howard Reyburn explained what a conservation plan was. The Supervisors thanked Mr. Theilacker and requested him to send any sample ordinances to the Township.

ECO SITE – Gino Sainte-Rose and Attorney Christopher Schubert were present to discuss with the Board of Supervisors consideration for the installation of a monopole site antennae on the township property. Attorney Shubert has briefly spoken with our attorney, Thomas Oeste regarding this. The current antennae which is in Lower Oxford Township is at its capacity. The Township would get money for use of their ground and Emergency providers would get to use as co-locater on the monopole. It would also be available for other providers. The pole would meet strict standards and would withstand hurricanes or tornados. If the tower would fall it collapses in place. The radius of the tower would be about 1-1/2 miles. Eco Site requires 100 x 100 for the base. The smallest would be 50 x 50. The tower would also need a generator for backup, either propane or diesel. The Attorney stated that this initially is for T-Mobile customers. Alternate designs could be a “tree” pole or silo but both are more expensive. The ball park figure of income is \$1500 to \$2000/month. The inside noise is somewhat like an air conditioner, however, when the generator kick up, which runs about 1 hour/per week, the sound will be heard. There will be no lights on the tower. The site will be enclosed with fencing and barbed wire on the top. The time frame is at least 3 to 6 months away. Mr. Sainte-Rose and Attorney Shubert were thanked.

ROUTE 1 – Penn Dot will be repairing Route 1 from the Maryland line to Kennett Square. The area in the township that will be affected is at the Route 1 and Route 896 overpass. The bridge is currently 14.6' and they would like to raise it to 16.6'. Traffic studies were done and the area warrants traffic lights. Penn Dot is offering two solutions.

Either putting in two traffic signals at the off ramps or put roundabouts in place. Roundabouts would impact some property owners. The Board of Supervisors will discuss this at their next scheduled meeting.

ADJOURNMENT – The work session was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Daggett
Secretary