



## PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 7, 2014

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dean Becker, Chairman  
William Patterson, Vice-Chairman  
Richard Kratz, Member  
Janet Heacock, Member  
Gordon MacElhenney, Member

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Cecile Daniel, Township Manager  
Kenneth Picardi, Township Solicitor  
James Carr (In place of Kevin Conrad),  
Township Engineer  
John Moran Jr., Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer  
Shawn Motsavage, Road Master

Dean Becker called the October 7, 2014 Board of Supervisors Meeting to order in the Perkiomen Township Administration Building at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Becker informed the public that the Board held an Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss both a legal matter and a personnel matter.

**MINUTES:** The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of September 2, 2014. Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to approve the September 2, 2014 meeting minutes. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

**POLICE REPORT:** The Board receive and reviewed the State Police Report for September.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- **LOWER FREDERICK REGIONAL AMBULANCE CORP (LFRAC):** At the September meeting, the Board asked William Patterson to look into the matter of developing a Plan B to the LFRAC intent to merge with Plymouth Ambulance. Mr. Patterson proposed talking to other ambulance companies, such as Trappe Ambulance, regarding their capabilities should the situation with LFRAC not work out. Mr. Patterson informed his fellow Board members that he did this. During his discussion with others, Mr. Patterson found that, other than Lower Frederick Township, none of the municipalities serviced by LFRAC will be entering into an agreement in the form proposed by LFRAC. It is the intent of the



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other municipalities to pass Resolutions confirming that their EMS Services will be provided by Plymouth Ambulance. It was the recommendation of Mr. Patterson that Perkiomen Township do the same. Since Perkiomen Township is serviced by two ambulance companies (Trappe Ambulance and LFRAC), the Resolution should include both companies and the area within Perkiomen Township that each will service. It was Mr. Patterson's recommendation that the Board consider passing a Resolution at the November Meeting for the remainder of 2014 and that this Resolution be readopted in January. Moving forward, it was Mr. Patterson's recommendation that this Resolution be a standard Resolution to be adopted each January. The Board approved Mr. Patterson's recommendation and will look to the November meeting to consider the Resolution to be drafted by Mr. Patterson.

- **TRAPPE FIRE CO #1 AMBULANCE:** Report for September.
- **CPVRPC** – Report for September.
- **PSATS BULLETIN:** Report for September.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Kenneth Picardi reported that several of the items that he has been working on will be discussed under agenda items later in the meeting.

**ROAD MASTER'S REPORT:** Shawn Motsavage submitted to the Board his Road Master's Report dated October 1, 2014 for activities taking place during the month of September.

**FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT:** John Moran Sr. submitted to the Board his Fire Marshall Report dated October 1, 2014 for activities taking place during the month of September.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:** John Moran Jr. submitted to the Board his Code Enforcement Report dated October 1, 2014 for activities taking place during the month of September.

In addition to his report, Mr. Moran informed the Board that the ZHB held a public hearing on September 24, 2014. The ZHB reviewed the variances requested by Robert and Jennifer O'Donnell and granted the relief requested.



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**PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:** Cecile Daniel reported that the Planning Commission held its meeting on September 16, 2014. At that meeting the Planning Commission continued the work on developing a new Flood Plain Ordinance.

**LOWER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY:** Richard Kratz informed the Board, LPVRSAs has decided to keep the two meters, located in each of the metering locations in Perkiomen Township, alone.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

1. Open Space Use: During the summer, the Township became aware of an issue in the open space that was a part of the Perkiomen Greene Subdivision. The issue involved a swing set that had been installed long ago on property that was part of the open space dedicated to Perkiomen Township as part of the Perkiomen Greene Development. This issue involves three abutting property owners: the Holdsworths, the Beatties, and the O'Reillys and the property owned by the Township. William Holdsworth informed the Board that the swing set was installed in 1991. The installation of this swing set was before the Township owned the property. Mr. Holdsworth informed the Board that he contacted PECO Energy in 1991 as he was under the understanding that PECO Energy was the owner of this property. The Holdsworths were of the belief that they could install this swing set in its current location as PECO Energy did not object. The Holdsworths were not aware that the Township recently acquired ownership of the property. Since being informed that the Township is the owner, the Holdsworths are before the Board requesting permission to keep this swing set in its current location. The Beatties are neighbors to the Holdsworths, but do not border the property owned by the Township. The Beatties informed the Board that, during the summer, the Holdsworths removed trees that screened their view of this swing set. Now that the trees have been cleared, they have a clear view of this swing set. The Beatties expressed concern with keeping the swing set on the Township's property. The O'Reillys border the Township's property as well as the Holdsworth's property and the Beattie's property. Mrs. O'Reilly explained that most of the trees that were removed were located on their property, not the Township's, and that they gave the Holdsworths permission to remove these trees. The trees that were removed were unhealthy or damaged during last winter's storms, and that was the reason for their removal. Mrs. O'Reilly informed the Board that they do not have a problem with the Board allowing the Holdsworths to keep the swing set on Township owned property. Mrs. O'Reilly did not feel that the removal



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of the trees detract from the view, nor would keeping the swing set in its current location be a problem. After listening to all parties, the Board decided that they would schedule a time when they would visit the property where the swing set is located. The Board indicated they would further consider the matter at the November Board Meeting.

