

East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors

May 24, 2022

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

The regular business meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00p.m. on May 24, 2022, in the meeting room at the East Rockhill Township Municipal Office, 1622 North Ridge Road, Perkasio, PA 18944.

Present:	Gary Volovnik	Supervisor Chairperson
	Dave Nyman	Supervisor Vice-Chairperson
	Jim Nietupski	Supervisor Member
	Marianne Morano	Township Manager
	Will Oetinger, Esq.	Township Solicitor
	Steve Baluh, P.E.	Township Engineer
	Jeff Scholl	Public Works Director
	Chief Dickinson, Jr.	Pennridge Regional Police Department

The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by Mr. Volovnik with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the public and press were present.

Announcements or Presentations:

- **Grand View Hospital Emergency Services Presentation.** Mark Horne, Grand View Hospital COO; David Alderfer, Director of Development and Brad Eliff, Chief of Medic 151 were present to discuss medic 151 and the 24-7 services provided including treating level 2 traumas and being able to provide a higher level of service than volunteer EMS. Medic 151 has financial needs to meet the requirement of a 5G technology upgrade and noted transport service is to make beds available in the hospital. They do not believe there is an issue with service and a need for a sub-station by a different provider.

Public Comment #1:

- Ned Powell, 2747 Three Mile Run Road, thanked public works for performing storm clean-up in a timely manner.
- Tina O'Rourke, 1819 Old Bethlehem Pike, asked for the status of public water and public sewer connection as part of the McClennen Tract. It was stated East Rockhill and West Rockhill Townships would proceed with a joint Act 537 amended submission once the McClennen Tract received DEP approval and Perkasio Regional Authority will finalize McClennen Tract public water design prior to a meeting with DEP.

Approval of Minutes and Bills Payable:

Approval of Minutes from April 19, 2022, Regular Meeting.

Payment of Unpaid Bills dated May 19, 2022, in the amount of \$341,695.87.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to adopt the meeting minutes from the Board of Supervisors' April 19, 2022, Regular Meeting and approve payment of the Bills List dated May 19, 2022, for a total amount of \$341,695.87 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Township Manager's Report: Marianne Morano

Zoning Hearing Board Application from Daniel and Florence Bowman for 410 Three Mile Run Road. Mr. Bill Benner, Esq., Daniel and Florence Bowman were present to review the application seeking a variance at 410 Three Mile Run Road, Sellersville Bucks County Tax Map Parcel Number 12-008-060. This property is located in the S – Suburban Zoning District. The Applicant is seeking to construct a residential accessory building within a buffer yard area and is seeking a variance from Section 27-1905.b.(4) which prohibits structures from being located in a buffer area.

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to not take a position on the application. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Iron Bridge Park – Branch Creek Walking Path. Staff presented a proposal with photographs that included Iron Bridge parking lot adding 12 spaces; between Iron Bridge parking and Blooming Glen Road near soccer field to fill in low area and install yard drain; between Iron Bridge parking and Blooming Glen Road area of the path closest to the creek to raise path and install a French drain; and past Blooming Glen Road behind Bucks County Community College to swale with perforated pipe for an estimated unbudgeted expense of \$19,0000.00.

Mr. Nyman stated the American Rescue Plan monies should be utilized.

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the proposal as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Mr. Baluh followed up on dual culvert concern from the April meeting. During large flooding events, once the creek level reaches the top of the culvert water can back up no matter the size or number of culverts and an elliptical/arch pipe may be feasible. Consensus was to provide a recommendation and cost for Board consideration.

Kooker Avenue Petition. Mrs. Morano noted she sent a letter to all property owners advising them of their responsibility with the address change and received no response.

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to authorize renumbering house numbers on Kooker Avenue, a private road, for the community mailboxes as requested. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Destruction of Specific Township Records.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to adopt **Resolution 2022-05** as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Electronic Access to PennDOT Systems Agreement.

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adopt **Resolution 2022-06** as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Request to Purchase Sewer EDU's. Correspondence from Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority (PWTA) to all members was received to consider the sale of 50 sewer EDU's to Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority.

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to decline the request for the sale of Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs). With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to approve the Township Manager report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Public Works Report: Jeff Scholl

Mr. Scholl updated the Board on Public Works activities as of May 20, 2022. Of note, a contractor was needed at the Treatment Plant for a repair. DCNR would like outfall to Nockamixon Lake by Lake House Inn changed as part of our grant submission. The report is on file.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to approve the Township Public Works report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Township Engineer Report: Steve Baluh, P.E.

There was none.

Township Solicitor Report: Will Oetinger, Esq.

Pennridge School District Concept Plan. Brett Flower, Eckert Seamans; Andrew Cecere, Sitelogic; Kelly Harper, Pennridge School District were present to discuss a proposed Ordinance Amendment for the C-E district which encompasses Pennridge School District Administration, high school, north middle school, transportation and First Baptist Church property to increase allowable impervious surface from 30% which equates to 42 acres to 40% which equates to 56 acres. The existing basin can handle what is on the site at this time and nothing is anticipated in their 5-year plan. In addition to a proposed salt shed at the operation facility across the street, three additional proposed locations were provided at the transportation facility should be Supervisors support the Zoning Amendment.

Consensus of the Board was to not support a zoning amendment for the C-E District due to the salt shed could be added under current zoning.

St. Peter's Tohickon United Church of Christ

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to authorize Chairperson execution of Septic Operation and Maintenance Agreement for 1050 Old Bethlehem Road as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Mr. Oetinger stated the Lake House Inn appeal period has passed.

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Township Solicitors' report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Board and Commission Reports

Pennridge Regional Police Department: Chief Dickinson, Jr.

The Chief shared the April 2022 Pennridge Regional Police activity report. The report is on file.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Pennridge Regional Police Department report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority: Dave Nyman

The March and April 2022 minutes and flow reports were provided to the Board.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to accept the Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee: Dave Nyman

Mr. Nyman shared highlights of the April 28, 2022, meeting. The notes were provided to the Board and are on file.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to accept the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Department and Emergency Services Reports

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to acknowledge receipt of the Department and Emergency Services reports. With no additional discussion, all presented voted in favor.

New or Other Business – Supervisors' Items:

- Mr. Nietupski provided a document to amend the Zoning Ordinance farm unit density and family members.
- Mr. Nietupski stated he obtained proposals from two engineering firms to look at the Stone Edge Culvert. Mr. Nyman stated the Township Engineer is very familiar with the culvert and has been looking at it for the past year and did not see a need to engage an outside consultant. Mr. Volovnik opposed an outside consultant and reiterated easements need to be acquired before design can commence.

Public Comment #2:

- Larry Wheatley, 5 Boulder Drive, questioned open burning and noted the police did not write a ticket for neighbor burning recreationally. Mr. Oetinger will look at the current burning regulations to see if an update is needed. Mr. Wheatley questioned impervious surface and cited a neighbor did not need to obtain permits from the Township for a driveway expansion. Township Engineer and Public Works Director did a site visit of the driveway expansion upon notice by Mr. Wheatly and no Ordinances were violated and no permits are required for the work that took place.
- Ned Powell, 2747 Three Mile Run Road, expressed gratitude for the Township prevailing against the Lake House Inn zoning enforcement.
- Jeff Kneuppel, 2810 Creek Road, expressed gratitude for the Township prevailing against the Lake House Inn zoning enforcement and maintaining the rural neighborhood.
- Lou DiTonno, 1 Boulder Drive, noted the Stone Edge culvert flooded twice during recent heavy rain events, but the Hill Road bridge did not.

Adjournment:

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to adjourn the regular meeting. With no additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Morano
Township Manager