



PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 6, 2020

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, Township Park & Recreation

THE OCTOBER 6, 2020 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: September 1, 2020 and Special Meeting: September 22, 2020 and b) Reports from: Ambulances, the Fire Company and Fire Marshall; c) Financial Matters: Authorize Payment of Bills for September in the amount of \$344,611.93 and the Treasurer's Report to be placed on file for audit. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Both Dean Becker and Cecile Daniel indicated there were no comments received from the public.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ Perkiomen Valley Library: Aileen Johnson, Branch Library Manager, of the Perkiomen Valley Library was present to update and discuss with the Board the Level of Services the library provides to residents of Perkiomen Township. Also present were Carol Ewing, of the Perkiomen Valley Library, and Kathy Arnold-Yerger, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Norristown Public Library. The

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women explained that the building improvements made to the library have been completed. The library is open to the public with the limit of 13 hours. Mrs. Arnold-Yerger explained how the library is adjusting virtually due to the Covid-19 situation.

- ❖ MCATO: The fall convention of the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials is scheduled for October 9th. Ms. Daniel gave to the Board the information for this meeting which will be a virtual type meeting.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Picardi submitted his written report to the Board of Supervisors. In addition to his report, Solicitor Picardi informed the Board as to the following:

- Noise Violation: A hearing was held before the District Justice regarding a noise violation created by barking dogs. The District Justice found the property owner guilty of three of the alleged violations.
- ZHB Appeal: Solicitor Picardi informed the Board that an appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board's decision on Application 20-3 has been filed in Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas.
- Assessment Appeal Settlement: Solicitor Picardi explained that the attorney representing Kenny Parks has reached an agreement with the Montgomery County Board of Assessment and the Perkiomen Valley School District over the assessment for 13 Barley Sheaf Lane. Solicitor Picardi is requesting authorization to sign the Settlement Agreement on behalf of Perkiomen Township. This agreement will settle the issue of the assessment value established by the Montgomery County Board of Assessment for the property owned by Mr. Parks. Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Adam Doyle to authorize Kenneth Picardi to sign the Stipulation. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

ROAD MASTER'S REPORT: Shawn Motsavage submitted to the Board his Road Master's Report dated October 5, 2020, for activities occurring during the month of September.

In addition to his report, Mr. Motsavage informed the Board that the Snow Removal Bid was advertised, and the bids were opened on September 29, 2020. There was only one bid received and that was for Zone 1. There were no bids received for Zone 2. It was the recommendation of Mr. Motsavage to award Zone 1 to Lenhart Contractors and rebid the snow removal bid for Zone 2 again. After discussing the situation, Vivian Scholler made a motion seconded by Albert Campion to award the 2020 – 2021 Snow Removal Bid for Zone 1 to Lenhart Contractors and to rebid the snow removal for Zone 2. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

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CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: John Moran, Jr. submitted to the Board his Code Enforcement report dated October 1, 2020, for activities that occurred during the month of September. In addition to his report, Mr. Moran had the following items:

