

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Public Hearing

Monday, August 4, 2014

Chairman Church called a public hearing of the Board of Supervisors to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the salute to the flag. Supervisors Church and Agostine were present, as were, Solicitor Sennett, Zoning Officer Miller, Engineer Jonas, Secretary Yeast, and thirty-eight interested persons.

CALL TO ORDER

Engineer Jonas explained that, with the completion of the Sheetz Store and the Baymont Hotel, the Frank Avenue extension to Route 97 remained closed due to initial concerns of residents. Traffic counts have now been obtained and Board intent is to open Frank Avenue as a through street to Route 97 and install an all-way stop at the intersection of Glenmar and Frank Avenue. Traffic counts will again be obtained after traffic flow is re-established because of the new access.

PURPOSE OF HEARING:
Consideration to adopt Ordinance 2014-04

Dale Gregg, 102 Brent Avenue, does not support opening the Frank Avenue access to Route 97, citing concern for an increase in traffic within the Glenmar Gardens Subdivision. Mr. Gregg further requested speed limit signs be installed.

PUBLIC INPUT

Supervisor Church explained that this Board struggles with providing safe access to Route 97 while still accommodating concerns of the residents impacted by an anticipated increase in traffic. The infrastructure of Frank Avenue may not support a traffic increase, which is why the Board has chosen to study and measure the impact of this newly created traffic route.

Jim Arnold, 137 Jefferson Avenue, supports opening Frank Avenue in order to safely access Route 97. Mr. Arnold acknowledged that the increased traffic will be an inconvenience, and suggested "Slow Children" signs and speed limit signs be installed.

Supervisor Church reminded the public that, even without opening Frank Avenue, there are safer options to access Route 97 than Fairfield or Jefferson Avenues.

Supervisor Agostine added that posting proper speed limit signage is something that can be done immediately.

Don Chludzinski, 8165 Glenmar Avenue, maintained that many people pay no attention to stop or speed limit signs, and that the barricades are frequently moved. Mr. Chludzinski suggested that the traffic flow on Route 97 could be slowed closer to I-90.

Paul Snyder, 26484 Capp Road, Edinboro, PA, owns property behind the Sheetz Store, and he supports opening Frank Avenue to allow him access to his property.

Ken Mattern, 129 Frank Avenue, expressed concern that traffic needs to be slowed down all throughout the area. Mr. Mattern supports changing Frank Avenue to a one-way street heading east from Glenmar to Frank Avenue.

Supervisor Agostine noted that Sheetz requires two-way access at the Frank Avenue extension. Supervisor Church added that the one-way option will be considered after the trial period, expressing concern that a one-way street may impact the snow plow route.

Chris Kimmy, 110 Joel Avenue, suggested PaDOT revise the timing of the traffic light on Rt. 97 and further suggested installing stop signs at every intersection on Glenmar Drive. Supervisor Church responded that the Board will consider this scenario also. Supervisor Agostine confirmed that Mr. Kimmy supports opening Frank Avenue to Route 97.

Lisa Starr, 9451 Donation Road, stated that she travels Route 97 daily and is aware of the danger with vehicles attempting to turn north on Route 97. Ms. Starr supports opening Frank Avenue.

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Christine Zurak, 8390 Proctor Dr., stated that she is pleased with the new water and sewer lines on Proctor Dr. and she supports opening Frank Avenue to Route 97.

Tim Haaf, 555 Melvin Road, commended the Board on being proactive and studying available options before deciding on a permanent action. Mr. Haaf suggested that slowing the traffic on Johnson Road may also positively impact speed within Glenmar Gardens. Signage in the area also warrants attention.

Supervisor Church expressed support for an option to erect stop signs on Johnson Road, possibly west of Proctor and then another at Frank Avenue.

Supervisor Agostine added that she has been keeping a list of residents in favor of opening Frank Avenue, and it includes residents from Shady Avenue, Brent Avenue, Glenmar Drive, and Meadowland Circle.

With no further input from the public, Chairman Church closed the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m.

CLOSE HEARING

Respectfully submitted,

Christene S. Yeast
Recording Secretary
8/5/2014