Next, Cecile Daniel explained that when the first phases of the Cranberry Development were going through the review process, the Township was working with Upper Providence Township and Colledgeville Trappe Municipal Authority on the construction of the School House Run Interceptor. The Township brought the Iacobucci Organization into the picture as this interceptor would be needed for the construction of a portion of the Cranberry Development. Since the project involved a number of parties, the agreements and construction took longer than the timetable that Fran Iacobucci was looking at for the construction of the first two phases of the Cranberry Development. As a result, the approval of the development plans for Phase 2 included the installation of a temporary pumping station and temporary force main line installed behind the homes on Forge Road. With the installation of the temporary pumping station and temporary force main, the sewer would be pumped up to the sewer line in Kagey Road. Once the School House Run Interceptor was constructed, the temporary pumping station was removed and the temporary force main left in place (abandoned). There was a timetable in the agreements as to when this interceptor was to be installed and temporary pumping station/force main abandoned. When the plans for Phase 2 of the Cranberry Development were approved, the pumping station and force main were labeled as temporary. The issue here is the 20-foot wide sewer easement that is on the Record Plan and in the deeds of the homes along Forge Road. Unlike the note on the plans where the force main and pumping station are labeled as temporary, the 20-foot wide sewer easement was not labeled as such. The homes along Forge Road are connected into the gravity sewer line which is located in Forge Road. It was Ms. Daniel's opinion this 20-foot wide sewer easement is not needed, and it was her recommendation that this easement should be removed (or abandoned). This would require the recording of a document so that it is clear that this 20-wide sewer easement no longer exists. The Board discussed this, and William Patterson made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to abandon the 20-foot wide sanitary sewer easement along the rear lot lines of the homes along Forge Road, and, authorized the Township Solicitor to prepare and record the necessary document to accomplish this. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.



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2. Open Space Loan: Ms. Daniel and Solicitor Picardi presented to the Board the documents to pay off the Open Space Loan with First Niagara. First Niagara submitted a payoff amount for this loan based upon a settlement date of October 15, 2014. Mr. Picardi presented for the Board's consideration Resolution 2014-20. This Resolution authorizes the expenditure of \$1.5 million from the Open Space Fund and \$932,255.74 from the General Fund to pay off the balance due on the original General Obligation Note. The Resolution provides that the General Fund will loan to the Open Space Fund the balance of \$932,255.74 to pay off this loan. The loan to the General Fund will be paid back over the next three years. By restructuring this Open Space Loan, the term of the loan will go from approximately 17 years to 3 years. The result will be a substantial savings in the amount of interest the Township would otherwise pay on this loan. The next step is to consider adoption of Resolution 2014-20. Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to approve Resolution 2014-20. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0. Ms. Daniel and Mr. Picardi will contact First Niagara to get all the documents and funds ready for settlement on October 15, 2014.
3. 2014 Audit: Ms. Daniel reported that she received the proposal from Dreslin and Company to complete the 2014 Perkiomen Township/Fire Company Audit. The proposal represents a small increase to complete the 2014 audit. As required by the Township Code, the intent to use Dreslin and Company to complete the 2014 Township/Fire Company audit must be advertised for 30 days. Since the Board usually makes this decision at the January Meeting, Ms. Daniel requested permission to advertise its intent to consider making this appointment at that meeting. The Board reviewed the proposal and authorized Ms. Daniel to advertise the Board's intent to utilize the services of Dreslin and Company to complete the 2014 Perkiomen Township/Fire Company Audit at the January, 2015 Board of Supervisors' Meeting.

