

UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

COMMISSIONERS

Kenneth M. Martin, President
Richard A. Castranio, Jr., Vice President
Virginia M. Anderson, Assistant Secretary
James G. Cochran, Assistant Secretary
Jeffrey M. Walter, Assistant Secretary

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

Scott Fraser, Township Manager
Jennifer Boyer, Comm Dev Director
Jason Reichard, Engineer

CALL TO ORDER

President Martin called the Board of Commissioners regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A moment of silence was held, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Roll Call was taken by Mr. Fraser.

PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are now holding a special commissioners meeting.

President Martin said he was glad to see the turn out for this meeting. He said the Township wanted to see if we could have some conversation as the community and the Board and look at alternatives that from discussions and input that we have had over time in terms of some of the safety issues in the Grantham Community, especially on Grantham Road. He thinks it is fair to say that those situations exist now independent of any future growth or any other development within the Township. The Commissioners took it upon themselves to discuss it, come up with an idea and that is all it is. He said we are here tonight, and we have come up with a potential solution that may or may not be a good one. It may or may not be acceptable to the community and that is exactly what we are doing tonight is to gain your feedback and input after the proposal is presented. He said that probably no action will be taken, but this is to gain input through conversation so that in fact, we can have direction for successive steps.

This is a publicly advertised Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners. The Special Meeting was advertised in The Sentinel Newspaper on September 20, 2022. A copy of the advertisement is now available to view at the Township Building.

President Martin read the following: During a July 21, 2021 Board of Commissioners' meeting, residents in Grantham expressed a desire to have sidewalks along Grantham Road. The Board of Commissioners Authorized the Township Engineer to complete a sidewalk feasibility study, to address the resident's concerns about increased traffic and pedestrian safety along Grantham Road. The study focused on a 0.6 mile span of Grantham Road between Mill Road to the cul-de-sac beside US Route 15. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the results of the Feasibility Study

to construct sidewalks on Grantham Road.

The Township Engineer first presented the results of the study at our Board of Commissioners' meeting on March 2, 2022. The Township Engineer looked at several factors, including the right-of-way, lane configuration, lane widths and offsets for curb and sidewalk to determine if there were any major conflicts that would prevent the future construction of a concrete sidewalk along this corridor. The results of the study concluded that the sidewalks could be installed along Grantham Road, favoring the southern side of the roadway. Additional improvements would also need to be completed at the intersection of Grantham Road and Mill Road, including realignment of the roadway, redefining curb lines, and improvements to the ADA ramps on each quadrant.

After several discussions, the Board of Commissioners determined that the Township would cover the cost of the improvements. The Board would ask the residents to provide any easements or rights-of-way necessary to complete the project. The Board would like to hear from the residents on Grantham Road to determine if there is support to move forward with installing the sidewalks along the southern side of the Grantham Road, which would include any necessary stormwater, road alignment, and ADA improvements. The Board is seeking unanimous support before it would move forward with the project.

President Martin asked if any of the Board members had anything they would like to add. Commissioner Cochran said he would like to add that at that meeting, although most were there in response to the Banzhoff proposal, the comment he remembers is that it is already unsafe to walk on the road now and Banzhoff is going to make it worse. So it has nothing to do with Banzhoff, it has to do with safety. Is there a safety issue with walking on the roads? Commissioner Cochran said he has driven down through, and he lived in Spaces Acres and he lived down at the bottom, right before they put the bridge in there at the corner of Bonnie and Cockley's. He knows that when the bridge went in, it increased traffic. He has seen a good number of people walking along the road. He is not a safety engineer and he cannot say it is an unsafe condition, but it is not probably the best condition so that is what led him to be in favor of at least taking a look at what it would take to put sidewalks in and then come back to you guys and say, if you want them, we can probably do them, but you have to want them. We never know when we have ten or fifteen or twenty people show up if they are speaking for the whole community or they are speaking for a piece of the community and in his mind that is why they are having the meeting tonight to get more feedback as to your thoughts on sidewalks on Grantham Road.

President Martin stated that the Township Engineer, Jason Reichard with C.S. Davidson, will discuss the results of the Grantham Road sidewalk feasibility study after which we will allow time for comment.

