MINUTES

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 8, 2021**

PRESENT: Austin P. Henry, Chairman; Donald H. Newman, Nanette Bennett, Peggy G. Jayme, Thomas J. Murphy, Walter A. Scott, III, Members; Paul R. Bell, Code Official; Josh Calendar, Borough Engineer; Shawn Peterson, Borough Secretary

ALSO

PRESENT: Brian Almeter, Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc., Justin McKay, and Dean Conomikes, Pittsburgh Field Club, Jason Hurwitz, and James Walrath, Fox Chapel Golf Club, Daniel Eichenlaub and Dylan Roth from Eichenlaub Inc., and eight residents

ABSENT: Jay S. Troutman, Member

Mr. Henry called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

 It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on January 11, 2021, be approved as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

 Application No. 21-1: Paul and Cristina Buncher

 Lot #2 Willow Farms Lane

 Proposed Construction of a New Single-Family Dwelling

Brian J. Almeter from Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc., discussed the submission of the information requested in the LSSE letter dated December 30, 2020, and the replanting program for the proposed construction of the two-story home and property. The dry well will be 20 x 20 x 2 feet deep and will control the run-off from all roof drains in the front and rear of the house, as well as the surface drains located at the rear yard and pool area. Mr. Almeter stated that this was an adequate volume to meet the requirements.

Mr. Almeter requested that the replanted trees located outside the disturbance limit be credit for the Stormwater Management Plan. Josh Calendar, Borough Engineer, stated that DEP criteria state that all trees should be located within the limit of disturbance for the Stormwater Operations and Maintenance Agreement. Mr. Calendar said that a revised submittal by FMG for the issues of tree credits for the trees outside of the area of disturbance could state that the trees will be moved into the limit of disturbance to meet the volume requirement, increase the dry well, or limit of disturbance is enlarged to include the trees.

 Following review and discussion, it was moved by Ms. Bennett that Application No. 21-1 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted with the following:

* A waiver to disturb up to 32.7% of very steep slopes with low risk based on the Geotech report previously submitted
* Incorporate approval of the tree removal and replanting plan that states the removal of 113 trees and replanting of 85 trees
* Contingent upon the submission to the Allegheny County Conservation District and their approval
* Contingent upon the execution of the Stormwater Management Operations and Maintenance Agreement
* Permitting an eight-inch private storm sewer off-property on an existing private easement

This motion was amended by Mr. Henry to state that this recommended approval is also contingent upon the plan's adjustment between the EAC meeting and before the Council meeting on February 15, 2021, to resolve issues of tree credits for trees outside the area of disturbance.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and passed by a unanimous vote.

Application 21-2: Brian and Ashley Barritt

 Lot #4 Willow Farms Lane

 Proposed Construction of a New Single-Family Dwelling

Brian J. Almeter from Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc., discussed the submission of the information requested in the LSSE letter dated December 30, 2020, and the replanting program for the proposed construction of the two-story home and property. The dry well will be 20 x 20 x 4 feet deep and will control the run-off from the rear roof-leads with two inlets located at the back of the house. The front roof-leads and front inlets will drain into a storm sewer on the street.

Mr. Newman asked about the infiltration testing results for test pit C. Mr. Almeter stated that he will review the test results and make any adjustments to the proposed dry well. He is confident FMG can resolve the infiltration values working with the Borough and its engineer.

Following review and discussion, it was moved by Mr. Murphy that Application No. 21-2 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted with the following:

* Approval of the Removal of five trees and the replanting of thirty-two trees as submitted in the plan
* Contingent upon the submission to the Allegheny County Conservation District and their approval
* Contingent upon the execution of the Stormwater Management Operation and Maintenance Agreement
* Contingent upon the plan's adjustment between the EAC meeting and before the Council meeting on February 15, 2021, to resolve issues of tree credits for trees outside the area of disturbance
* Contingent upon the Borough Engineer's satisfaction with the infiltration results of test pit C. If the results are questionable, FMG will revise the plan relative to the drywell.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Scott and passed by unanimous vote.