- **Homa Request:** Mr. Moran informed the Board a request has been submitted to the Township by the Homas of 280 Oaks Street. This request is a result of the Zoning Violation Notice issued to the Homas. Eric Homa, the Homa's son, has been living out of a RV Trailer in the back of the Homas' property. Eric Homa appeared at the meeting to explain his request to an extension to this thirty-day Violation Notice to the middle of November. At the middle of November, he and his fiancé will be moving into an apartment. The Board discussed the request. Vivian Schoeller made a motion seconded by Dean Becker to approve the Homas' request to an extension of time of the Zoning Violation to the second week of November subject to the condition that bathroom facilities be provided in the Homa residence to anyone temporarily living in the trailer. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.
- **Mutual Aid Agreements:** Mr. Moran explained to the Board the Mutual Aid Agreements covering the assistance for Fire and Explosion Investigations. There are four separate agreements being proposed for consideration by Perkiomen Township. The four agreements are with Lower Providence Township, Upper Providence Township, Limerick Township and Lower Frederick Township. Vivian Schoeller made a motion seconded by Adam Doyle to approve the Mutual Aid Agreements for Fire and Explosion Investigations with Lower Providence Township, Upper Providence Township, Limerick Township and Lower Frederick Township. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.
- **Zoning Hearing Board Application:** Mr. Moran informed the Board that he received an application from Perkiomen View, LLC for variances for 532 Gravel Pike/Duck Inn. These variances are from Section 310-51.B to construct a roof over a deck and to permit the roofed deck to extend into the side yard a distance of more than 12 feet and greater than 40% of the width of the side yard; Section 310-150.E.2.b to extend the deck with a roof into the side yard; and Section 310-44.E to allow for the construction of the pergola (accessory structure) in the front yard area. Mark Marino, owner of Perkiomen View, LLC, appeared at the meeting to explain his requests in the ZHB Application. After discussing the application, the Board authorized Solicitor Picardi to write to the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor informing the ZHB that the Board is in support of the application of Perkiomen View LLC – Mark Marino.

PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION: Cecile Daniel reported that there was no Planning Commission meeting in September. Springhill Realty submitted a revised sketch plan to be reviewed at the Planning Commission's October Meeting. The discussion was whether any of the Board members wish to attend this meeting to

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hear about this revised plan. It was agreed that Dean Becker and Adam Doyle will attend the October Planning Commission meeting.

PARK AND RECREATION REPORT: Ms. Daniel informed the Board that the park & Recreation Committee reviewed the proposal from SSM to complete surveying services on the Highland Property. The goal to completing this survey is to determine the design of the recreational facilities that might be located on this property. Ms. Daniel's intent was to update the Board to this proposal before signing and send it to SSM. The Board had no questions with the proposal. Kevin Motsavage updated the Board with his Park & Recreation Report.

LOWER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY: Dean Becker updated the Board as to the activities of the LPVRSa during the month of September.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Nick Szeredai updated the Board on the following matters:

1. Schoolhouse Run Stream Channel Maintenance and Bridge Repairs: Mr. Szeredai explained that there were five bids received for this project on September 29, 2020. The lowest bidder was G&B Construction in the amount of \$91,414.00. The bid was 73% higher than the engineer's estimate of \$52,800.00 and far exceeds the amount budgeted for this work. Mr. Szeredai explained that there was an urgency to get the bid out due to the uncertainty of the damage done to Trappe Road by Tropical Storm Isaias. The engineers were still reviewing the damage when the bid package was advertised. This review ended up resulting in an increase in the scope of work and an addendum to the bid. Mr. Szeredai contacted the bidders to identify the reasons for the higher bid prices. Basically, the contractors were concerned about the short period of time in which they had to complete this project. This late in the year, most contractors already have a backlog of winter work. In order to change their schedule, they would need a financial incentive to do this. Mr. Szeredai contacted the lowest bidder about their bid because it was his opinion that the bid was not balanced. The price for the R-6 stone was much more expensive when placed along Trappe Road, then the price for the same stone along the manhole. The contractor felt that more of this size stone would be needed along Trappe Road than was in the bid; therefore, they anticipated a change order and an increase in the contract price. After reviewing all the information related to the increase price between the engineering estimate and the bid prices, Mr. Szeredai recommended that all the bids be rejected. The recommendation would be to rebid the project after revising the project scope. The scope of the project would be revised to give the contractor a longer time frame and flexibility in their schedule to complete the work. Mr. Szeredai met in the field with Shawn Motsavage to discuss whether the Road Crew could install temporary stabilization measures to this embankment. These temporary measures would then be