Mr. Reichard, Township Engineer, shared his presentation on screen. He stated that the task was to determine if we can physically fit a new sidewalk in along Grantham Road and what it would cost. He said he reviewed the existing right-of-way information. There is a 50 ft right-of-way which goes just past Sand Dollar Drive. The remaining portion of the road as you go down 150 or 200 feet is only a 33-foot right-of-way and that carries consistent throughout the remainder of the study limits for the project. The existing roadway is approximately 25 foot in width. It has two, ten-foot travel lanes, and it has room for a two-foot shoulder based on the existing paving

limits. He said when approaching the project, we wanted to determine how we could we maximize the space for vehicle traffic and still provide for the addition of a concrete sidewalk. He showed the north side of the road where we are able to maintain a ten-foot lane with two-foot paved shoulder improvements. On the Southern side of the road, we increased that lane width slightly to eleven feet, understanding that we were going to utilize the full shoulder area with the installation of a new concrete curb. He said we are working with an ideal design scenario that provides a two-foot minimum grass strip which increases the separation from vehicle traffic with pedestrian traffic and then ultimately a four-foot-wide sidewalk. Easements would be required for this work with a thirty-three-foot right-of-way, we only have sixteen-and-a-half-foot from center line to the edge of the right-of-way. We are at least 17 or 17 ½ foot just to get to the outside edge of the sidewalk. Understanding additional room would be needed for any transitions beyond that point.

Mr. Reichard said they tried to determine what significant constructions were in place. Starting at the cul-de-sac to the furthest western portion of the project, we immediately encountered a design conflict with existing guide rail and a very steep embankment. Along the northern side there is quite a significant banking as well. To construct a sidewalk that would ultimately tie into walkways being built by the Banzhoff tract, we would have to relocate guide rail and add considerable fill to construct this piece of sidewalk. Down the road, we have a typical situation representing a low-level retaining wall. A lot of the properties on the southern side of the road are elevated higher than the north and their front yards slope downwards toward the road. To maintain standard construction with the curb and sidewalk in that area, we must make up those grades by constructing a low-level wall to retain any earth that remains with that yard. It is an early concept and there is potential with a lot of these that we could possibly do additional grading and improve the yard way to eliminate those walls for the purpose of a conceptual study. We assume the worst-case scenario from a cost perspective. It is something that would have to be further evaluated throughout. There are a handful of properties throughout the project that will experience this requirement for a retaining wall. Aside from that, there is some interference with landscaping, fences, driveway crossings that would have to be cut and improved. We did not identify any major construction problems to overcome. There is existing stormwater that is in the roadway. We did make provision to make modifications here. There is a significant amount of water that travels from the south towards the northern side, and we preliminarily showed some of those improvements to better capture that stormwater. All utility poles along the southern side were offset far enough that they are not going to be a conflict with the proposed sidewalk construction. The only pole with this option is located on the southeastern side of the intersection at Mill Road where we are trying to put in an ADA ramp to improve accessibility across the roadway. They evaluated the northern side of the road. There seemed to be more conflicts overall. That roadway they found that a lot of the properties tend to sit closer to the road. There are three utility poles that are in conflict that would need to be relocated and right off the bat, coming out of the cul-de-sac, the first section, there is a pedestrian crossing for an uncontrolled stop-way on Grantham Road. This is a continuous sidewalk throughout and we are not introducing a pedestrian crossing unnecessarily.

The other issue was that there was a lot of parallel parking along the northern side. There are at least six different residents and a local business that either have perpendicular parking along their

frontage or some form of parallel parking. Based on the proximity of these houses relative to the road, that would require removing a lot of the parking along the frontage of the property. Two of the properties presented a conflict because they actually do not have parking to the rear. We would have to construct additional spaces somewhere in their front yard. They looked at extending the sidewalk to the east of Mill Road and in that case, it did cause for a considerable improvement at that intersection we had to realign the roadway to the north which had the most impact on the property that is existing there now with the fencing, landscaping and trees as well. We prepared a construction cost estimate. We were requested to add a sidewalk along the southern side and based on some of the restrictions with the proximity of the existing building, there simply was not room. The only way to overcome that is to shift the center line of this roadway to the north which forces this alignment to encroach on a property.

We did two construction cost estimates and with the addition of the extra improvements beyond Mill Road, the project cost is in the range of \$845,000. That has been presented to the Board for review. We do have blown up exhibits of each independent property. If there are specific questions for any particular property, we can bring that up on the screen and try to talk through that if you have questions about what the improvements are exactly along the road frontage.

