

July 18, 2023

Oxford township

Continuation of July 11, 2023 regular meeting

All board members are present at the town hall for the continuation of the July 11, 2023 Oxford regular meeting. Chairperson Jennifer Perkins announced the start of the meeting at 6:30 pm. A copy of the draft road maintenance ordinance was posted on Facebook by Chairperson Jennifer Perkins for visibility to Oxford residents.

Chair Jennifer asked if anyone present had questions about the ordinance and there were questions regarding Section 3 and what residents could do on the road or in the ditches. Two examples were discussed- fallen trees and putting salt on the roads. The board clarified that as the ordinance is written, everyone will have to come to the board for approval for any road or ditch work. Jen asked Couri and Ruppe to remove the obstruction and issuance of permits from the ordinance. Next there was a question about if the township owns the ditches. Mike replied that we maintain the ditches and they are part of the right of way. Another question was asked regarding if it is ok for people to drive in the ditches and Mike Miller did not know the answer to that question. Another Oxford resident stated that some people mow their ditches to the road and asked if that was ok with this new ordinance. Chair Jennifer said that we will have wording added to the ordinance to allow for mowing up to the road. Next, a concern was raised about snowplowing in front of houses. There is a state statute that does not allow for snow to be pushed across the road, but residents are allowed to clear snow from around their mailboxes.

Chairperson Jennifer made a motion to approve the road ordinance with the above mentioned changes as discussed with the residents present. Mike Miller seconded the motion and Linnea asked for a roll call vote. Results were as follows:

Jennifer Perkins- yes

Mike Miller- yes

Harlan Bellin- yes

The motion passed and once the road maintenance ordinance is finalized and signed, Linnea will publish notice, register the ordinance with the county, and post at the town hall and on Oxford township's website.

Under other business, one of the residents brought up that at the July 11th meeting, there was a motion not to approve the Pigeon Loft paving contract with North Valley. The resident requested that we open this up for discussion again. More residents along the road would like input and one stated that the bid that Oxford received was fair. He also mentioned that if we don't pave now, any future bids are likely to be higher. Chairperson Jennifer stated that she would be happy to place on the agenda for discussion at the August regular meeting and she agreed that we have not asked for all residents on the road to give input to what will happen on Pigeon Loft. Next, there was discussion regarding the distance that would be paved and which end of the road to start paving. One of the residents suggested that the board send

out a survey to all of the homeowners and Chairperson Jennifer said that she would take the lead on putting together a survey. She feels that a survey would be a good way to get input from the residents and get a better idea of what the majority of people actually want. In addition, the board will put together a prioritization map of township roads. The plan is to evaluate each road to record condition, understand usage, and factor in what the residents along the road would prefer. Using these factors, the board can build out a road strategy. Mike Miller mentioned that Pigeon Loft now has a sensor on the road for an updated traffic count. Mike asked how many people from Pigeon Loft were at the meeting and a show of hands gave a total of 16 people representing 13 households.

Jen made a motion to put the Pigeon Loft discussion on August's agenda. Mike seconded the motion and the motion passed. Linnea will place on the August agenda.

Before the meeting was adjourned the board asked if there were any other questions and a resident asked when the ordinance will be in effect so they don't have to drive through the dust suppressant anymore. The board answered that once the ordinance is published in the paper and registered with the county, it will be official.

Chair Jennifer made a motion to adjourn and Mike Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linnea Lentz

Oxford Clerk

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