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incorporated into the final scope of work. The intent is to have the temporary measures installed during the month of October. After discussing this, Adam Doyle made a motion seconded by Albert Campion to reject all the bids because they came in 73% higher than the engineer's estimate, modify the bids, the Township's road crew will do some of the work in house to lower the overall cost and extend the time frame to do the project. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

2. 2021 Road Projects: The discussion from the September meeting on curb work and replacement was continued. Mr. Szeredai indicated that most of the curb replacement is depressed curbing which is in the driveway entrances of the homes. Of the roads discussed for the 2021 Road Project, the list includes Dieber Road, Pennypacker Road, and Wynnewood Road. Wynnewood Road is the only road affected by the discussion of curb work and/or replacement. Ms. Daniel recommended moving the repair to Wynnewood Road to 2022 for a couple of reasons: (1) the discussion regarding a curb replacement policy should be established, (2) this policy would affect not only Wynnewood Drive, but Brewster Road and Buyers Road, and (3) the bridge work that needs to be completed do to the damage caused by Tropical Storm Isaias. The Tropical Storm did damage to both the Godshall Road Bridge and the Cranberry Road Bridge. These two bridges carry many vehicles within the Township. The proposed repair work to these two bridges would be similar to that being completed for the Trappe Road Bridge. These bridges are critical infrastructure in the Township. At the same time this work is being completed, the Board can discuss and consider establishing a policy regarding curb replacement. It was Ms. Daniel's recommendation that the 2021 Road Project include: Dieber Road, Pennypacker Road, repairs to Cranberry Road Bridge, and the Godshall Road Bridge. The Board was okay with this recommendation.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. 2020 Audit: Ms. Daniel reported that she received the proposal from Dreslin and Company to complete the 2020 Perkiomen Township and Fire Company Audit which includes audit of Perkiomen Township: \$16,200 and Perkiomen Township Fire Company: \$1,850. The intent to use Dreslin and Company to complete the 2020 Township audit must be advertised for 30 days. Since the Board usually makes this decision at their January Meeting, Ms. Daniel requested permission to advertise its intent to consider making this appointment at the Reorganization meeting. The Board reviewed the proposal and Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Adam Doyle authorizing the advertisement of the Board's intent to utilize the services of Dreslin and Company to complete the 2020 Perkiomen Township and Perkiomen Township Fire Company Audit at the January 2021 Board of Supervisors' Meeting. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

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2. Storm Sewer System: SSM submitted a proposal to integrate the Township' Storm Sewer System into the existing GIS System. The integration of the system will aid the Road Crew and the Township's MS4 Program when working on the storm sewer system. This work is identical to what the Municipal Authority did with the sanitary sewer system. Ms. Daniel recommended that the Board accept the proposal of SSM to integrate the storm sewer system into the GIS System. With this recommendation, Vivian Schoeller made a motion seconded by Albert Campion to accept the proposal from SSM in the amount of \$18,000.00. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.
3. Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract: Signal Service Inc. has submitted a two-year renewal for the Traffic Signal Maintenance Contract. This contract covers the maintenance of the Township's traffic signals, the school crossing lights, and the Route 73 flashing warning light. Ms. Daniel recommended that the Board approve the two-year contact with Signal Service. With this recommendation, Dean Becker made a motion seconded by Adam Doyle to approve the two-year contact with Signal Service Inc. to cover the maintenance of the Township's traffic lights, the school crossing lights, and the Route 73 flashing light. There were no public comments on the motion. The motion was passed by a vote of 5-0.
4. Correspondence: Ms. Daniel referred to the article in the PSATS Bulletin regarding the deferment of the employee portion of the social security taxes. It was the recommendation of Ms. Daniel not to do this because it would be difficult to process the payroll with the Township's payroll system. The Board was okay with not doing this.

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

Adam Doyle commented on a concern that was brought to his attention regarding the speeding on Betcher Road.

There being no further business, the October public meeting was adjourned upon motion by Vivian Schoeller and seconded by Dean Becker.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecile M. Daniel

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Township Manager