President Martin said that we would start public comments about what you think it might do to the character of the neighborhood, would it be a safety improvement, is it something that might help, but not necessary. What are you thinking as you have processed this? We have had conversations about this now for a year and a half in different phases. We know that there are concerns about pedestrians and walkers and joggers being on the roadway because they have no other option at this point, but maybe that is ok.

President Martin asked that speakers limit comments to three or so minutes and give the idea and then we can come back to specific property questions later. He asked that if people wished to speak, to come forward to the podium, state your name and address for the record and direct your comments to the Board of Commissioners rather than the audience. He said this meeting is only to discuss the possible construction of the sidewalk along the southern side of Grantham Road and to limit your comments to this topic. He shared that other concerns about developments or what else is happening in the community, is not the purpose tonight - this is sidewalk only business. When you come up, if you agree with a previous speaker, just say that rather than re-hash the same thing because we are going to try to keep the meeting brief and pointed and give everyone or as many ideas to come forward as they want. We will go through the audience sequentially so that everyone has an opportunity to talk.

Lynn Cosby, 907 Grantham Road

She said she was glad to hear that the community needs to be unanimous in the decision about the sidewalks and asked if she understood that correctly. President Martin said that it would have to be with the consent or involvement of every property owner. She shared that when she looks out the window onto Grantham Road, she sees people and they have not been run over. For the most part the drivers have been courteous. The children are learning how to be on a road with traffic. Some are walking or jogging in the middle of the road, but when cars come, they move over to the

shoulder. Walkers stop and talk to their neighbors. One of us usually faces where the traffic is coming from. We have not been hit by traffic yet. Skateboarders like our hill, they go down the middle. There are kids on their bikes, some learning to ride. She said she does not think we need sidewalks.

Steve Franz, 1005 Grantham Road

He asked that when the Township talks about the total residents of Grantham, who determined the number in Grantham when talking about the residents of Grantham wanting the sidewalks? President Martin said that safety was mentioned numerous times, walking on the roadway was mentioned by some as a potential danger and that he wants to be clear and he thinks this Board is taking the position that we do not have any measurable thing like a majority of the residents or all of the residents so please hear him, it was a suggestion, but he does not think it was done as a representative sampling. Mr. Franz asked what the determining factor will be to put the sidewalks in. President Martin said that will be with discussion with you and your neighbors and this Board. Mr. Franz said he agrees with what the previous speaker said about the safety issues. He has lived in the community for close to 40 years and they have Messiah University there. All of the joggers are coming down that street and where would they jog if we put sidewalks in? Bikers, same things. Bikes are not allowed on the sidewalk, so they are still out in the road. He said, we are not going to alleviate a problem or a safety problem with bikers in that aspect.

President Martin wanted to make it known that the Township received written comments from residents at 636, 725 and 1005 Grantham Road and they are part of the record. If they are here and wrote a letter, feel free to speak again.

Eileen Franz, 1005 Grantham Road

She shared that she lived there close to 40 years and never had any issue with accidents or anybody being hurt on that road. She said we walk down the center, we walk on the side and what she thinks is reaffirming is that she sees parents teaching their children to ride their bicycles to the right of the white line between the grass and the white line, not the middle of the street.

Mike Cosby, 907 Grantham Road

He said he does not think there is a safety problem currently. He believes that their point was that if a major construction goes on at the Banzhoff property, the massive increase in traffic on the road would potentially create the problem. So as things stand now, he does not see that there is a problem. He thinks that the sidewalk construction would be massively disruptive for those of you who have walked down and looked at what would have to be done to the property, it is a lot of money and he does not think we need it to be spent. President Martin said that given Mr. Cosby's comment, perhaps that is the case that there is not a current problem, but would encourage us to think about who will develop the property and what will be on it. He doubts that it will remain fallow for the next 30 years. He thinks we ought to at least have that in mind when we are thinking about this.

Beth Transue, 904 Grantham Road

She said she commutes by walking to work every day, walking Grantham Road as she commutes to the University. She feels like it is a little safer now because of the expansion of the shoulder. She agrees that if traffic were to increase a lot, that is her main concern, is the amount of traffic and just seeing some people going down Grantham Road much too fast. Because of having the expanded side, she said right now it is ok, but would like to keep this in mind should traffic increase a lot in the future. President Martin said that then, perhaps her opinion or input might be different. Ms. Transue said it might depend on the amount of traffic.

