

East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors

July 18, 2017

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

The regular business meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00p.m. on July 18, 2017 in the Township meeting room at the East Rockhill Township Municipal Building, 1622 North Ridge Road, Perkasie, PA 18944.

Present:	David Nyman	Chairperson
	Gary Volovnik	Vice-Chairperson
	Jim Nietupski	Member
	Marianne Morano	Township Manager
	Patrick Armstrong, Esq.	Township Solicitor
	Steve Baluh, P.E.	Township Engineer
	Jeff Scholl	Public Works Director

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

Public Comment #1

- Norman Clemmer, Green Lane, rents a hangar at Pennridge Airport and did not know about the Conditional Use Hearings or he would have attended. The airport does positive things for the community such as organ transplant transport and angel flight to transport patients for cancer treatment. A 6:00am take off condition would have a negative impact on his business.
- Bob Miracle, Hilltown Township, owns two Pennridge Airport Hangars, believes the open space at the airport instead of houses is beneficial, did a study on airport noise by gathering information from the internet. Found the decibel level at 35-40 on a 24-hour basis and stated that there is limited activity at the airport.
- Bill Edmonds, Hilltown Township, owner of B&G Auto in Hatfield, has been at the Pennridge Airport for 20 years which has helped grow his business. The Airport is run in a safe & efficient manner and without it would need to go to Allentown or Philadelphia. The Airport can bring in profitable businesses and he believes the Township should partner with the Airport.
- Bill Cox, Kintnersville, relocated from the Doylestown Airport to Pennridge Airport 15 years ago and finds it to be a quiet airport, jobs are available at the Airport.
- Grant Johnson, Doylestown, owns a Pennridge Airport hangar, has been near the airport since the 1970's, he objected to the 29 conditions placed on the Conditional Use Adjudication that he felt were excessive. The airport is not as busy as it used to be and aviation is on a decline due to expense. Loudest noise he heard when he lived on Ridge Road was the gun club and he will become publicly active if necessary to support the airport. New FAA noise standards to lower aircraft noise came into effect in 2016.
- Michael Flood, 1630 Branch Road, is opposed to the 29 Conditional Use conditions.
- Jean Curry, Schwenkmill Road, disappointed in the elected officials 29 conditions that hinder the expansion of the airport business.

Approval of Minutes from June 20, 2017 Regular Meeting

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to adopt the meeting minutes from the Board of Supervisors' June 20, 2017 Regular Meeting. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Payment of the Bills

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to approve payment of 2017 Bills List dated July 14, 2017 totaling \$254,983,96. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Police Commission Report: Chief Blake

Chief Blake shared the June 2017 Pennridge Regional Police activity report. He added that a blood drive is being held on July 20 from 2-7pm. A free car wash coupon will be given to early donors. The report is on file.

Township Manager's Report: Marianne Morano

Fuel Bids for 2017-2018:

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to award the unleaded regular 87 octane bid amount 0.11375 and ultra-low sulfur diesel bid amount 0.1275 to Riggins, Inc. located at 3938 South Main Road, Vineland, New Jersey for the 2017 – 2018 fuel bids covering the bid period of August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2018 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Planning Commission Member Resignation:

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept Tom Aristide's resignation, with regret, from the Planning Commission due to his unavailability to serve as he transitions into retirement and moves out of state. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Mrs. Morano noted two volunteer applications are on file. Mr. Richard Kelly will be invited to the next Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission has already met Mr. John Fenley.

Circuit Trail Support: A Resolution supporting circuit trails to complete 500 miles of trails by 2025 that involve nine counties including Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware, Mercer, Burlington, Camden and Gloucester. It was noted the proposed circuit trail in Upper Bucks followed an active freight line and was not feasible. The Board would like input on the trail route and DVRPC consideration of supporting an East Rockhill trail connection that should be considered as part of a viable Circuit Trail route.

Declaration of Easement Fleck Sears Lot Line: An Agreement for West Rock Road, Bucks County Tax Map Parcels 12-009-075; 12-009-077; 12-009-108 and 12-009-078 was presented to the Board for consideration in regards to an easement and right-of-way along the existing road frontage.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Declaration of Easement for Tax Parcels 12-009-075; 12-009-077 and 12-009-108 as executed by Thomas W. Fleck and Cathy Ann Fleck and the Declaration of Easement for Tax Parcels 12-009-078 as executed by James F. Sears and Brenda A. Sears as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Willard H. Markey Centennial Park – Greenjacket Request: A 5.5' x 8' sign concept for Preston Barndt Memorial Field located in proximity to the Pennridge Greenjacket concession stand at the Willard H. Markey Park was presented to the Board. A Greenjacket representative was not present. The Board expressed concerns about dedicating something in the Park to an individual and wanted additional clarification. The matter was tabled for future consideration when a Pennridge Greenjacket representative is able to attend the meeting.

