

**DOVER TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

The Dover Township Board of Supervisors Work Session for Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, was called to order at 6:01 PM by Chairperson Stephen Stefanowicz in the Dover Township Board of Supervisors meeting room. Supervisors present were Chuck Richards, Stephen Parthree, Robert Stone, and Michael Cashman. Other Township Representatives in attendance were Laurel Oswalt, Township Manager; John McLucas, Planning Director; Michael Fleming, Public Works Director; Terry Myers, Township Engineer; Cory McCoy, CS Davidson; and Brooke Scarce, Township Secretary. There were 18 members of the public present.

This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of minutes only.

**BUTTER ROAD TRAFFIC STUDY/ IMPROVEMENTS**

Manager Oswalt stated the intent of tonight's meeting is to discuss the items in the traffic study that was conducted in 2020. The Township has been planning on making improvements to Butter Road. There have been numbers put together for the 2024 budget to make improvements.

T. Myers stated that CS Davidson looked at the items that were identified in the traffic study, which is the curve on Butter Road and the intersection of Butter Road and Bull Road.

M. Fleming stated that when the traffic study was conducted, Pennoni Associates pointed out that the radius at Bull Road was not wide enough for a truck of a certain size to make it around the corner without crossing the other lane of travel. It was the same concept for the curve located on Butter Road. The estimated cost to make the improvements is \$500,000.00.

C. Richards noted the Board could reduce the speed limit to 25 miles per hour and restrict truck traffic on that road from 11 PM till 6 AM. The option of taking all trucks off that entire road is not feasible because Butter Road is the only industrial road to the industrial park.

Neil Lamparter from 1029 Butter Road stated that one of the recommendations that was stated in the report was to keep trucks, over 30 foot in length off of the roadway between Fox Run Road and Bull Road.

Wanda Stover from 1280 Butter Road questioned why Raycom Road has not been extended to Carlisle Road yet. Raycom Road has been proposed to extend to Carlisle Road.

C. Richards stated that extending Raycom Road is in the future plans.

Randy Stover from 1280 Butter Road stated that the trucking company located in an neighboring Township should not using Butter Road, they should be using Bull Road straight to Canal Road and coming through the Borough square.

N. Lampeter stated the traffic study states that it is up to the local Township to restrict truck traffic.

R. Stone stated that the traffic study may say one thing, but engineers and legislators may not allow the Township to do exactly what the traffic study says.

J. McLucas stated the Township is dealing with a traffic issue regardless of which businesses are using Butter Road.

N. Lamparter stated that Butter Road will become a major interstate once the warehouses are built.

T. Myers stated that the driveway that is going to be built to access the warehouses will not allow left-hand turns coming out onto Bull Road.

W. Stover stated that the truck traffic on Butter Road has increased by 50% over the last couple of years.

N. Lamparter stated that due to the increase of traffic on Butter Road, during rush hour time there are times he cannot get out of his driveway due to the traffic being so backed up from the intersection at Butter Road and Nursery Road.

S. Stefanowicz stated there are plans in place to guide and force the traffic from the Warehouses out onto Bull Road. The current industrial park has been in place for many years and is located on Butter Road. Butter Road was designed as the main road for traffic to come in and out of the industrial park area.

J. McLucas stated that the Township needs development to occur in the industrial park area in to order to have the proposed road structures built by the developers.

M. Fleming stated that Pro Pallet has submitted a plan for an expansion in the industrial park area.

J. McLucas stated that Pro Pallet's plan included the dedication of additional road right of way to extend the road through their property.

W. Stover questioned to where the additional road would extend.

M. Fleming stated it would extend to the end of Pro Pallet's property.

Tracey Inners from 810 Butter Road questioned whose property the Township is taking when they widen the intersection at Bull Road and Butter Road.

C. McCoy stated that the intersection has not been designed and there is no preliminary plan at the moment, so they are unsure how to answer that question until that design is closer to completion.

T. Inners expressed concerns about the speed limit being exceeded on Butter Road.

S. Stefanowicz stated that all of the Township residents have concerns about people speeding on Township roads, however there is excellent support from Northern Regional. If the Township is able to identify areas where the problem is occurring, Northern Regional is quick to respond, and they try their best to minimize and reduce the problems.

Richard Wigfield from 1460 Butter Road stated that Northern Regional sits in his driveway but they are never there long enough to catch someone speeding.

Lacy Geisler from 1201 Butter Road stated that Northern Regional also sits in her driveway. Often times, they only seem to be there for 10 minutes.