Greg Steinbrock, 1009 Grantham Road

He said he has lived there for 30 years. At the present he does not see an issue for pedestrians or bikers. He said he thinks that what was raised during the Banzhoff hearings was because we were anticipating over 100 additional vehicles that might be using that roadway. He finds it a little rich, not to be argumentative, but in trying to get someone to patch Woodbine Road (he lives on the corner of Grantham and Woodbine), you could see some of the potholes that exist there and he said he spoke to someone in Upper Allen Township who was going to patch it in August and did not. He said he spoke to them again and he was going to patch it by the end of September. By his judgement, he said we are pretty close to that. President Martin said we are a little off topic. Mr. Steinbrock said we are, and we are not because the \$845,000 for sidewalks seems to be money that might be misappropriated when we have other needs.

Paul Nisley, 725 Grantham Road

He said he has lived there for 50 years and one of the things he enjoys is the small village atmosphere, the sense of everyone knowing each other, maybe not as much as they used to, but still a lot of that sense of camaraderie. He said that some of that can still continue with a sidewalk and he recognizes that, but it seems like an excessive expense for the gain it would be given the circumstances so he heartily asks the Township to reconsider.

Rick Wagner, 717 Grantham Road

He said that he has lived in Grantham almost 82 years. He has seen two train wrecks, two major floods, the aircraft building burned down, and he has walked Grantham Road to Center Square School. All that time he never heard of any major accidents with pedestrians, or anyone killed. Messiah students, maybe 15 or 20 run up the road, three abreast, and he asked if they put sidewalks in, would it be any different.

Chuck Weinman, 903 Grantham Road

He said he has lived there 13 years. He said he sees joggers, bikes, skateboard. Cars come by, they are very polite, they move over and give them plenty of room, sometimes even the joggers move over. With the amount of traffic, he does not see a problem. Everyone seems to be co-existing fine. He asked if it went through, how much room would you be taking because he has a big tree in the front yard. If the roots get cut, the whole tree will probably have to come down. President Martin said that Mr. Reichard will look at that specifically.

Tim Hanford, 809 Grantham Road

He said his property has a retaining wall and the plan seems to change the location of that wall potentially, at great expense to landscape and property. He does not see the safety concerns requiring a sidewalk at this point. Between the people who use it and the cars, there have been no issues. President Martin shared that it would be the Township's intent, if in fact we were to put in the sidewalk, to restore landscaping or whatever is required would be part of the sidewalk project. Mr. Reichard said he thinks they are able to get the sidewalk along the front of that wall. It would have to be detailed further, but we did account for that. Mr. Reichards said you can see the retaining wall just along the back edge and it is very close. When we come across situations like that, and we have encroached on the two-foot grass strip as necessary to give a little bit more buffer room there. Mr. Hanford is not in favor of sidewalks.

Robin Banks, 835 Grantham Road

She said she wanted to bring up the whole safety thing that was heard at the last meeting. She wanted to clarify what she heard. The concern of safety was not as much on Grantham Road as it was on Sand Dollar because the traffic study was done on Grantham Road. She said at that point in time is when we brought up, what about Sand Dollar? Because, where the exit for these townhouses were supposed to be, it is inevitable that these people were going to go up Sand Dollar, not as much Grantham Road. So, I just want to make that perfectly clear. She asked what will happen to the mailboxes? Do they have to be put across the street and if so, then how safe is that for us to cross the street to get mail? She asked why does it stop at Mill Road, why does it not go the whole way up to the College? What is the purpose because people walk up there more than they walk up Grantham Road. President Martin asked if she was asking why the sidewalk stops at the square in Grantham and does not go up Grantham Road and the campus safety building? Ms. Banks said yes, because she said her and her husband walk every night and there are people who are walking at night up toward the College. If we have to have a sidewalk, why doesn't that side of the road have to have a sidewalk? President Martin said that terms of long, long range planning, that idea has been discussed. He said it would be feasible or possible to have a sidewalk through the Village of Grantham the whole way along the frontage of the University, out Grantham Road to the roundabout, and then you could go through Oakwood Hills and eventually get over to Weis Markets. He said, now, please hear me, that is just a pie in the sky idea. There are no plans to do that so please do not go tell the newspaper that a sidewalk is going up to Weis Markets. You have a good point Ms. Banks, in that in a community like Upper Allen Township, this Board and others have been very concerned about trying to make it a walkable community. We have a lot of trails and connectivity, and he thinks that is something that over time we are going to continue to do. Now that is not a comment for or against the Grantham Sidewalk. Ms. Banks said she understood. Her point is that she has lived there for 42 years and takes a lot of pride in her property. She said she is probably one who needs a fence removed. She does not want it. If she is looking at the plan properly, it is going to be the road, two feet of grass and then the sidewalk. Mr. Reichard said the two-foot grass strip is utilized to relocate mailboxes within the two feet so they are not on the opposite side of the street. Mr. Reichard said that the sidewalk would run along the front phase of existing fence. Mr. Reichard said the flowerbeds would be in conflict with that limit. He also said that there is a brick walkway and then a concrete sidewalk. He is not certain of the solution, but certainly you would have a dual walk. Ms. Banks said she would like to have it repointed.

