

East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors

October 22, 2024

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

The regular business meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00 PM on October 22, 2024, in the meeting room at the East Rockhill Township Municipal Office, 1622 North Ridge Road, Perkasie, PA 18944.

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

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

Members of the public and press were present.

Announcements or Presentations:

- Next Board of Supervisors Meeting November 26, 2024 at 7:00pm

Public Comment #1:

- Jennifer Wright, 400 Three Mile Run Road, requested Township water testing results and stated Perkasie Regional Authority reduced water flow from Well 5. Mrs. Morano read the water test results completed at the Township office which has public water and a Township rental which has a private well stating all passed current PFAS level requirements.

Approval of Minutes and Bills Payable:

Approval of Minutes.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the meeting minutes from the Board of Supervisors September 24, 2024 Budget Work Session and Regular Meeting as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Approval of Bills Payable.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to approve payment of the Bills List dated October 18, 2024 for a total amount of \$556,632.83 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Board and Commission Reports:

Penridge Regional Police Department: Chief Dickinson

The Chief shared the September 2024 Penridge Regional Police activity report.

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

Planning Commission: Marianne Hart Morano

The October 10, 2024 agenda and draft minutes were provided to the Board. Mrs. Morano stated 809 Three Mile Run Road subdivision was reviewed and recommended to the Board of Supervisors for preliminary/final approval, granting a waiver to allow wood post fence instead of concrete post fence and emergency service payment deferred to the Supervisors.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to accept the Planning Commission report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority: Dave Nyman

The next meeting will take place October 28, 2024. Mr. Nyman provided a copy of an open house invitation for elected and appointed officials.

Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee: David Nyman

The September 26, 2024 meeting notes were provided to the Board.

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

Township Manager's Report: Marianne Hart Morano

2025 Preliminary Budget.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to authorize advertising the Preliminary 2025 Budget, with no real estate tax increase or street light assessment increase, as presented for public inspection. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Electric Generation.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to table electric generation pricing until the November Regular Supervisor meeting. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

General Obligation Note.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to authorize seeking bank proposals for a General Obligation Note in the amount of \$1,750,000.00 for the Public Works Maintenance Building replacement. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Willard H. Markey Centennial Park Tree Trimming. Township is in receipt of a tree topping request from Pennridge Airport as received October 14, 2024.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to authorize the Township Engineer mark trees identified in the report and for staff to obtain proposals for the cost to trim the trees for consideration at the November regular meeting. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Mrs. Morano provided a draft traffic calming procedure to the Board.

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

Public Works Report: Jeff Scholl

Public Works activities as of October 18, 2024 were provided to the Board.

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

Township Engineer Report: Steve Baluh, P.E.

Stone Edge Culvert. Mr. Baluh stated survey work was submitted to Traffic Planning and Design for review.

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

Township Solicitor Report: Will Oetinger, Esq.

Chapter 18 Sewage and Sewage Disposal Ordinance. A public hearing was advertised and posted to act on an Ordinance to amend Chapter 18 Sewers and Sewage Disposal to Revise Part 2 Wastewater Collection and Treatment. The Ordinance was in response to a request by Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

- Mr. Nietupski stated opposition to DEP mandating regulations. He suggested a mailing to all residents with a private septic system prior to adopting the Ordinance noting the website news posting required residents to come into the Township office to view the draft ordinance which would require septic clean-outs every three years.
- Mr. Nyman stated the Ordinance was to help residents maintain their systems so they operate properly and the Township can determine level of enforcement of the Ordinance.
- Mrs. Morano stated the draft Ordinance was in the public packet posted to the website.
- Mr. Baluh stated prior to COVID, DEP met with Township staff and requested the Township update their Act 537 plan. The draft Ordinance is a partial update which was acceptable to DEP. Bucks County is the only known County in Pennsylvania that acts as Sewage Enforcement Officer, not the Township, however the Township is still responsible for septic.

The hearing was open to public comment.

- Jennifer Wright, 400 Three Mile Run Road, stated she has public sewer and read the ordinance online but did not understand it.

With no additional public comment, the hearing was closed.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nyman, to adopt **Ordinance 305** to amend Chapter 18 Sewage and Sewage Disposal, Part 2 Wastewater Collection and Treatment as presented. With no additional discussion the motion passed 2-1 with Mr. Nietupski voting in opposition.

Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement 2821 Hill Road.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to authorize the Chairperson execution of a Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement and Access Easement at a property located at 2821 Hill Road owned by Matthew Benner and Debra Benner identified as tax map parcel 12-001-034-003 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Agreement of Sale.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to authorize the Chairperson execution of an Agreement of Sale and Conservation Easement at a property located at 2031 W. Rock Road owned by Blake H. Eisenhart and Loris A. Jakielski identified as tax map parcel 12-009-112 for a conservation easement totaling eight acres. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Pennridge Greenjackets Lease. Mr. Oetinger provided the Board a copy of the lease with changes requested by Pennridge Greenjackets. One of the changes was to amend the time period of use from July 1 to March 15. The Board stated concern for traffic control, safety, residents complaints they will not use the Park when the Greenjackets are there and the ability for other groups to use the Park.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to authorize a one-year lease starting March 15 and to revisit after one year. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

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

Department and Emergency Services Reports:

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, 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 stated Ordinance section 18.506.A requires property notification.
- Mr. Volovnik requested an Executive Session to discuss personnel.

Public Comment #2:

- Lou DiTonno, 1 Boulder Drive, stated his confusion Township water PFAS test results passed but Ms. Wright reports high levels and why are results different.
- Jennifer Wright, 400 Three Mile Run Road, stated Perkasio Regional Authority keeps well 5 open for firefighting however her son volunteers for Perkasio Fire Department and believes there would not be a need. PA DEP provides bottled water for a well with 5ppt PFAS.
- Mr. Oetinger will contact the Perkasio Regional Authority Solicitor for an update on the timing of treatment as authorized during their waiver of land development.

Adjournment:

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to adjourn the regular meeting into Executive Session. With no additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Hart Morano
Township Manager