Richlandtown Road Sign Request: Jerry Rupp, 7871 Richlandtown Road has requested a **Hidden Driveway** sign. The request was reviewed by the Penridge Regional Police and they have recommended a sign between Covered Bridge Road and the curve.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to approve the installation of a hidden driveway sign on Richlandtown Road as recommended by Penridge Regional Police. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

The Township Engineer will review the speed limit in Richland Township on Richlandtown Road to evaluate lowering the speed to 25mph.

Act 172 Update: The Tax Collector Committee (TCC) is working on Act 172, to have active members of volunteer fire companies receive tax credits through real estate or earned income tax. The TCC recommendation is to have a unified Ordinance countywide and place criteria eligibility in a Resolution. The municipality will need to determine the eligible firefighters on an annual basis and establish an appeal board. The current EIT tax collector is ready to implement the program by giving the tax credit when an active firefighter files their annual tax return. The consensus of the Board was for Mrs. Morano to continue in her efforts.

Mid-Year budget review: All fund revenues and expenses are as anticipated. The Board was agreeable to purchasing the 39,000gww dump truck with an anticipated September delivery using reserve funds instead of obtaining a loan to realize minimal interest savings of \$10,000. A general fund payment in the amount of \$132,422 and a state aid payment of \$30,000.

Penridge School District Request for a Verizon Channel: The Penridge School District has requested use of an educational channel as available in the East Rockhill Township Verizon Franchise Agreement. The current Franchise Agreement has only one channel available for government or education. A new franchise agreement is currently under negotiation. It was the consensus of the Board to request two channels with the franchise agreement renewal and to allocate one to Penridge School District and retain one for future municipal use.

Mrs. Morano requested an Executive Session to discuss real estate acquisition and personnel.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, 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 in June 2017. Of note, the overlays per the approved bid have started and will be completed this week, trees were trimmed on Tunnel Road to allow paving equipment underneath, and street signs were replaced along Three Mile Run Road from Schwenkmill Road to SR313. The Clymer Road grant project will start in August and is expected to take two week to complete. Mr. Volovnik recommended changing contacts on the motors at the treatment plant every three years as a part of routine maintenance. The report is on file.

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

Planning Commission: Anne Fenley

The Planning Commission did not meet in July.

PWTA Report: John Cressman

The May 2017 flow reports are on file. Mr. Cressman noted as a result of operations at Free Will Brewery in Perkasio Borough, the infrastructure was being damaged. Mr. Cressman is unavailable for the July meeting.

Pennridge Community Center Report: David Nyman

The July – August – September 2017 Pennridge Community Center Newsletter is in the Board's packets and available for the public. Mr. Nyman noted the Center thanked Mr. Nyman and Mr. Volovnik for their Supervisor wage donation.

PACC Report: David Nyman

The next meeting will be held September 28, 2017.

Engineer Report: Steve Baluh, P.E.

Subdivision Plan Review Status. Review dated July 6, 2017 is in the Board's packets. No action is necessary.

MS4 Draft Plan Advertisement: Mr. Baluh advised the Board that as part of the new MS4 permit process the permit application requires 30-day public comment period. A special meeting may be necessary to approve the plan to meet the application deadline of September 16, 2017. Once the permit is issued, the Township has 5-years to reduce sediment by 10%, which totals 26,541 pounds and the reduction shall include both watersheds. Improvements may be viable at privately owned basins and therefore property owners will be notified of the comment period. Mr. Baluh will estimate the cost of each recommended project to assist in determining what projects should be considered. The current annual MS4 report is still required.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to authorize advertisement to make public comment at the next Supervisor meeting and to notify in writing private basin owners. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to approve the Township Engineer's Report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Solicitor Report: Patrick Armstrong, Esq.

Tax Collector Request to Use Township EIN number: The Tax Collector is establishing a new bank account and use of the Township Employer Identification Number (EIN) is required.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adopt Resolution 2017-12 to authorize the elected tax collector to use the East Rockhill Township Employer Identification number (EIN) for the bank account holding East Rockhill Township resident tax payments conditioned on compliance with all applicable laws and requirements of the bank. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Intergovernmental Agreement for Recycling Data Draft Ordinance: In order to comply with DEP 904 recycling performance grant changes, a draft Ordinance was presented to the Board for an Intergovernmental Agreement with Plumstead Township, Hilltown Township and Dublin Borough.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve advertisement of the Intergovernmental Agreement for Recycling data Ordinance. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Mr. Armstrong requested an Executive Session to discuss the Burkey Land Use appeal.

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

Department and Emergency Services Reports

Department and Services Reports listed on the agenda were noted as received. Copies are on file.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to acknowledge receipt of the Department and Service Reports. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

New or Other Business – Supervisor Items

- Mr. Nyman requested to change the Supervisor meeting to the fourth Tuesday of every month effective with the August meeting for at least the remainder of 2017. Park and Recreation meetings will need to be rescheduled.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve changing the regular Supervisor meeting date to the fourth Tuesday of every month. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Public Comment #2:

There was none.

Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to adjourn into Executive Session. With no additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Morano
Township Manager