 Tree Removal Request: Pittsburgh Field Club

 TR-21-1 121 Field Club Road

 Proposed removal of 1 tree

 At January 11, 2021, EAC meeting, a motion was approved if there was concurrence by Eichenlaub, the Borough Arborist, with the Jarosh report's opinion. Since there was no concurrence between the two reports, the request was brought back to the EAC.

 Dylan Roth and Dan Eichelaub were in attendance as the Borough Arborist. Mr. Roth stated that his report assigns a level of risk to the tree itself, contingent upon use of the area, when the

area is being used, and its targets. Mr. Roth used a tree risk assessment form and his expertise when completing the report. Mr. Roth's report stated that the tree was considered low risk.

Dean Conomikes from the Pittsburgh Field Club stated that he is worried about the eighty to one-hundred people who dine under the tree every day when the weather is nice.

Following review and discussion, it was moved by Mayor Scott that Tree Removal Request 21-1 be recommended for approval by the Borough Council contingent upon the replanting of three hardwood trees, one being a hybrid elm tree, somewhere on the Field Club property. Mayor Scott stated that the tree is a low risk in a high-risk public area.

 The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and passed by a unanimous vote.

Tree Removal Request: Fox Chapel Golf Club

TR-20-186 426 Fox Chapel Road

 Proposed Removal of 72 Trees

 At the December 21, 2021, Council meeting, a motion was passed to have the Fox Chapel Golf Club complete the following:

* Create an assay inventory of the entire golf course, including the caliper and species of trees
* The completed Fazio Design Plan for the Golf Club
* The GC's arborist report and an independent confirmation report from the Borough's arborist
* The GC should arrange a conversation or meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss their study of the watershed within the Borough and how the GC's stormwater management can tie into their study
* A discussion should be had among the Board about conservation funding of trees outside of the Golf Club's footprint if there is not enough room to place eighteen 2" caliper trees. The GC should report on the initial response to the EAC.

Since then, Borough Arborist, Eichenlaub Inc. completed their report that concurs with the Golf Club's arborist report. The Golf Club submitted a letter to Borough Council stating the Club does not want to participate in conservation funding of trees outside of the Golf Club's footprint.

 Jason Hurwitz reported that Davy Tree had completed an inventory of all 2,674 trees on the property. The Golf Club does not have all of the data, as the information is still being supplied to them from Davy Tree. He also stated that the Fazio design plan includes all of the tree removal and tree installations for the future history of the Club, including the 111 trees from the 2017 application.

 Jim Walrath, President of the Board of Directors for the Golf Club, stated that the final plan would not be available to the Borough until this summer or late fall. Mr. Walrath noted that the Club would appreciate an advisory on the 27 dead, sick, and dying trees as they impose a risk to the Club.

 Paul Bell stated that with applications with the removal of over ten trees need to submit an application of Notice of Proposed Environmental Disturbance for all sick or healthy trees.

Following review and discussion, it was moved by Ms. Jayme that Tree Removal Request TR-20-186 be recommended for approval by Borough Council only to the extent that the Fox Chapel

Golf Club is permitted to remove the 27 dead and dying trees from the application and deny the application's remainder.

Mr. Walrath stated that the more revised plan completed in the summer or late fall would include the proposed removals and all additions with the 111 owed from 2017. He also stated that the Golf Club would commit to more trees added as part of the landscape master plan and the assay inventory of the entire golf course.

The Golf Club did reach out to the Army Corps of Engineers and were told that the ACE does not interact with private entities. Mr. Henry stated that the Golf Club will still need to complete bullets one and two when they reapply later this year.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Newman and passed by a unanimous vote.

There being no other business to come before the EAC, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

 SHAWN M. PETERSON

 Borough Secretary