



PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: MAY 4, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: William Patterson, Chairman
Vivian Schoeller, Vice-Chairman
Dean Becker, Member
Albert Campion, Member
Adam Doyle, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Cecile Daniel, Township Manager
Kenneth Picardi, Township Solicitor
Nicholas Szeredai, Township Engineer
John Moran Jr., Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer
Shawn Motsavage, Township Road Master
Kevin Motsavage, Open Space Coordinator

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THE MAY 4, 2021 MEETING OF THE PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WAS HELD VIA ZOOM. PRIOR NOTICE WAS POSTED ON THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE AND ADVERTISED IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

Chairman William Patterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA: Dean Becker made a motion, seconded by Vivian Schoeller, to approve the consent agenda items as follows: a) Minutes: April 6, 2021; b) Monthly Reports: PA State Police Reports for April, Ambulance Reports, Perkiomen Township Fire Company and Fire Marshall Reports; c) Financial Matters: Authorize for Payment of Bills for April in the amount of \$111,725.14 and the Treasurer's Report to be placed on file for audit. There were no public comments. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- PA Trooper Loretta J. Miree, Community Service Officer of the Pennsylvania State Police was present at this meeting.
- Diane Melville indicated this was National Firefighter's Day. Mrs. Melville took this opportunity to thank the members of the Perkiomen Township Fire Company for their service to Perkiomen Township.

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OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

- Request for Engine Brake Ordinance: The Township received a request from Patrick Correal and Abby Laubach, of 312 Gravel Pike, to enact an Ordinance prohibiting engine brakes along Route 29 from Route 113 to School House Road. Mr. Correal indicated that there is no hill leading to this intersection that would require a truck to use their engine brakes to stop. There does not appear to be a specific company, but the type of trucks that he has seen are concrete trucks and tractor trailers. The noise coming from the engine brakes is primarily in the afternoon, but sometimes at night. Shawn Motsavage explained how these brakes work. A prohibition against the use of these brakes could also affect the fire companies, the Township's trucks, and maybe local ambulances. John Moran explained, and Trooper Miree confirmed, that the PA State police do not enforce local ordinances. As a result, enforcement of this Ordinance would only occur if and when a resident filed a citizen's complaint with the Township. A person would need to provide all the necessary information for Code Enforcement Officer Moran to issue a violation notice. If the Board wishes to move forward with such an Ordinance, the first step would be to send a letter to PADOT requesting authorization to enact an engine brake retarder prohibition. There was a discussion as to the area of study on Route 29 the Township would request PADOT to investigate. Adam Doyle made a motion, seconded by Vivian Schoeller, authorizing Cecile Daniel to send a letter to the PA Department of Transportation, requesting PADOT to complete an investigation along Route 29 from Washington Street to Schoolhouse Road. There were no public comments. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

- Speeding: Dean Becker requested that Trooper Miree bring back to the State Police a request for the enforcement of speed control on Township Line Road from Wartman Road to Seitz Road. The speed on that section of Township Line Road is 45 MPH, but drivers are going much faster than the posted speed limit. In the past, troopers sat on Mayberry Road to catch speeders on Township Line Road, but this is not happening anymore. Mr. Becker is requesting that the speed limit be enforced by the State Police. Ms. Daniel mentioned that same issue for Meyers Road.

- Young Lungs at Play: Ms. Daniel informed the Board that there is an initiative being promoted to prohibit smoking in designated open space, parks, and playgrounds. This initiative can be carried out through the adoption of an Ordinance or Resolution. If the Board passed an Ordinance, anyone caught smoking in the designated areas would be in violation of that Ordinance. Since this would be considered a local Ordinance, the PA State police would not enforce it. Instead of an Ordinance, the Board could consider passing a Resolution. This Resolution would make this prohibition self-policing. The third option would be that there would be no passage

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of an Ordinance or a Resolution. The Board discussed this and decided to table this matter.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT: Solicitor Picardi was present at the meeting and previously submitted his written monthly report to the Board of Supervisors.

ROAD MASTER’S REPORT: Shawn Motsavage previously submitted to the Board his Road Master’s Report dated May 4, 2021, for activities occurring during the month of April.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: John Moran, Jr. previously submitted to the Board his Code Enforcement report dated May 1, 2021, for activities that occurred during the month of April.

PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Cecile Daniel reported that the Planning Commission held their meeting on April 20, 2021. At that meeting, the Planning Commission discussed the sketch plan of Springhill Realty for the 20.86 ± property located on Harrison Avenue behind the Landis Shopping Center.

PARK AND RECREATION REPORT: Kevin Motsavage update the Board on that the new playground equipment that has been installed at the Township Building.

LOWER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY: Dean Becker informed the Board that the Regional Sewer Authority continues to work on the installation of the middle interceptor.

ENGINEERS REPORT: Nicholas Szeredai reported on the following:

1. Schoolhouse Run Bridge & Channel Work: Mr. Szeredai informed the Board that he received a request for payment for Stonewood Landshaping for the work they for the Schoolhouse Run Stream Channel and Bridge Project. The amount of the request is \$41,234.80. In addition, the Board also needs to approve the Certificate of Substantial Completion for this project. A punch list has been sent to the contractor of the items that remain to be completed. According to Mr. Szeredai, the request was reviewed and found to be accurate, and the work covered by the payment application was installed according to the project specifications. With the recommendation of Mr. Szeredai, Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Adam Doyle to approve Payment Application No. 1 in the amount of \$41.234.80 and the Certificate of Substantial Completion. There were no public comments. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

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2. 2020 Road Project: Mr. Szeredai informed the Board that Allan Myers submitted Application No. 3, which will be the final payment, in the amount of \$5,000.00. This request will be the retaining for the 2020 Road Project. There was an area of work that needed to be repaired. This area is located at the intersection of Panepinto Drive and Township Line Road. According to Mr. Szeredai, the work was completed but he is awaiting a rain event to verify that the work performed affected the ponding taking place at this location. As a result, Mr. Szeredai recommended that payment be authorized condition upon the Road Master and Township Engineer being satisfied with the repair. With the recommendation of Mr. Szeredai, Vivan Schoeller made a motion seconded by Adam Doyle to approve Payment Application No. 3 – Final to Allan Myers in the amount of \$5,000.00 conditional upon the Road Master and Township Engineer being satisfied with the repair work made on Panepinto Road. There were no public comments. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

3. Building Assessment Report: Jeff Thoms with SSM did a Building Assessment Analysis and submitted a report at the end of last year. This assessment report covers all the structures located at the Township’s complex. Mr. Thoms, in conjunction with John Moran, William Patterson, and Cecile Daniel, prepared a priority list of the repairs to be made to these buildings. At this meeting, Mr. Thoms reviewed the priority list showing the repairs to be made over the next three years. Cost estimates were added to the proposed priority list. Mr. Thoms cautioned that these prices are estimates and due to the volatility of construction prices, the action prices could be quite different. At the present time, the cost shown are his best guess. Year 1: This list involves the work to be completed on the township garage. It is recommended that the existing stucco be removed. Over the years water has infiltrated into the stucco and needs to be removed. The stucco would then be painted. In addition, the work would include the replacement of the three windows in the office area, the man door to the office, gutters, and downspouts. The condition of these items is all contributing to the damage being done to the garage. Year 2 – This list involves work to be completed on the Township Administration Building and Salt Shed. The life of the shingles has expired. The work to be completed would be to remove the existing shingles on the administration building and the salt shed. Mr. Thoms still needs to verify the sheathing condition before installing new twenty-year shingles. Also, he investigated the construction of a new wood frame roof over the exiting back stairs. This new roof would help protect the concrete porch and stairs from snow and ice accumulation. In addition, it will provide protection not only to the stairs, but people entering and existing the administration building in bad weather. Year 3 – There is water infiltration along the base of the building. The stucco needs to be removed and replaced with certain building materials that allows free drainage between the finish and the masonry. Also, there is a need to apply a sealant along the exterior slab and install flashing and sealant on the front windows. During the process of this work,

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the work would include the replacement of the HVAC System. There is not set place holder as to when this replacement would be done. The current schedule is to bid this work out the beginning of next year. After discussing the work involved in each year, it was agreed to combine items listed in #1, #2, #3, and #4 into one year. The Board authorized John Moran, Jeff Thoms, Kenneth Picardi, and Cecile Daniel to work together to design and prepare specifications for this work so the project can be bid out the beginning of 2022.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