She also said she thinks the south side will impact 25 homes and wanted to know if she was correct? Her husband and her went around with a petition. Twenty-five residents, two of them rental properties. They could not reach those people. Two of them were not home. One of them was interested in signing the petition but was not able to as she was taking care of an elderly relative. She presented the petition with 20 of the 25 homes strongly opposed to this sidewalk and the waste of the money. She said there were more things that can be done, it is not the time with the economy, for our Township to be wasting money.

John Banks, 835 Grantham Road

He asked if the Township was going to be paying for this project? President Martin said that if the project were to move forward, one of the things that was discussed as a Board, was if we were to go to a mature community and then impose sidewalks on homeowners to bare that cost seemed a bit unfair and so we were proposing that perhaps the Township would pick up the cost. This would be similar to what was done in Kim Acres Drive. That was put in at the expense of the Township. Mr. Banks said he does not want sidewalk or snow maintenance, plus that is where he puts his snow, where the sidewalk is going to be. For \$850,000 he thinks it is a good idea for the Township to buy the Banzhoff property and put a park in for Grantham. President Martin asked if he wanted two parks in Grantham. Ms. Banks said “oh, that one is not a park, you cannot call Grantham a park.” President Martin said his idea has credibility, something to think about. However, if it was a park, it would still increase traffic. Commissioner Cochran said that the park has been suggested as a boat launch and that would drive a lot of traffic. That would drive more traffic than the homes that are back there. If you go look at any of our parks on summer weekends, they are crazy. He would be opposed to putting a boat launch back in there. Mr. Banks said he never heard anything about a boat launch, but why not do what Messiah University did during the pandemic, and say that it is just for Grantham residents, not for everybody around, they closed that off. Commissioner Cochran said it depends on how we spend the money, if we take any state money, we cannot close it even to Township residents, it has to be open to anyone. President Martin said that the parks in this Township have to be open to the public. Mr. Banks said that you close them at night, you give specific hours.

Brenda Replogle, 819 Grantham Road

She said she agrees with everything that has been said here. She said that in the very beginning of the meeting, President Martin made a statement that keeps rolling around in her head, a sidewalk to nowhere. She said that is exactly what this is, a sidewalk to nowhere. She knows there could be future development. She has lived in Grantham for 38 years. Brad has lived on Grantham Road for nearly 60 years. We do not feel the need for sidewalks for a safety excuse. If you want safety, increase or improve street lighting, a lot are hidden by trees that have overgrown the streetlights. She said that at the intersection of Mill and Grantham Road, their daughter was struck there on her bicycle by a car that did not stop when she was very little. We requested a study for a four-way stop sign and it was denied because there was no safety issue. You may want to re-visit that. She said they are not in favor of sidewalks and are not in favor of maintaining a sidewalk. We are on a corner and all we can think is then there will be one down the other side on High Street.

Brad Replogle, 819 Grantham Road.

He said he is opposed to the sidewalk.

President Martin said that the people from this community have lived there 35 years plus, so it is a very stable community.

