

Board of Supervisors Special Meeting held Tuesday March 27, 2007

The Board of Supervisors conducted a Special meeting held on Tuesday March 27, 2007 commencing at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Mr. Hensel called the meeting to order. Present were Supervisors Ms. Silvernail, Mr. Doratt, Mr. Dennis O'Neil Township Engineer, Mr. Jeremiah MacCombie Township Engineer and members of the community.

Mr. Hensel waived the moment of silence and pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Hensel stated that the purpose of the meeting is to continue discussion regarding the Sadsbury Village Enhancement Project. With that Mr. Hensel turned the meeting over to Mr. Dennis O'Neil.

Mr. O'Neil thanked everyone for coming out and stated that the purpose of this meeting is to talk about issues and concerns from the last meeting and welcome any new comments that come before them. Mr. O'Neil introduced the design team of the Sadsbury Village Enhancement project being Patricia Quickly of the environmental resources team and Laura Black is researching the historic portion of the Township.

Mr. O'Neil stated that the Sadsbury Village Traffic Enhancement Project is proposed to improve both pedestrian and safety and enhance the visual appearance of the Sadsburyville Historic District, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. This meeting is being held in accordance with the advisory council on historic preservation act. This provides the Township and PenDot on behalf of the federal highway administration the opportunity to identify the historic resources that may be impacted by the project and make a determination on the effect that this project may have on these resources. The Township has assembled a team of professionals to prepare a report to be reviewed by PenDot. In May of 2004, the Township received approval of a grant application for \$436,250 of federal funding for this project.

Mr. O'Neil stated that the first public meeting was held November 15, 2006 to review the plans and took comments to express concerns and he is presenting revised plans:

- Mr. O'Neil stated that he has prepared a handout packet for the residents to review.
- Mr. O'Neil stated that from the November 15, 2006 meeting several concerns were residents and business concerned with accessing the highway from their driveway. Mr. O'Neil stated that the new design allows for the curb at each driveway to be broken down so that the residents can access the highway either way.
- The revised plan allows for the speed to be reduced, and make the village pedestrian friendly.
- Along with the reduced speed the lanes coming West into the Township will be narrowed down to also slow traffic, signs will be posted at the entrance of the Township to prepare them. A speed hump will be placed across the entire highway near the new Township complex to also slow traffic down. A speed

study was done and showed that speeds are higher than the posted limits. A 25 mph speed limit will be posted in the Village.

- The sidewalk will be placed on the North side of Lincoln Highway and will not impede onto any residents property.
- The center islands near the post office and Sadsbury Village will be broke up.
- Mr. O’Neil stated that there isn’t enough money to allow for Peco and Verizon to re-locate their lines to one side, therefore they will have to work with what they have.
- Inlets will be placed to allow water run off of roadway.
- (2) bus shelters will be placed, one at Sadsbury Village entrance and one at the new Township complex.
- Mr. O’Neil said they are looking to a similar colonial light pole as was placed at Harry’s restaurant,

Public Comment:

Bob Devlin asked if any easements would be needed to complete this project? Mr. O’Neil stated yes on the Northeast corner of Old Wilmington Road an easement will be needed to place equipment on property. Mr. O’Neil added that the sides will run along the North side of Lincoln Highway and will connect with the existing ones.

Jane Heineman asked if the trees that are being planted in the median strip would block sight distance? Mr. O’Neil stated that there are restrictions on the plantings. He added that “no” there would be no visual impairments the trees that will be planted will not grow.

Jane Heineman asked if any measures were taken with expected flow of traffic for the future? Mr. O’Neil replied that there will be a light timing change for the traffic signal at Old Wilmington Road and Lincoln Highway and he does not expect any back up of traffic. Ms. Heineman asked who is responsible for the grass strips? Mr. O’Neil stated that the road crew should maintain the grass strips and added that inside of the sidewalk residents should maintain.

Matilda Harrington asked if a speed hump and speed bump are the same? Mr. O’Neil replied the word “speed bump” isn’t allowed to be used anymore it was replaced with the word “speed hump”. A speed hump is an elevated hump that has a flat top and will run 30’ of the highway and is not as high as a speed bump. Mr. O’Neil stated they are used to force people to slow down.

Vicki Horan asked what the cost estimate for the Township to maintain the strips is? Mr. O’Neil said its mostly mowing and is hoping to have a possible adopt an island that will help maintain any annuals that are planted. Mr. O’Neil added that this project is being constructed to be a long-term maintenance free project.

Gunner Zorn asked if the light pole decision is final? Mr. O'Neil stated "no" Mr. Zorn said that the lantern type, which is popular in Philadelphia, would be nice. Ms. Black commented that they are looking for something nice and will fit into the village without standing out.

Tom Greenfield asked why not connect the sidewalks down Morris Lane and Old Wilmington Road? Mr. O'Neil stated he will look into it, but also said there is only so much funding available.

Frank Schaffer asked who takes care of the sidewalk in the snow and ice? Mr. O'Neil replied the homeowner.

Mae McGuigan asked if a sketch plan was available for view that will show the future Sadsbury Village? Mr. O'Neil replied "no".

John Shade asked what is the finalization date? Mr. O'Neil stated at least 9 months from the States approval. Once the environmental, historic and safety review are completed it will go to Pen Dot for bid. It is approximately an 18-month project from start to finish.

Jackie Shade asked who would be caring for the shrubs that are going to be planted? Mr. O'Neil replied that all plantings would be low maintenance that does not re-seed themselves; therefore no maintenance should be required. Ms. Shade asked if the Kraft bus parking lot is staying? Mr. O'Neil stated yes the parking area is staying where it is and the intersection of Old Wilmington Road and First Avenue is being re-designed to get out of First Avenue. Ms. Shade asked if First Avenue would be narrowed? Mr. O'Neil replied "no".

Tom Greenfield asked why the shrubs and trees stop before the new Township complex? Mr. O'Neil stated that there are some existing trees and shrubs that are staying and currently there are no plantings proposed for that area. Mr. Greenfield stated there used to be trees there; in fact the residents along Lincoln Highway could not see the industrial center through the trees.

Daniel Andrews asked if there are pedestrian problems in the village? Mr. O'Neil answered residents don't want to use the street sides because there is not currently sidewalks. Mr. Andrew asked if the speed hump would make a noise as cars go over it? Mr. O'Neil stated the top is textured and would probably make a sound.

Nancy Greenfield asked if the future left hand turn traffic signal would handle the traffic during the rush hour. Mr. O'Neil answered there shouldn't be any problems there, the plan allows for a 12-car stack lane.

Jackie Shade asked if the turning lane onto First Avenue would be gone? Mr. O'Neil stated, "yes".

Mae McGuigan asked if the sidewalks would go down Old Wilmington Road? Mr. O'Neil stated "no" there is not enough funding.

Neil Heineman commented that Arcadia agreed to place sidewalks on Old Wilmington Road. Mr. Hensel stated that the plans show sidewalks along First Avenue only.

Brad Schafer asked what will happen when Pen Dot plows the snow up onto the sidewalks and onto our porches? Mr. O'Neil stated it is unfortunate but the project design can't be planned around a few snowstorms a year.

Jane Heineman stated that there might be a problem for some older residents to clear their sidewalks. Mr. Doratt said he would like to see the road crew take care of the snow removal.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Myers
Secretary/Treasurer