### **ENGINEERS REPORT:** James Carr reviewed the following items:

1. 2015 Road Project: The Board received a 4-year Road Maintenance Plan for discussion. The plan was broken down into years as well as the use of microsurfacing versus without microsurfacing. Both Mr. Carr and Mr. Motsavage explained the technique of microsurfacing. The use of this technique is a cheaper alternative to repairing the Township's roadways. Mr. Carr explained that the decision to consider the use of microsurfacing is a function of the condition of the roadway. The idea is to resurface the roadway while the surface is still in reasonable condition. For this



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reason, some of the roads that are listed are in need of more work and would require them to be milled and overlaid and other roads are listed to be microsurfaced. With that being explained, Mr. Carr and Mr. Motsavage reviewed the proposed streets to be a part of the 2015 Road Project and reviewed those roads that were listed to be milled and overlaid and those that were listed to be microsurfaced. These roads include: Kagey Road, Cornwallis Way (Bonnie Lane to Betcher Road), Bonnie Lane (Cornwallis Way to the curve), Greene Boulevard, Ross Lane, Hamilton Road, Red Coat Road, Bayonet Court, Church Road, Liberty Alley, Westover Road, and Glendale Road. Mr. Motsavage indicated that the Road Crew could prep some of these roads, themselves (e.g. Bonnie Lane, Cornwallis Way, Church Road, and Liberty Alley). At this time, Ms. Daniel was requesting direction from the Board in establishing the road project for 2015. Ms. Daniel explained that she is looking to put a place holder in the 2015 Perkiomen Township Budget for this work. The Board discussed with Mr. Carr and Mr. Motsavage the microsurfacing technique. After discussing this and review of the proposed road schedule, the Board was agreeable with the proposed list of streets to be repaired and the use of microsurfacing as part of the 2015 Road Project. The estimated cost to complete this work is \$491,000.00.

2. Betcher Road Traffic Signal Project: Mr. Carr informed the Board that SSM was in receipt of Payment Application No. 1 from Telco Inc. in the amount of \$116,075.70. Mr. Carr informed the Board that SSM found the request to be accurate and the work completed according to the project specifications. As a result, SSM is recommending that the Board consider approval of Application No. 1 for Telco Inc. Upon due consideration and the recommendation of SSM, William Patterson made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to approve Payment Application No. 1 to Telco Inc. in the amount of \$116,075.70. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.
3. 2014 Road Project: Mr. Carr informed the Board that SSM was in receipt of Payment Application No. 1 from Reid Paving in the amount of \$180,244.78. Mr. Carr informed the Board that SSM found the request to be accurate and the work completed according to the project specifications. As a result, SSM is recommending that the Board consider approval of Application No. 1 to Reid Paving. Upon due consideration and the recommendation of SSM, Richard Kratz made a motion seconded by William Patterson to approve Payment Application No. 1 to Reid Paving in the amount of \$180,244.78. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.



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**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES:** The treasurer reviewed the receipts and expenditures for the month of September. After review of same, Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to authorize payment of the September bills. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was passed by a vote of 5-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract: Signal Service has submitted the two year renewal for the Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract. This contract covers the maintenance of the Township's traffic signals, the school crossing lights, the blinking light located on Route 73, and the new traffic light recently installed at the intersection of Betcher Road, Iron Bridge Drive, and Route 113. Ms. Daniel recommended that the Board approve the two year contact with Signal Service. With the recommendation of Ms. Daniel, William Patterson made a motion seconded by Janet Heacock to approve the two year contact with Signal Service to cover the maintenance of the Township's traffic lights, the school crossing lights, the flashing light located on Route 73, and the new traffic signal at the intersection of Betcher Road, Iron Bridge Drive, and Route 113. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was passed by a vote of 5-0.
2. Community Planning Assistance: Ms. Daniel explained in August, 2014 the contract the Township has with Montgomery County Planning Commission for the Community Planning Assistance will expire at the end of the year. This is a 3 year contract. At that meeting, Ms. Daniel review with the Board the price to continue this contract for the next 3 years and the list of items to be covered during this 3 year contract. The Board discussed the cost of the 3 year contract and the items to be worked on during this period. The Board felt that they have had a good working relationship with Montgomery County Planning Commission and favored continuing that relationship. At the August meeting the Board approved the 3-year contract. Montgomery County requested that the contract be approved by Resolution. With that, Janet Heacock made a motion seconded by Richard Kratz to approve by Resolution 2014-21 another 3 year Community Planning Assistance Contract with Montgomery County Planning Commission which will cover the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.



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### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

1. Perkiomen Valley Library: Kathy Arnold Yerger, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Norristown Public Library, Carol Ewing, Advisory Board President of the Perkiomen Valley Library, and Aileen Johnson, Branch Library Manager of the Perkiomen Valley Library were present to update and discuss with the Board the Level of Services and the cost to provide those services to residents of Perkiomen Township. At the conclusion of that discussion, the Board thank the women for their attendance and updating the Board on the library's activities and its financial picture. The Board welcomed the updated information and will consider the information when preparing the 2015 Perkiomen Township Budget.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion made by Richard Kratz and seconded by William Patterson.