Eric Fairchild, 1224 McCormick Road

He said he comes to a lot of meetings, mainly because of the farm across the street from him that is going to be turned into a \$15-\$20-million-dollar park, when you talk about spending money. He said that in coming to the meetings, it seemed like the whole issue derived from the Banzhoff Development plan and the traffic studies and all that really seemed horrendous or kind of questionable about what the traffic would really be. So, the issue has gone away for now because the Banzhoff property is for sale. He said he saw it on Zillow this morning and it is listed for \$950,000. It has been on the market for 188 days. They show the zoning what is allowed, could be a group home, a retirement community, medium density residential, public parks and recreation. So, it just seems like you know, the threat of the traffic and all that could come back. One solution would be for the Township to consider it for public park or open space. He said he knows that Commissioner Cochran said he would be opposed to creek access, but he thought the whole development plan was that they were to have a second point of access off Old Gettysburg Road coming in under Rt 115. That is where he thinks there could be creek access, vs coming down from that cul-de-sac or anything like that. Commissioner Cochran said that road is really expensive, it is in there, PennDOT gave them the right-of-way to put it in, but it would be extremely expensive to build. Mr. Fairchild said when the engineer presented back in March, he thinks the cost was around \$750,000 is it now \$850,000. President Martin said there were two numbers given, one for the north side and one for the south side. Yes, the original estimate has been revised. Mr. Reichard said that since that last meeting, he was requested to add that short extension beyond Mill Street, so the cost went up almost \$110, 000 from the original estimate for the south side to account for the realignment through the intersection and additional walk. Mr. Fairchild said that was more scope of work than inflation or something like that. Mr. Reichard said that was correct and that the north side estimate did not change, only the south side. Mr. Fairchild said he was going to venture a prediction that the cost of the sidewalks will keep going up and that the offering price for the Banzhoff property will keep going down – the way the economy is. He said he just wished that the Township would consider it and there is that issue of how much park space you have per resident. The population has really grown a lot and it seems like we are really close to what the minimums are for park space.

Judy Bailey, 450 E. Lisburn Road

She said she is a 60-year resident of Upper Allen Township. She said that every day she walks along McCormick Road and picks up trash. She said there are all kinds of things there that are not really trash, but could be taken care of with a bathroom facility. She would like to see us if we are a 1st class township, to act like a 1st class township and have facilities for people using a park. We have the opportunity to have a park in an area that has high density use. The creek is just the future of the high density of our whole township that has changed. People are going to the creek, they

are jumping in wherever they can get in, they are getting out wherever they can and they are taking their crap with them, so why don't we as a community serve that and have a park there for them that has the right facilities and the right access. In that process, there are people who have been there for a long time and have a community that is stellar, let's not burden them with sidewalks as a service of that. She said she would sooner see sidewalks along Lisburn Road where she drives several times a day and have to dodge the Messiah College students and have a threat to life every time she goes down that hill.

Lynn Cosby, 907 Grantham Road

She asked if she was correct that the property owners who would have the sidewalk on their property would not bear the cost and the upkeep of that sidewalk. President Martin said no for the initial cost, upkeep and ongoing maintenance would be with the property. She asked about liability insurance if a skateboarder crashes. Commissioner Cochran said that would be homeowners' insurance. She said that then, there is a cost to the homeowner. President Martin said that was correct and the cost also would be that the homeowner affected by the sidewalk would need to grant the right of way to the Township, but there should not be out of pocket cost. Ms. Cosby said we would have to mow the grass between the sidewalk and the road. President Martin said yes. Ms. Cosby asked if someone drops something and cracks the sidewalk, does she have to pay for it? President Martin said that sidewalks are generally the responsibility of the homeowner where the sidewalk is located. Ms. Cosby said that so there is expense to the homeowner, but not to the people across the street and other neighbors who are benefiting from said sidewalk. President Martin said that is correct. Ms. Cosby said she is still opposed to sidewalks. President Martin said it is the same thing, like Kim Acres as an example, and other places in the Township only have sidewalks on one side of the street.

Steve Franz, 1005 Grantham Road

He said he noticed that there were two poles that needed to be relocated and asked if one was in front of his house. Mr. Reichard said he is not showing that pole to be relocated at this time. He said it was very close and based on the scale of his drawings on these aerial maps, it presents a potential for a conflict for the retaining wall that is required. Mr. Franz said that take it from him, there is no potential, it has to be moved. He said if you are coming back that far from the road, with two feet of grass and four feet of sidewalk, that has to be moved. Mr. Reichard said it is going to be very close. Mr. Franz said there is electrical work to his house and the whole bit, so there is another pole. He said he is probably one of six properties with major retaining wall, and he asked who was paying for the retaining wall. President Martin said that would be part of the sidewalk construction. Mr. Franz asked in this proposal, what is the material you plan on using for that retaining wall. Mr. Reichard said there are several options, and they have built concrete retaining walls and we have also used a modular split face block style wall. He said the pricing is adequate to cover a range of walls and that has not been detailed at this time. Mr. Franz stated that his property taxes will obviously go up, won't they? President Martin asked why so? Mr. Franz said because that is an improvement to my property. He also said that you are going to have to regrade his driveway. Right now, when he backs his boat trailer up that driveway, he scrapes after what the state did. He said that with what the Township has proposed here in all likelihood, he

will not get his boat trailer up that driveway and he believes there are a few other boat owners. President Martin said that Jason mentioned in his comments that there would be driveway realignments, so you are right, he cannot speak specifically to it, but that is true. Mr. Franz said that is a regrading.

