



Friday, October 2, 2009 beginning at 7:00 PM, discussed a coat collection and distribution drive and a disaster response fund drive.

Balint Lane Bridge/Wilbur Street Retaining Wall:

The Board reviewed a memorandum written by Mr. Vargo that outlined options for making repairs to Balint Bridge and Wilbur Street.

Balint Bridge:

Mr. Vargo listed four options, as follows: 1) Replace the bridge with a culvert bridge, per Senate Engineering's estimate with a cost of \$100,000-\$150,000; 2) Replace the bridge with a bridge constructed of steel beams, utilizing the existing support piers, with an estimated cost of \$25,000-\$35,000; 3) Buyout the homes on Balint. There are four properties with an assessed value of \$317,200. The first step would be an appraisal; 4) Acquire the temporary road through the Patchel property. The estimated cost to construct a roadway would be \$20,000. The estimated cost to purchase/acquire the roadway is unknown. Mrs. Bradley stated that she spoke with Wayne Kucich and Joe Snyder from the Department of Environmental Resources regarding the second option. Mr. Snyder advised that the Township would need to obtain a General Permit #11 for this work. The turnaround time on the permit is approximately sixty (60) days. There are conditions which need to be met in order to obtain the permit, including a comparison of the former hydraulic capacity of the bridge structure versus the proposed hydraulic capacity.

(9-260) MOVED FIALLA-COSTA to authorize Senate Engineering to meet with DEP and prepare the GP#11 for Balint Bridge, as explained in Option #2. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

**BALINT LANE BRIDGE/WILBUR STREET RETAINING WALL**

Wilbur Street Retaining Wall:

Three options were reviewed for this project, as follows: 1) Remove and replace the existing retaining wall per the engineer's estimate - \$1.6 million; 2) Buyout the homes on Wilbur Avenue. These properties have a 2009 assessed value of \$431,000. Mrs. Bradley has contacted one appraiser to determine what the price total appraisals would be. She will continue to explore this option; 3) Attempt repairs performed by the Public Works Department, as follows: Upper Area – this is a small area where a tie wall washed out. The footer is still in place. Public Works can replace the tie wall with gabion baskets at an estimated cost of \$2,000 - \$3,000. Lower Area – it does not appear that there was ever a wall in this area, just a dirt bank, which has been washed away allowing the roadway to be undercut. Public Works can dig this area out and install gabion baskets 6-9 feet under the roadway to prevent it from washing away, with the estimated cost of repair of \$5,000. Middle Area – this area is the most complicated and comes with no guarantee. The creek in the area behind the wall has a waterfall that empties into a pool that is 7 to 10 feet deep. This pool is what allowed the existing wall footer to push out. Public Works could fill this hole with 3x5 concrete blocks and then pour concrete to fill the voids. This should provide a block that will prevent the wall footer from kicking out any further. On the road side of the wall, Public Works could dig out the road where it has collapsed, fill it, as well as the voids in the wall, with concrete and then repair the road with asphalt. The wall would remain in place as is. The hope is that it would be stabilized and remain in place. The cost estimates for this are in the \$10,000 to \$15,000 range. Mrs. Bradley stated that Mr. Snyder's initial reaction is that the Department of Environmental Protection would not permit the Township to place anything in the channel that would restrict flow. However, they do wish to discuss the project further. Mr. Snyder has identified the permit that was granted in 1994 when the retaining wall was built. The Township may be able to amend that permit, instead of seeking a new permit.

- (9-261) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to accept Mr. Vargo's and Mr. McKeever's recommendation as discussed in Option #3. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (9-262) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to authorize Senate Engineering to apply for CITF Grant Funding in the amount of \$250,000 for Phase I of the Dowling Avenue Sanitary Sewer Project and \$250,000 for remediation of the stream bank on Saw Mill Run. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (9-263) MOVED PADULA-SZOKO to authorize the manager to apply for 2010 Industrial Development Authority funding for Lions Park (\$15,000) and stream bank remediation to Chalfant Run (\$15,000) The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.
- (9-264) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to approve the request of Steve Schwarzwaelder to rent the Community Center every Friday night for the purpose of holding a bridge game, with the cost of rental established at \$80.00 per week, for the next six months. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Polling Place:

Mrs. Bradley announced that she spoke with Jim Risoleo from the Allegheny County Elections Department regarding moving the polling place from the Wilkins Township Municipal Building to the Community Center. Mr. Risoleo stated that the General Election will be conducted at the Municipal Building and then he will schedule a meeting to review the Community Center and discuss the potential of utilizing it beginning with the next primary election.

- (9-265) MOVED COSTA-PADULA to authorize the release of retainage to Morgan Excavating, L.P., in the amount of \$16,422.63 for the completion of the 2009 Road Paving Project, as recommended by Senate Engineering. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Agenda Item #13 was removed from the Agenda for this evening and will be reintroduced at the meeting of October 12, 2009.

Commissioners' Comments:

Commissioner Szoko thanked Mr. Vargo, Mrs. Bradley and Chief Krancic for presenting cost saving recommendations, as he requested. He finds these suggestions to be cost efficient, bold and aggressive. As a head's up, he plans to implement, as soon as possible, the following recommendations: Mr. Vargo's memorandum – Eliminate street lights except for those located at intersections and critical areas; open up the Community Center to rentals; eliminate salting and plowing of streets between the hours of 11:00 pm and 4:00 am; put the Public Works Department on a four day, ten hour work week. Mrs. Bradley's memorandum – Eliminate paper packets and mail for Commissioners, Department Managers, Solicitor and Engineer by recycling police MDT's; increase park rental fees from \$50.00 to \$60.00 to cover the costs of overtime; advertise in the Valley Mirror and/or the Times Express; hire an intern to review the existing EIT list to assure that all Township streets and/or residents are included on the list. Chief Krancic's memorandum – was just received by the Board this evening. Commissioner Szoko would like to explore the Chief's suggestion that the Township establish an employee wellness program as a way to reduce overtime caused by workers compensation and sick leave. The other recommendations should be subject to a cost-benefit-analysis to determine their feasibility at a later date.

Commissioner Padula thanked Congressman Murphy for his attendance at the meeting this evening.

Commissioner Fialla thanked Congressman Murphy, Congressman Doyle, Senator Specter and Senator Casey for their help with the flooding; thanked everyone for bearing with the Board this evening; stated that the next meeting of the Board is October 12, 2009 and reminded everyone of the VOAD meeting scheduled for Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Community Center.

Commissioner Costa stated that he is glad that we did not miss the opportunity to commend Mr. Flaherty and Mr. King for their contributions to public safety the night of the flood; reminded Mr. Didiano that if he provides the information regarding the ownership of the Slat property, he would be glad to help him out.

Commissioner Wilson thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting.

(9-266) MOVED FIALLA-PADULA to adjourn, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.  
The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Bradley  
Secretary