

Minutes of the Antrim Township Supervisors
Stormwater Fee Work Session

March 19, 2019

6:00 PM

The Antrim Township Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at the Antrim Township Municipal Building, located at 10655 Antrim Church Road, with the following members present: Fred Young, Chairman; Rick Baer, Vice Chairman; Chad Murray; Pat Heraty and John Alleman (arriving late). Also attending was: Brad Graham, Administrator; Sylvia House, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer; Amber King-Reasner, Stormwater Tech./Assist. Code Enforcement Officer; and Jennifer Becknell, Secretary.

Young called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Young reminded the audience that meetings are audio recorded.

Graham opened the meeting with prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Young called for Public Comment. There were none.

Young turned the meeting over to the Antrim Township Zoning Officer, Sylvia House. House shared a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Stormwater Management Fees? How did we get here? How do we move forward?” The presentation explained the following:

- Why Antrim Township is designated as a MS4 area;
- A brief MS4 overview;
- Pollutant reduction requirements;
- Options on how to remove sediment from waterways;
- Stream restoration as the most cost-effective mitigation technique;
- What stream restoration involves;
- The cost and the options on how to pay for this unfunded federal mandate

The revenue options that were pointed out are as follows:

- Antrim Township reserves,
- Reinstating the property tax (current Township mills set at zero),
- Implementing a Stormwater Fee.

There were four main questions that were presented to the Supervisors that once decided would give the needed direction to staff on how to proceed. The questions were as follows:

1. Is a Stormwater Fee still the correct route for Antrim Township?
2. Should ERU's (Equivalent Residential Unit) be assessed as whole numbers (rounding up/down) or as their actual number?
3. Does a non-payment result in a penalty (like a sewer bill) or a fine due to a violation of the code?
4. When do we start collecting the ERU?

After much discussion among the Supervisors and input from many members of the audience, the Supervisors gave direction to staff to the above-mentioned questions as follows:

1. Pursue the route of implementing a Stormwater Fee. Allocation of reserve funds from the Township would be determined at a later date.
2. Do away with the ERU conversion and use actual impervious area as determined by Dewberry Engineer for fee calculation. A minimum bill would be \$20.00.
3. Non-payment of the Stormwater fee would be handled as a violation of the Stormwater Chapter.

4. Stated that no Stormwater fees would be sent out for 2019. Supervisors will decide at a later date when to actually begin the billing of Stormwater fees.

Young announced that a brief Executive Session was needed to discuss a Real Estate matter.

An Alleman/Baer motion passed 5-0 to adjourn the Work Session and into Executive Session at 8:03 P.M.

Pat Heraty left during the Work Session.

An Alleman/Baer motion passed 4-0 to adjourn the Executive Session, back into the Work Session at 8:23 P.M.

Young stated that Real Estate matters were discussed during the Executive Session with no decisions to announce.

Dewberry Engineer was asked how long it would take to reconfigure the data since deciding to do away with the ERU method and using actual numbers. Dewberry Engineer estimated a month turnaround. The Supervisors came up with two dates for a second work session to further discuss Stormwater Fees. The Supervisors will either meet April 30 or May 7.

Throughout the meeting several requests were made by the public, which were: placing this Stormwater Fee/MS4 information in a brochure format; utilizing programs such as CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) to assist in water quality efforts; working with neighboring municipalities to reduce the cost; make the parcel data spreadsheet on the website searchable.

It was decided that the Administrator, Treasurer and the Finance Committee will meet to discuss where funds could be drawn from Township reserves for program startup costs.

Young called for Public Comment.

Robert Coladonato, 184 Rocky Fountain Drive, asked what the Supervisors response would be if the big businesses come to them asking for relief from the Stormwater Fees. It was confirmed that they can apply for credit, like everyone else, by doing additional stormwater controls on their property. If they do not pay, they would be subject to fines, court costs and liens, just like everyone else. Young affirmed that the fee would have to be upheld.

Baer asked that staff work on some type of informational mailer to send to residents on MS4 and how it will affect them. House responded that they are already working on one.

An Alleman/Baer motion passed 4-0 to adjourn the Work Session at 8:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Becknell
Board of Supervisors Secretary