Ms. Franz, 1005 Grantham Road

She said that if you looked at the way the retaining wall actually curves around their driveway, because of the resurfacing of the road and the dip is in our driveway, some of the cars can go up their drive without a problem, but most trucks or if you are towing something or if they have their camper, they have to go at an angle, that will not be possible with that retaining wall the way it is curved around our driveway. Mr. Reichard said that this is a high-level concept plan and we would have to look at all of those design details and take those kind of things into consideration when a final plan was prepared, but we are not there at this point.

Robin Banks, 835 Grantham Road

She asked if she did hear it right that the majority of the residents need to want this sidewalk, is she correct. Commissioner Cochran said that in fact, he said this at a prior public meeting and will say it again now, he would not be in favor. We have to have land given to the Township. Were the Township to condemn the land, they would have to pay for the land, and he said at that meeting, he would not be in favor of condemning any land, so if one person does not want to give the Township land that is needed, the Township cannot do the project. Ms. Banks said wonderful, you have 20 people that do not want that sidewalk. Commissioner Cochran said that is what we are hearing tonight. But in all fairness, he did not hear it was Sand Dollar at that meeting. He heard there were concerns about walking down Grantham Road. Ms. Banks said there were a lot of people here that night and she does not mean to be disrespectful, but yes. Commissioner Cochran said we would go back and look at the minutes and if he owes her an apology, he will be happy to apologize and if she owes him one, he would expect one from her. Ms. Banks said he has her word. Commissioner Cochran said he did spend time down there to watch and there are a number of walkers, and it did seem to be fine, and he mentioned that night and will mention it again because some of you have been here as long as I have, he remembers it being an intersection clear across Rt 15. It was the main entrance to Messiah College and there was a lot of traffic that went down that road. When Rt 15 went limited access, there were a lot of complaints out of the Village about losing the way out to the highway. But over time, he thinks it has turned out to be a benefit. It has given you a nice, secluded environment. Ms. Banks said that is how they want it to stay. Commissioner Cochran said that is the one issue, and again he has heard that we do not do anything for the Village, and that PennDOT had promised to build a second way out in case of flood, because you have been through a couple floods and when the intersection floods out, you are stuck and you cannot get out of the Village, so the Township went to bat and we got the bridge in on Cockley's. Ms. Banks said she met PennDOT down there when all of this took place because she was the one who called PennDOT and said you have an issue because there was a fire on High Street, and she asked them how you get a fire truck in or out. Commissioner Cochran said PennDOT stalled on that for years and we finally got that put in, so again, we have looked out for the people in Grantham. Commissioner Cochran said he will take the blame for this; he heard enough people in

his mind express concerns about not being able to walk down there that he said the Township needs to go in and look and see what it would take to make it safe to walk. He said you have to understand that the Banzhoff property is out there for sale, and we cannot tell them what to build and what not to build as long as it meets zoning requirements and we told that to everyone who came to that meeting. So, in all likelihood, there will be more traffic in the future if that develops. If someone were to build maybe 25 homes in there, which is what we hoped would happen, it would not be dramatic, but Banzhoff's plan that he got filed and got approval from PennDOT to go underneath Rt. 15 calls for more than that. If it is less, if it is a smaller number, he does not need that second route under Rt 15. Commissioner Cochran said all the traffic would come out and it would probably come out Sand Dollar and up Cockley. Ms. Banks said she apologized, but then said she does and she doesn't because she is the one that said, you people do not care about Grantham and gave a couple of examples. She said last spring, the water drain at Mill and Grantham sunk. Somebody put logs in there. President Martin asked if it was not cared for? Ms. Banks said it was, after she called a man at the Township who said, "we have been trying to find out from the state, who owns that." She said she hung up and called the state. Within 20 minutes they called her back and told her that the Township owned that. The next day, someone from Cumberland County PennDOT came to the Township and met with someone and said, that is a liability, you need to fix it. She asked if the Board knew how they fixed it? She said it is still not fixed properly. President Martin said that with all respect, we have that registered, let's stick to the sidewalk. Ms. Banks continued by saying they put a street sign and put macadam up against that and we are supposed to be a class A Township. She said you all heard that we do not want a sidewalk. Commissioner Cochran said we did and that was the purpose of this meeting tonight without Banzhoff in the background, how do you feel about traffic on Grantham Road and knowing that in some point in time, Banzhoff property will develop into something and we do not know what that is, so we wanted to be proactive and say to you, here is what the Township could do, here is what it would cost. It would mean that you all have pretty homes there and you have landscaped right out into the public right-of-way which really isn't your land. Ms. Banks said no, she is on her property line, she had it surveyed. Commissioner Cochran said maybe you are, but they are not all and if PennDOT wants to come through and do something on Grantham Road, they will just do it, they will not ask. He said the Township wanted to see what it would take and what it would cost and it is a big number, it is not something the Township could do right away anyhow, we would have to work it in to the highway improvement plan, so it would be over a matter of a couple of years to get it done, but it is clear to me and everybody else that away from the Banzhoff project there is no real desire from Grantham to have sidewalks. Ms. Banks said exactly, thank you.