M. Cashman stated that he will get in touch with Lieutenant Anderson about setting up the digital speed sign.

W. Stover questioned where the money goes that is collected from speeding tickets.

Manager Oswald stated the general fund for the Township receives the money, as well as any code enforcement violations. The total for money received from code enforcement violations and speeding tickets totals up to about \$107,000.00 per year. However, the fines are usually \$25.00, the rest of the fees on a ticket are dispersed to the magistrate, the court, etc.

N. Lamparter showed the Board a picture on his phone of someone who slid 40 feet on his property and smashed one of the trees.

R. Stover stated that every day at 3:50 PM, he has to watch traffic on Butter Road to try to slow vehicles down for the school bus.

Mary Duttera from 1100 Butter Road questioned if the Township would be able to add speed bumps to Butter Road and how the improvements at Bull Road and Butter Road are going to address the problem they are expressing. To her knowledge, the road improvements are going to attract more traffic.

T. Myers stated that the improvements will not remove the truck traffic that is on that road, but it will make the road more accommodating to truck traffic. In the recommendations from the traffic study, in addition to the size of the truck that can be on the road, there would also have to be sign posted stating "Except Local Deliveries". He is unsure if the Township would be able to enforce that since Butter Road is in the industrial park area.

W. Stover stated that Pro Pallet is not making any local deliveries and the other business in the neighboring Township is not making deliveries to Pro Pallet.

Manager Oswald stated that Pro Pallet is a business located off of Butter Road so therefore, they have to use that road to make deliveries.

W. Stover questioned if there is a traffic study that states trucks over 30 feet should not be on Butter Road and someone is hurt on that road, who is the responsible party.

C. Rausch stated the question is very hypothetical and would depend on the circumstance. It would usually be the person at fault who is responsible for the accident.

M. Cashman stated the traffic study provides clear deficiencies with the road. It talks about cracking and wheel rutting, which is a problem on that road as well as trucks and all vehicles in general not being able to stay on the road. The traffic study should be evaluated, and the Township should consider the recommendations that were provided.

S. Stefanowicz stated that crash data in the traffic study shows a five-year period starting from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2019 and according to PennDOT's online crash information tool, there were only five reportable crashes on Butter Road.

S. Stefanowicz noted that speed bumps on a major road is not the solution to their problem.

N. Lamparter stated that an immediate solution would be to reduce the speed limit to 25 miles per hour.

W. Stover stated that the truck traffic on Butter Road should also be eliminated until the improvements have been completed.

R. Stone stated that the key point is what the Township can legally enforce. The Township cannot post signs that prohibit access to any of the trucking businesses.

Raydean Lamparter from 1001 and 1021 Butter Road questioned who prepares the traffic studies for the Township.

S. Stefanowicz stated the traffic study conducted in 2020 was prepared by Pennoni Associates, Incorporated.

R. Lamparter expressed concerns about not being able to get out of his driveway at either of his properties located along Butter Road.

S. Stefanowicz stated that the Board appreciates all of the comments that were made tonight, and their comments are taken into consideration when making decisions.

M. Cashman stated that the Board should continue to evaluate the traffic study and see how they can implement the information that was provided.

W. Stover questioned what is the next step in regard to a timeframe.

Manager Oswalt stated that anything regulatory would require an ordinance. Anything related to a speed limit reduction or anything that could involve issuing a fine would require an ordinance. If the Board would like to put into place any of the recommendations, it would require a draft ordinance to be created, the advertisement of the ordinance, and then adopting the ordinance.

R. Stone stated he is unable to answer Wanda Stover's question at this moment.

S. Stefanowicz noted that the residents should download Savvy Citizen to stay up to date on things that are happening within the Township as well as have access to the agendas which can be found on the website.

Brian Inners from 810 Butter Road thanked the Board for listening to the all the comments that were made tonight. It seems as if there are some long-term fixes and short-term fixes that are able to be considered.

T. Myers stated the recommendation in the traffic study regarding the speed reduction is only for the curve, not the whole road.

C. Richards stated that his idea was that if the study recommends that the curve be 25 miles per hour, the whole road could be 25 miles per hour.

T. Myers stated that if the Board wants to reduce the speed limit on the entire length of Butter Road, they would need a traffic study that supports the reduction for that whole length.

**With no further discussion on this matter, Chairperson Stephen Stefanowicz adjourned the Work Session at 6:56 PM to be followed by the regular Board of Supervisors meeting at 7:01 PM.**

Respectfully submitted by: Brooke M. Scarce

Brooke M. Scarce, Township Secretary