**Lancaster Intermunicipal Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 9, 2023**

The LIMC meeting was held at the City of Lancaster City Hall located at 120 North Duke Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 7:30 a.m.

Attendees:

Leo Lutz (Columbia Borough

Mark Stivers (Columbia Borough)

Ralph Hutchison (East Lampeter Township)

Tara Hitchens (East Lampeter Township)

Ray D’Agostino (Lancaster County Commissioner)

Alex Rohrbaugh (Lancaster County Planning Department)

Rick Kane (Manheim Township)

Barry Kauffman (Manheim Township)

Lindsay Gerner (West Hempfield Township)

Greg Sahd (Millersville Borough)

Steve Mitchell (Mountville Borough)

Derrick Millhouse (Mountville Borough)

E. John Hlavacek (Pequea Township)

Stephen Campbell (City of Lancaster)

Cindy McCormick (City of Lancaster)

David Capatch (City of Lancaster)

Cindy Schweitzer (East Hempfield Township)

Ryan Strohecker (Manor Township)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ryan Strohecker, at 7:30 am.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Consent Agenda – Meeting Minutes and Financial Report

No comments on the meeting minutes. The financial report was provided and included a balance of $34,029. Motion by Mark Stivers to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2023 meeting and the financial report as presented, second by Ralph Hutchinson. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business:

1. Right of Way Ordinance with Cohen Law Group

Dan Cohen from Cohen Law Group presented information on right of way challenges and potential remedies through a Right of Way ordinance. $1.16B in broadband funding is available in PA. Lancaster City passed an ordinance that was struck down by the supreme court that included three components, ROW maintenance fee, inspections, right to require relocation. Maintenance fee was only portion struck down. Decision does not impact non-PUC regulated utilities.

Cohen Group is drafting ROW ordinances consistent with the Lancaster decision but will provide more tools for municipalities. ROW ordinance will benefit municipalities by exercising their right to manage telecommunication companies related to permitting, construction standards, insurance, indemnity, application fees and will address PUC and non-PUC utilities. It may not be a benefit to Lancaster City since they have a current ordinance. The ordinance will not be retroactive.

After Dan Cohen’s presentation, each municipality (Columbia, E. Hempfield, Manor, Mountville, E. Lampeter, Pequea, Manheim and City) agreed to participate in continued conversations with Cohen Law Group. Cohen’s proposal indicated a cost of $38,000 to $40,000 for each municipality to get a ROW ordinance passed. Mark Stivers noted that the ordinance should be comprehensive. Ralph Hutchinson asked that it address basketball courts and dumpsters as well. He also noted the excess LIMC budget that could potentially be used toward this effort.

1. Discussion Item- Update on Salary Survey

Cindy Sweitzer reported that the salary survey responses will be provided via a google drive. She will provide a link to the data.

1. Discussion Item- Homelessness Follow up

Ralph Hutchinson reported that a follow up discussion on the homelessness issue will be discussed at a meeting at East Lampeter municipal building on August 22, 2023 at 7:30PM. All are welcome to attend.

New Business:

1. UCC Addition- Lancaster Township

Bill Laudien, Lancaster Township, has indicated interest in joining UCC. Ryan researched and found the UCC was started in 2004 and was amended in 2007. In order to add Lancaster Twp, the following would need to occur:

* + Lancaster Twp needs to pass the ordinance as noted on file
  + Lancaster Twp signs agreement from 2007
  + This is also a good time for all other municipalities to resignature the agreement

Agreement could be signed by LIMC quickly. Bill Laudien is planning on taking to the Lancaster Township Supervisor meeting in September.

Municipal Exchange

County Commissioners – Attended State County Commissioner Conference. ROW – if a property owner’s deed lines only go to ROW line (rather than centerline) and the municipality vacates the roadway, the roadway property from the centerline reverts to the adjacent property owner. Broadband companies have been approaching County for support letters. County is requiring they meet with County, show their plan, notify and meet with the municipality. Funding will increase significantly in 2025/2026. Commissioner D’Agostino encouraged everyone to look at the Broadband Authority website. Funding is going from the State to the providers. The Authority wants to hear from one spokesperson from the municipalities. Municipalities should be communicating with the Authority to ensure that the entire municipality is served, not just the easy areas. The maps from the FCC are not accurate so municipalities can help to update these maps.

CPACE – Commercial Property-assessed Clean Energy. Signed into law in 2018 which enables counties to adopt CPACE. The County looking to adopt in early September. A letter will be sent to municipalities to notify them if this is approved. This program provides private financing of commercial properties for energy efficient or renewable energy upgrades or new construction. This includes resiliency projects that protect against storm or flood damage. This program provides lower cost and longer term financing for the life of the equipment. The financing is paid through an assessment on the property. The bill will be sent out by the County Treasurer. If there is any default, municipal taxes will be collected first.

Lancaster County Planning – Alex noted the e-submission land development software will be rolling out this fall. Recalibration of the urban growth boundary will be discussed in meetings in October/November timeframe. Comments can be directed to map online or to County staff. Alex’s last day with the County is August 18th. Cindy Schweitzer expressed concerns about County’s timelines for ordinance review. Alex noted to keep the County apprised of any upcoming ordinance changes.

Mountville – Brightspeed is in the Borough so the ROW ordinance discussion is helpful.

Manheim Township – hired a new Police Chief starting August 14th . They were in negotiations with a PennDOT Agility Agreement for four months but came to a halt because PennDOT now needs Union approval. Have hired Arrow Consulting to review staffing positions and functions.

East Lampeter – Housing plan is progressing. 1st public meeting will be held at the end of September. Walnut Street extension will open at the end of September. Created a new Recreation Director position.

City of Lancaster – City received League of American Bicyclist Bicycle Friendly Bronze. The Home Rule Study will have recommendations in 14-16 months. Vision Zero public improvements of daylighting and delineators installed. Messaging for the Lead Service Line Replacement Program will come out in September. Jess King is leaving the City to lead the Steinman Institute of Civic Engagement.

West Hempfield – Working with Columbia and PennDOT related to emergency response with the Route 462 bridge repairs. Dealing with a UCC challenge. Ryan has forms on procedure for appeal.

Pequea – Constructing a new structure for equipment and replacing underground gas tanks with above ground tanks using Federal funding.

Columbia – Wants to work together with East Lampeter on homelessness. Looking at addiction/mental health. There may be different issue to tackle but wants to coordinate. The Route 462 bridge may be shut down sooner than anticipated. McGuiness project is moving forward. Federal transportation grant will provide a path along the river toward Harrisburg. Broadband is critical for the project. Borough is promoting themselves as bike friendly, similar to York. Trail Towns promote trail usage into downtowns. Working with County EDC to promote.

East Hempfield –Centerville Road construction continues.

Manor – in salary contract negotiations with police. Salary adjustments a year ago are already outdated. Looking at 7% increases. There are good building projects in the Township.

The next meeting is October 11, 2023 at Manheim Township. This meeting will include setting up committees for nominating, budget and auditing.

Adjourned at 8:55am