President Martin said that he preferred the meeting does not end confrontational because believe us, you do not have to like us or you do not have to agree with us, but we did this, this whole initiative we undertook in response to what we heard about concerns in the village and how we might go about improving them. Sidewalks would only be one possible solution, but we heard you loud and clear, I think it was a demonstration of this board trying to be responsive to the citizenry.

Barbara Faurber, 1017 Grantham Road

She said she has lived there 30 years and at one time it was horrendous the traffic when going across 15. She said the cul-de-sac was a life saver. However, when they first put it in, the company that was working, did something wrong and you and I both know it, because all that water took out some trees there so what happened is they went back, they put storm drainage all along there. If I am putting sidewalks there, what are you going to do with that big swale that is the storm drainage? Mr. Reichard said it gets pushed further back away from the roadway. The guide rail there is about a four-foot space on the back side and then it drops down into that larger vein. There is an existing culvert pipe here that crosses under your driveway and then ultimately goes to the north. He said he believes they would be able to increase the fill swope in this direction towards that and still squeeze that sidewalk in. He thinks there is room in there. Ms. Faurber said she is not in favor of the sidewalk. She does not want those people on the other side to get all that water. Mr. Reichard said he would account for the stormwater.

President Martin said he would break his own rule and talk about something other than sidewalks. There was a question about the Mill Road Bridge. It is one way now and it is a temporary fix, there are funds and permits and believes it is going to start the spring of 2023. Mr. Reichard said you could see some activity as early as January. President Martin said it will be back to a two-lane road.

Chuck Weinman, 903 Grantham Road

He said his previous house that he moved from had a sidewalk. The people walked in the street, the joggers were in the street, the bikes were in the street, the ones with rollers were in the street. You put a sidewalk in here, where is everyone going to walk... in the street.

John Banks, 835 Grantham Road

He said that at the Mill Road Bridge, he stops oil trucks coming across there and tells them they are coming across a light bridge, and they say there is nothing they can do. There are several ways in and out. One of his concerns is school buses are going across that 8-thousand-pound bridge, full of children. It is rated at four ton. President Martin said he does not know how much a bus full of kids weighs. Mr. Banks said a school bus itself is probably 11,000 pounds empty. Township Manager Scott Fraser said he will contact the school district about it.

President Martin asked if he could assume that the majority of residents here at this point are not in favor of putting a sidewalk on the north or the south. This was met with applause. President Martin thanked everyone for coming.

Mr. Fairchild asked if they could do a straw poll about how many people are in favor of buying the Banzhoff property. President Martin said no. Mr. Fairchild asked him why not. President Martin said that we already heard that suggestion. Vice President Castranio said that when the Township considers it, they will ask.

Robin Banks asked why the Township did not survey before going this far and hiring an engineer. President Martin said the engineer was already hired as he is our Township Engineer. Ms. Banks said we pay him. She asked why not survey the residents as it is so cheap to send a letter and then

to take your time and to have a meeting. President Martin said that the Township decided to do it this way.

Eileen Franz, 1005 Grantham Road

She asked where do we go from here, you just said that all of the community does not want this so now what – President Martin said you will hear from us, we are going into executive session to talk about this and other things. We will respond back to you.

President Martin said thanks for coming and that he appreciated their time and input.

The meeting ended at 7:18 p.m. and went into Executive Session.