1. Driveway Ordinance: Based upon the discussion at the April meeting, the staff went back reviewed and then revised the draft Driveway Ordinance. The final draft is now before the Board for review and consideration. The revise draft removed the minor driveway work category and combined it with maintenance category items. The intent was to step back to the original concept as it relates to driveways. In the future if it is determined that there are still concerns with the maintenance section of the Ordinance, then the staff will return to the Board to discuss possible revisions. The next step is for the Board to authorize advertisement of the Ordinance at the June meeting. Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Vivian Schoeller to advertise for adoption at the June Monthly Meeting – Ordinance No. 235: An Ordinance Regulating All Driveways Within the Township. There were no public comments. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

2. Transportation Grant Applications:

(A) Surface Transportation Program: This is a Federal Funding Program. The Township applied to Representative Madeleine Dean for this program. This application included a questionnaire which established the estimate cost to design, permit, & install road improvements to the intersection of Route 29 & Route 113. In this submission, there were letters of support. One of the letters came from Perkiomen Township. In this letter, the Township indicated support for this project and will provide a local match of 20%. Based upon the estimated cost of this project of \$4,595,640, the 20% would be \$919,128.00. The submission of this application was on a very tight schedule; therefore, the letter needed to be sent as part of the application package. The Board needs to ratify this letter since it includes the expenditure of money should the Township be awarded the grant. Vivian Schoeller made a motion seconded by Adam Doyle ratifying the letter sent to Representative Madeleine Dean in support of the Township’s participation in the Federal Surface Transportation Fund Program for the road improvements at the intersection at Route 29 and Route 113. There were no public comments. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

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(B) Multimodal Transportation Fund Program. PA Department of Community and Economic Development has opened their application season that will run from April 22nd to July 31, 2021. The Grant requests cannot exceed \$3,000,000. The split on this grant is different than the one for the Surface Transportation Fund Program. The Multimodal Grant fund is for no more than 10% of the grant award for engineering, design, and inspection of the construction costs. The Township would need to provide the 90%. Grant proceeds for the administration costs that cannot exceed 2%. For the remainder, the match the Township would provide is 30% against the 70% provided by the grant. There may be expenses in the Surface Transportation Fund Program that can be eliminated in the Multimodal Grant as the Federal Program Requirements are more wide-ranging. Regardless, the cost to the Township, under the Multimodal Grant, will probably be about the same because the matching percentages of the grant requirements are higher. Ms. Daniel recommended the Board consider applying to this grant as well for the same intersection. The Board discussed this grant as well as the PADOT Multimodal Grant and authorized the Township Manager and the Township Engineer to proceed with both applications.

3. 817 Limerick Road Subdivision: The Township received a letter from UNVEST regarding the Letter of Credit put in place for the improvements for 817 Limerick Road Subdivision. As set forth within the Letter of Credit, UNIVEST is giving the sixty days' notice that they will not be renewing this Letter of Credit. The last request for release for this development was July 2020. Since that time, the developer has been working to complete the necessary items to close out this account. Mr. Szeredai indicated that most of the work has been completed, but there are still some outstanding issues. According to his conversation with the developer, Mr. Szeredai informed the Board that all the work could be completed by the June monthly meeting. As a result, it was the opinion of Mr. Szeredai that the Board does not need to make any decision on the Letter of Credit at this meeting. This matter will be listed on the June monthly meeting agenda to either close out the development or call the Letter of Credit.
4. Resignation: Ms. Daniel informed the Board that she received a resignation letter from Kevin Sherman – Perkiomen Township Auditor. In his letter, Mr. Sherman explained that he would be running for Judge of Elections. This position will prohibit Mr. Sherman from holding another elected position; therefore, he is resigning his Township Auditor position. There are two years left in his term. In speaking with Montgomery County Voter Services, this vacancy would be listed on the November ballot. Vivian Schoeller made a motion seconded by Albert Campion to accept the resignation of Kevin Sherman effective April 7, 2021. There were no public comments. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

5.

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There being no further business, the May public meeting was adjourned upon motion made by Albert Campion and seconded by Dean Becker.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cecile M. Daniel

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Township Manager