

**East Hempfield Township  
Traffic Commission Minutes**

**Date and Time: April 18, 2018**

**6:15 p.m.**

Commission members in attendance: Douglas Brubaker, H. Scott Russell, Ed LeFevre and Chief Steve Skiles.

Others present: Perry Madonna, Jon Beck, Diane Garber, Cindy Schweitzer and Officer Sandman.

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm by Mr. Brubaker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comments:**

- Shawn Sabel, 855 Indian Spring – Discussed the speed he sees on Indian Springs Road. He has spoken to the police regarding the matter. The police responded with a radar sign to alert residents to their speed. He suggests speed bumps and would encourage the Commission to look at the Manheim Traffic Program that they have in place.

Mr. Brubaker acknowledged that speed was an issue in the 1980's. Mr. Russell suggested that it is an important first step to perform a speed study to document speeds. After that study corrections can be discussed.

Mr. LeFevre noted that speed is a township wide problem, not a simple matter to address but it needs to be addressed.

This item will be added to future agendas for the traffic commission.

**Old Business:**

Farmingdale Road Traffic Calming

No left turn Farmingdale at Marietta – Chief Skiles noted that he feels personally and professionally that the no-left turn is not working. He has monitored the intersection in an unmarked car and notes the signage is being ignored.

Mr. Russell stressed the need to know what the current traffic is doing through updated traffic counts on Farmingdale and side streets. He added that the more knowledge the TC has will only aid in addressing concerns. McMahon will be asked to update their traffic count numbers.

Larry Knipple, Wickersham Lane indicated he already knows where the traffic will go, it has gone to the side streets. He encouraged more studies.

Terese Reagan, Wicklawn Drive feels that it is time to take drastic measures on Farmingdale Road and consider closure of the road. Signage is not working, drivers do not pay attention to signage. As traffic increases it will flow to the side streets if Farmingdale remains open. Residents in these local neighborhoods should not have to worry about the excessive increase in traffic that is already here and will continue to increase with the opening of the Crossings Project.

Mr. Russell explained that the in past meeting with the greater community indicated they did not want Farmingdale Road closed or made a one-way. He agrees signage isn't totally effective and people do not readily accept change.

Cindy Brodbeck, Farmingdale Road thanked the Commission for the changes that have been done and that are planned for Farmingdale Road. Speed is the most immediate issue and reminds all those present that the Commission indicated (at past meetings) as speed is address in one area, the Commission will look at the impacts on other roadways and make the appropriate changes on those roadways. She supports closure of Farmingdale Road at the Manheim Township line. She stresses safety before convenience.

Mr. Brubaker noted that the Commission and the Board of Supervisors need to make the best decision for the most residents which is difficult to define.

Mr. LeFevre again stressed that speed needs to be controlled.

Cathy Ashworth, Farmingdale Road provided insight into the agreements and amendments to the agreement between the Crossing developer and East Hempfield. She reminds all that a few residents have been dealing with the Crossing Development since 2005 and expressed frustration with the changes agreed upon between the 2008 and 2012 agreements. She adds that there will never be consensus of the neighborhoods, some residents will be inconvenienced.

Nicole Luecker, Barrwick Lane stresses the safety of the children and felt closing Farmingdale Road will push traffic to Marietta Avenue. She suggests Farmingdale Road be a one-way North or close the road at Orville Road.

Charles Shaw, Wickersham Lane pointed out to the Commission that if Farmingdale Road is closed Norfolk Southern may look at that closure as an invitation to expand their rail siding area. He would strongly encourage the Commission to wait until the Crossing retail stores open and the apartment buildings are rented to determine the impact of traffic from this project.

Mr. Russell explained that the Commissions has been focusing on the short term issues first (speeding) and then will deal with the longer term impacts (from the Crossings project) on Farmingdale Road and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Jay Smith, Barr Blvd. indicated that speed is a major issue on Barr Blvd and feels that it has gotten worse since the Farmingdale signage was added. He would encourage the Commission to address the speed and then the other traffic issues.

Mel Lucht, Farmingdale Road reiterated that the no-left turn is not working. The Commission can not wait to address the traffic issues on Farmingdale Road. He suggested that the Commission look at limiting truck traffic on Farmingdale Road. The Commission indicated it would consider.

Stacy Resh, Barr Blvd. noted her review of the Township's higharchy of streets. It was confirmed that Farmingdale as well as the other roadways in the neighborhoods are all local roadways. It was confirmed that the Commission does have baseline traffic counts before any improvements and as was noted earlier in the evening these counts will be updated to reflect any changes. She noted that she purchased her home in 2013, on a local street. The changes

in traffic pattern on Farmingdale Road is changing her local street traffic. It was confirmed by the Commission that the resident base for any consensus would be the Barrcrest, Gentry Heights and Farmingdale Road areas.

Ruth Miller 761 Barr Blvd noted that there is volume increases on Barr but also speed.

Temporary round-a-bout – The Commission confirmed that property will not be taken in order to install the temporary round a-bout at Wickersham/Farmingdale Road. It will all be contained within the confines of the existing roadway.

Temporary road narrowing to one lane on Farmingdale – This feature will create a one way yield situation which will slow traffic.

Fran Shaw, Wickersham Lane questioned if a no-left turn could be placed at the exit on to Farmingdale Road, at the Crossing project? The Commission indicated that would be a Manheim Township decision.

## **Pending**

Church Street in Rohrerstown – Signage was placed which appears to have addressed the resident concerns. The Commission agreed to remove this from future agendas.

State Road – Documents continue to be passed between PennDOT, Amtrak and the Township.

Centerville – North (Bunny to Gloucester) – This item is on the Board's agenda for award of the bid.

Centerville – South (Marietta to Columbia widening) – Discussion have begun with affected property owners.

Holland Street bridge removal – Agreements with Amtrak, PennDOT and the Township are being reviewed. Finalization of the historic review is still pending.

Old Rohrerstown Road bridge realignment – Budgets are being reviewed by PennDOT to account for the moving of the LASA sewer line.

Gentry Heights (stormwater/curbing/water line/resurfacing) – Residents continue to progress to remove their sidewalks and street trees.

Minutes – Motioned by Chief Skiles seconded by Mr. LeFevre to approve the minutes of February 21, 2018 as presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23PM by the unanimous consent of the Commission.

Submitted: Cindy A. Schweitzer  
Assistant Township Manager